

# INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER

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NEWSLETTER

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We are pleased to share our news and updates with you. Read on for the details of the International Justice Resource Center's new tools and activities. As always, we invite you to [share your suggestions](#) with us.



## HUMAN RIGHTS SYMPOSIUM

IJRC was honored to co-sponsor the Colombia Law School Human Rights Institute's annual human rights symposium in June. This year, the Bringing Human Rights Home Lawyers' Network program focused on the topic of "Engaging with the Inter-American Human



## REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS NEWS

More than 100 people registered, and attendees learned from expert practitioners how, why, and with what challenges and results they might file complaints and engage in other forms of advocacy before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

IJRC's executive director moderated the opening panel, which included representatives of civil society, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and the U.S. Department of State.

[See the Agenda](#)



## DEVELOPMENTS AT THE UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations human rights bodies have been engaged in various activities, including developing new standards and reviewing current State practices.

The human rights treaty bodies compiled their [decisions on individual complaints](#) from fall 2014. This year's noteworthy decisions include the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination's opinion concerning [mandatory HIV/AIDS testing for foreigners](#) in Korea.

The UN human rights treaty bodies in session this spring and summer included the [Human Rights Committee](#), [Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural](#)

The IJRC News Room covers significant developments at the regional human rights bodies. Recent stories are summarized below.

In the **Americas**, governments [elected new members](#) to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. The Court published its [2014 annual report](#) and held its [108th](#) and [109th](#) regular sessions. Among the cases recently referred to the Court is a complaint challenging [anti-gay discrimination in Ecuador's military](#). The Commission's Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression released his [report on freedom of expression](#) in the Americas. And, in an important development for complainants, the Commission launched a new [online portal](#) allowing petitioners to access information about their cases.

In **Europe**, recent noteworthy judgments of the European Court of Human Rights addressed Italy's [recognition of same-sex relationships, attacks against gay rights proponents](#) and [government corruption](#) in Georgia, a young [sexual abuse survivor's access to justice](#) in Slovenia, [freedom of assembly](#) in Armenia, and [access to gender reassignment surgery](#) in Turkey. The [European Committee of Social Rights](#) reviewed six States' reports on the rights of children, families, and migrants and considered 16 collective complaints during its recent session.

In **Africa**, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights issued its decision regarding the treatment of three [human rights defenders in Sudan](#), adopted a resolution on [torture victims' right to rehabilitation](#), and held a [session](#) that had twice been postponed due to the Ebola pandemic. The Central African Republic's legislature adopted legislation to create a new [Special Criminal Court](#) to prosecute war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Visit the News Room for timely updates on international law and human rights around the world.

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[Rights, Committee against Torture, Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination](#) and [Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#). The Human Rights Committee also met to begin developing a [general comment on the right to life](#).

The Commission on the Status of Women also held its 59th session, during which it commemorated the [20th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#).

Fourteen States underwent examination during the most recent session of the [Universal Periodic Review](#).

New standards include the [Mandela Rules](#), revising the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, and the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention's new guidelines on detainees and [prisoners' access to judicial review](#).

The UN Human Rights Council created a [new Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy](#), and the UN Special Rapporteur on [freedom of expression](#) examined online communication in his annual report. The Council also extended the mandates of its Commission of Inquiry and Special Rapporteur on the situation in [Eritrea](#), and adopted a resolution concerning [private education providers](#).

[Learn about the UN](#) |



## NEW TEAM MEMBERS

This summer, IJRC was pleased to welcome new law fellows Delaram Farzaneh and Ambika Mehta and legal intern Meghan Berman.

Delaram is a graduate of Islamic Azad University in Tehran, Iran and holds several advanced legal degrees, including an S.J.D. from Golden Gate University School of Law. Her doctoral dissertation focused on the human rights of women in Iran.

Ambika is a graduate of the University of California, Davis School of Law who previously studied the plight of migrants in Germany as a Fulbright grantee.

Meghan is a current student at New York University School of Law, where she will participate in the Brennan Center for Justice clinic.

[Meet the Team](#) |