

Venice Academy of Human Rights 2017

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as an Answer to Rising Inequalities

Instead of “the end of history”, we have lived through a major financial crisis, including a debt crisis in Europe that is far from over, and we are currently witnessing threats to democratic governance both from outside and from within the democratic system. Whether these are only temporary setbacks in the global spread of liberal democracy and neoliberal capitalism has to be seen. However, it is reason to pause and reconsider the prospects for economic and social justice against the background of rising inequalities in the world.

The Venice Academy of Human Rights 2017, in co-operation with [PluriCourts](#) – Centre of Excellence for the Study of the Legitimate Roles of the Judiciary in the Global Order, looks at these developments from an interdisciplinary perspective that combines law, economics, politics and sociology. Lectures and seminars by the distinguished faculty discuss the question what role do human rights play in enabling and promoting social justice. Are human rights an effective tool for the promotion of economic and social equality? Do human rights impose limits to privatization of particular goods and services? How do human rights enable a just economic and social order? These are but some of the questions that participants of the Academy will discuss in an intense programme over ten days next summer.

General Course – “From the Trilemma to the Virtuous Cycle: Social Rights and Democracy in the Service of Human Development”

Olivier De Schutter, Professor at the University of Louvain (UCL) and at SciencesPo (Paris)

The lectures and the seminar will focus on the question of rising inequalities and economic, social and cultural rights. The sessions will address both social justice and global justice, challenging inequalities within countries and closing the gap between countries.

Monday, 03 July 2017

- 10:00-11:00** **Registration [Cloister]** – Coffee and snacks available
- 11:00-11:15** **Group Photo [Cloister]**
- 11:15-11:30** **Welcome Address [Aula Magna]**
Zdzisław Kędzia, EIUC President
Manfred Nowak, EIUC Secretary-General
- 11:30-13:00** **Distinguished Opening Lecture [Aula Magna]**
Branko Milanović, Visiting Presidential Professor at the Graduate Center City University of New York and a LIS Senior Scholar
“Recent Trends in Global Income Distribution and their Political Implications”
Discussants: *Zdzisław Kędzia, Miloon Kothari, Manfred Nowak*
- 13:00-14:30** **Lunch [Refectory]**

- 14:30-15:30** **General Course – Lecture [Aula Magna]**
Olivier De Schutter, Professor at the University of Louvain and at SciencesPo
“Social Rights and Redistribution at Domestic Level”
- 16:30-17:30** **Programme Overview & Discussion Session [Aula Magna]**
Knut Traisbach, Academic Responsible Venice Academy of Human Rights
- 17:30** **Welcome Aperitif [Cloister]**

Tuesday, 04 July 2017

- 09:30-11:00** **General Course – Lecture [Aula Magna]**
Olivier De Schutter
“Social Rights and Regional Economic Integration: the Case of the EU”
- 11:30-13:00** **Lecture [Aula Magna]**
Miloon Kothari
“The Morphology of Growing Income Inequality”
- 13:00-14:30** **Lunch [Refectory]**
- 14:30-16:00** **Panel Presentations [Aula Magna] - *Olivier De Schutter***
14:30-15:00 Panel Presentations by Participants
Participant 1, “tbc”
Participant 2, “tbc”
Participant 3, “tbc”
15:00-16:00 Discussion

Wednesday, 05 July 2017

- 09:30-11:00** **Lecture [Aula Magna]**
Miloon Kothari
“The Role of International Human Rights Instruments and Mechanisms”
- 11:30-13:00** **Lecture [Aula Magna]**
Kate Pickett
“The Impact of Inequality”
- 13:00-14:30** **Lunch [Refectory]**
- 14:30-16:30** **Seminar 1 [Aula Magna]**
Olivier De Schutter
“Corporations’ Role in the Implementation of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights”

Seminar 2 [Human Development Room]

Miloon Kothari

“The National Scenario: Delineating the Crisis and Offering Solutions”

Seminar 3 [Aula Cinema]

Kate Pickett

“Solutions to Inequality”

Thursday, 06 July 2017

09:30-11:00 General Course – Lecture [Aula Magna]

Olivier De Schutter

“Social Rights and the Global Development Agenda”

11:30-13:00 Lecture [Aula Magna]

Kate Pickett

“An Economic Inequality Framework for Social Justice”

13:00-14.30 Lunch [Refectory]

14:30-16:30 Discussion Round [Aula Magna]

Olivier De Schutter, Miloon Kothari, Manfred Nowak, Kate Pickett

16:30 Aperitif [Cloister]

Friday, 07 July 2017

09:30-11:00 General Course – Lecture [Aula Magna]

Olivier De Schutter

“Social Rights and the Democratic Requirement” (tbc)

11:30-13:00 Panel Presentations [Aula Magna] - Miloon Kothari

11:30-12:00 Panel Presentations by Participants

Participant 1, “tbc”

Participant 2, “tbc”

Participant 3, “tbc”

12:00-13:00 Discussion

13:00-14:30 Lunch [Refectory]

Monday, 10 July 2017

09:30-11:00 Lecture [Aula Magna]

Heisoo Shin

"Women, ESC Rights and the Transformation of Society"

11:30-13:00 **Lecture [Aula Magna]**

Wilfried Altzinger

"Is Wealth Inequality a Threat for Democracy?"

13:00-14:30 **Lunch [Refectory]**

14:30-16:00 **Lecture [Aula Magna]**

Andreas Føllesdal

"The Bias of the European Court of Human Rights against Economic and Social Human Rights: a Modest Defense"

Tuesday, 11 July 2017

09:30-11:00 **Lecture [Aula Magna]**

Heisoo Shin

"The Right to Sexual and Reproductive Health"

11:30-13:00 **Seminar 1 [Aula Cinema]**

Wilfried Altzinger

"The Pros and Cons of Economic Inequality – A Discussion with Country Experiences"

Seminar 2 [Human Development Room]

Andreas Føllesdal

"The Roles of International and Regional Courts in Protecting and Promoting Economic and Social Human Rights: What can they do, what should they do?"

Seminar 3 [Global Civil Society Room]

Heisoo Shin

"Optional Protocol to ICESCR and the Individual Communications"

13:00-14:30 **Lunch [Refectory]**

14:30-16:00 **Panel Presentations [Aula Magna] –Heisoo Shin**

14:30-15:00 Panel Presentations by Participants

Participant 1, "tbc"

Participant 2, "tbc"

Participant 3, "tbc"

15:00-16:00 Discussion

Wednesday, 12 July 2017

09:30-11:00 **Lecture [Aula Magna]**

Wilfried Altzinger

“The Declining Labour Share – Is it Accomplished by Technological Change or a Change in the Bargaining Position between Labour and Capital?”

11:30-13:00 **Discussion Round / Q&A Panel [Aula Magna]**

Andreas Føllesdal, Zdzisław Kędzia (tbc), Manfred Nowak, Heisoo Shin, Wilfried Altzinger

13:00-13:30 **Attendance Certificates [Aula Magna]**

13:30-15:00 **Lunch [Refectory]**