

Human rights in practice - Amnesty Academy

Syllabus, academic year 2023/24

1 Goals of the extracurricular activity

The purpose of the extracurricular activity is to research current topics of human rights from a practical point of view, to become familiar with different ways of striving for human rights, especially with an emphasis on the work of non-governmental organizations, and to independently carry out direct actions for human rights.

The competencies that students acquire during the course are:

- the ability to analyze current human rights phenomena,
- the ability to plan and implement actions for human rights,
- the ability to argue and empathize (understanding the importance of international protection of human rights from an individual's point of view),
- the ability of individual and group practical work and discussion,
- the ability to collect, analyze and evaluate data relevant to understanding and explaining the content of individual human rights and fundamental freedoms, and their connection to individual professions and jobs and functions,
- the ability of written and oral expression.

2 Format of course work: Exercises: 30 hours. Practical work: 90 hours.

- The exercises will be carried out as other forms of work, partly in the lecture hall (winter semester, on **Wednesdays from 14:00 to 16:00, in the FDV-6 lecture hall – see the timetable in weboffice**), partly as work in the field. They will be held in English.
- Work methods: educational workshops; project work; field work or getting to know the practical aspects of the work of Amnesty International Slovenia and other civil society actors.

2.2 Exercises:

- **4 Oct. 2023: Introductory meeting, information about the course, including practical work. (2 hours)**
- **11 Oct. 2023: The Erased: 31 years of shame. Human rights on paper or for real? (2 hours)**
- **18 Oct. 2023: Anhovo: Eko Anhovo and Danes! Human rights, environmental justice and the environmental crisis. (2 hours)**
- **25 Oct. 2023: Digital rights and social activism, with Joshua Franco from Amnesty International. (2 hours)**
- **8 Nov. 2023: Diverse bodies are not mistakes to be fixed: the I in LGBTIQ (2 hours)**
- **15 Nov. 2023: We know who we are. Human rights of transgender persons. (2 hours)**
- **22 Nov. 2023: "Yes means yes": will my date be any different? Legalization of the consent model in the definition of the criminal act of rape in Slovenia. (2 hours)**
- **29 Nov. 2023: Meeting to exchange information regarding practical work. (2 hours)**
- **6 Dec. 2023: I look at a refugee, I see a person. (2 hours)**
- **13 Dec. 2023: "Unsocial media": impact of social media on young people. (2 hours)**
- **20 Dec. 2023: Roma rights in Slovenia: access to water, housing conditions, discrimination. (2 hours)**
- **3 Jan. 2024: Why is protest our right? Slovenian and international law and a snapshot of the situation in Europe. (2 hours)**
- **10 Jan. 2024: Guest talk by Justyna Wydrzyńska, activist for access to safe abortion from Poland. (2 hours)**
- **17 Jan. 2024: Sharing of knowledge from the practical work of participants in extracurricular activities. (2 hours)**

The remaining hours up to a total of 30 hours are independent preparation for exercises.

Slovenian and international guests will participate in carrying out the exercises. The exercises will be led by Nataša Posel, Director of Amnesty International Slovenia (AIS), and Metka Naglič, Director of Campaigns and Communications at AIS. The names of the guests will be announced during the course.

2.2 Practical work

Work in a group or individually*

From the set of topics below, students **choose individual activities up to a total of 90 hours**. It is possible to combine different activities to accumulate the necessary hours; the goals of some activities can be adjusted to a different number of hours.

- **Accept a challenge: organize an event** (physically and/or online) on a specific human rights topic - possibly in connection with the topics discussed in the exercises (suitable for group work, up to 90 hours, depending on the set goals).

- **Arrange an exhibition about the consequences of the Erasure** in a place or space, including the organization of an event at its edge ([two exhibitions have already been designed](#)) (individual or group work, up to 90 hours, depending on the set goals).

- **Collect signatures for the petitions as part of the annual global event Write for Rights** (at live events, online, by preparing a podcast, joining an existing larger event, helping the Slovenian Amnesty office in implementing the event (e.g. visiting schools in your locality)) (individually or group work, up to 90 hours, depending on the set goals).

- **Conduct five printed or video interviews** for websites and/or Akcija magazine with people whose activities or lives are important from the point of view of human rights (from 20 to 30 hours per interview, up to 90 hours).

- **Arrange setting up a ready-made awareness campaign addressing violence against women** - and implement it (up to 90 hours depending on the set goals, suitable for teamwork).

- **Visit schools** and present Amnesty International (optional, by agreement, depending on the interest of the schools and the content of the lectures) (individual, from 5 to 10 hours per visit).

* All activities and communications from practical work should also include the possibility of voluntary membership in Amnesty International and joining ongoing international and national campaigns.

3 Earning credits and grading

In order to successfully complete the Extracurricular Activity (EA) and obtain credit points, each student will regularly participate in exercises (participation in 80 percent of the exercises is expected) and actively participate in at least one practical work activity of their choice, thus completing a total of 90 hours of practical work (list of most practical work is in point 2.2 above).

The grade of EA is pass/fail.

Amnesty International Slovenia will, upon request, prepare a recommendation for the participant regarding the work performed (in Slovenian or English).

4 Literature

For each topic, students are expected to read background materials and literature. Use DeepL or other AI programme for translations of texts/materials in Slovenian below.

Cerar, Miro, Jon Jamnikar in Maja Smrkolj, ur. (2002/2004) *Dokumenti človekovih pravic z uvodnimi pojasnili*. Mirovni inštitut in Amnesty International Slovenije, Ljubljana.

