

Writing and Publishing in the Law of the ECHR and Other International Human Rights Systems: A Workshop for Early Career Researchers

11 – 12 February 2027 (Hybrid)

Academy for European Human Rights Protection,
Kerpener Str. 30, 50937 Köln

Background and Scope of the Workshop

Writing and publishing in European and international human rights law is taking place in an increasingly complex environment, shaped by populist challenges to human rights, political responses to migration, ongoing armed conflicts, and the growing impacts of climate change. Early Career Researchers must navigate not only this changing human rights landscape, but also evolving expectations surrounding academic publishing and structural barriers related to career stage and access to academic networks. At the same time, the rapid development of artificial intelligence is reshaping both the subjects of human rights scholarship and the ways in which research is conducted and disseminated.

Against this background, the Academy for European Human Rights Protection (University of Cologne) and the University of Zürich are excited to announce a workshop *Writing and Publishing in the Law of the ECHR and Other International Human Rights Systems: A Workshop for Early Career Researchers*. Following two previous iterations in [2024](#) and [2025](#), the upcoming workshop seeks to provide a recurring forum for discussing the challenges involved in researching, writing, and publishing on human rights today and to expand the network of scholars working in this field. Bringing together Early Career Researchers, senior academics, editors and practitioners the workshop will combine reflections on the changing environment of human rights law with practical discussions on academic publishing and opportunities for participants to receive feedback on their ongoing work in small group discussions. While such work should be related to the broader theme of human rights, we very much welcome contributions drawing on different disciplinary, comparative or critical perspectives.

Call for Participants

We invite applications for participation and submissions from Early Career Researchers (broadly understood) working in human rights and fundamental rights law, as well as in related disciplines, including philosophy, history, political science, sociology, and anthropology, whose research engages with the various challenges currently facing the ECHR system and other international human rights systems. In addition to academic merit, the Selection Committee will seek to ensure diversity and broad geographical representation among the selected participants.

Submissions should be combined into a single PDF file and include the following:

- A CV, including a list of publications, if applicable (max. 2 pages);
- An indication of whether the applicant intends to participate in person or online;
- If the applicant wishes to receive feedback on a current project during the in-person small group sessions in Cologne, an abstract outlining the work to be discussed (e. g., book project proposal, article, funding application, or policy brief) (max. 500 words). The abstract may focus on issues within a particular human rights system or adopt a comparative perspective and may employ any methodological approach.

Submitting an abstract is not a compulsory part of the application process, and will have no bearing on the selection process. Please note that the opportunity to receive feedback on a current project during the small group sessions is available only to participants attending the workshop in person in Cologne.

Applications should be submitted via email to Academy-humanrights-workshop@uni-koeln.de. The deadline is 9 November 2026.

Successful applicants will be notified of their acceptance by late November 2026. Participation in the workshop is free of charge. Participants attending in person in Cologne will, however, be expected to cover their own travel and accommodation expenses. With a view of limiting these costs, an early afternoon start (2pm) on Thursday 11 February 2027 and an early afternoon end (2pm) on Friday 12 February 2027 is envisaged. The workshop will be held in English.

Any further questions about the workshop should be directed to Academy-humanrights-workshop@uni-koeln.de.

Organisers: Professor Angelika Nußberger; Professor Helen Keller; Dr Júlia Miklasová; Franziska Michel, and Matthias Hermes.