PROTEST

- SLO: Spletna stran Pravica do protesta na Akademiji Amnesty, vključno s spletnim tečajem Pravica do protesta: <https://www.akademija-amnesty.si/izobrazevanje/pravica-do-protesta/>
- SLO: Amnesty International Slovenije: Vprašanja in odgovori glede pravice do protesta (<https://www.amnesty.si/vprasanja-in-odgovori-pravica-do-protesta>)
- ENG: General comment no. 37 (2020) on the right of peaceful assembly (article 21): Human Rights Committee (<https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/3884725>)
- ENG: Regionalni briefing o stanju protesta v Evropi (to be published in the Fall of 2023)

ROMA

- SLO: Posebna spletna stran Amnesty International Slovenije: <https://www.amnesty.si/romi>
- SLO: Amnesty International: Vzporedna življenja: Romom v Sloveniji nista zagotovljeni pravici do ustreznega bivališča in vode Indeks AI: EUR 68/005/2011, 2011
- ENG: Slovenia: Parallel lives: Roma denied rights to housing and water in Slovenia (<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/eur68/005/2011/en/>)

THE ERASED

- SLO: Izobraževalna spletna podstran Akademije Amnesty: <https://www.akademija-amnesty.si/izobrazevanje/izbris/>
- SLO: Podkast Vroči mikrofon na Valu 202: Izbris nikoli ni bil nerešljiv (22 February 2022):
<https://val202.rtv slo.si/podkast/vroimikrofon/584/174850490>
- SLO: Opravičilo predsednika države za izbris, vključno s posnetkom opravičila: <https://www.akademija-amnesty.si/izbris-opravicilo/>
- SLO: Infografika o izbrisu, februar 2022, @Mirovni inštitut: <https://www.amnesty.si/media/uploads/files/Izbris-infografika-MI.pdf>
- SLO: Spletno mesto Izbrisani: Informacije in dokumenti, kjer najdete tudi pdf-je publikacij: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/izbrisani/index.html>.
- ENG: Website with basic information and data: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/izbrisani/en/index.html>

CONSENT

- ENG: Amnesty International: Europe: right to be free from rape – overview of legislation and state of play in Europe and international human rights standards (24 November 2018, Index number: EUR 01/9452/2018)
- SLO: Amnesty International&drugi: Poziv k spremembi definicij kaznivih dejanj zoper spolno nedotakljivost
Ljubljana, 1 March 2019
(<https://www.amnesty.si/media/uploads/files/Dopis-spremembe-KZ-spolno-nasilje-NVO-FSD.pdf>)
- SLO: Amnesty International Slovenije: Slovenija je uzakonila model soglasja!, 4 June 2022 (<https://www.amnesty.si/uzakonjen-model-soglasja>)

ENVIRONMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS

- ENG: Amnesty International: Stop burning our rights! What governments and corporations must do to protect humanity from the climate crisis: executive summary (7 June 2022, Index number: POL 30/4110/2022) (<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/pol30/4110/2022/en/>)
- SLO: <https://www.amnesty.si/podnebne-spremembe>
- SLO: <http://www.ekoanhovo.org/>

INTERSEX

- SLO: Izobraževalna spletna podstran Akademije Amnesty: <https://www.akademija-amnesty.si/izobrazevanje/interspolnost/>
- SLO: Amnesty International Slovenije, Pet zadev na področju interspolnosti, glede katerih se verjetno motite, 11 September 2019 (<https://www.amnesty.si/5-mitov-interspolnosti>)
- SLO: Priročniki&viri za zaščito človekovih pravic interspolnih oseb, 14 October 2019 (<https://www.amnesty.si/interspolne-osebe-viri>)
- ENG: Iceland: No shame in diversity, 19 February 2019, Index number: EUR 28/9498/2019 (<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/eur28/9498/2019/en/>)
- ENG: Amnesty International: Europe: First, do no harm: Ensuring the rights of children with variations of sex characteristics in Denmark and Germany, 9 May 2017, Index number: EUR 01/6086/2017 (<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/eur01/6086/2017/en/>)

TRANSGENDER

- SLO: Izobraževalna spletna podstran Akademije Amnesty: <https://www.akademija-amnesty.si/izobrazevanje/transspolnost/>
- SLO: Poročilo Zagovornika enakih možnosti o položaju transspolnih oseb v Sloveniji:
<https://zagovornik.si/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Posebno-porocilo-Polozah-transspolnih-ljudi-v-postopkih-medicinske-potrditve-spolne-identitete-in-pravnega-priznanja-spola-v-Sloveniji.pdf>
 - ENG: <https://ilga.org/trans-legal-mapping-report>

REFUGEES

- SLO: Spletna podstran: <https://www.amnesty.si/begunci>

- ENG: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/what-we-do/refugees-asylum-seekers-and-migrants/>

DIGITAL RIGHTS

- ENG: “We are totally exposed”: Young people share concerns about social media’s impact on privacy and mental health in global survey, 7 February 2023: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/02/children-young-people-social-media-survey-2/#:~:text=Instagram%2C%20TikTok%20and%20other%20social%20media%20have%20become,hours%20of%20their%20average%20day%20on%20social%20media.>
- SLO: Evropski parlament mora prepovedati uporabo nevarnih tehnologij, 13 June 2023: <https://www.amnesty.si/evropski-parlament-naj-prepove-uporabo-nevarnih-tehnologij>
- SLO: Izraelske oblasti uporabljajo tehnologijo za prepoznavanje obrazov za utrjevanje apartheida, 2 May 2023: <https://www.amnesty.si/izraelske-oblasti-uporabljajo-tehnologijo-za-prepoznavanje-obrazov-za-utrjevanje-apartheida.html>
- ENG: Big Picture podcast with Amnesty International’s secretary general Agnes Callamard: Why we should be worried about AI mass surveillance, 10 August 2023: <https://www.middleeasteye.net/video/why-we-should-be-worried-about-ai-mass-surveillance>
- ENG: Unsocial Media (report to be published in November 2023)