

BACKGROUND

Over the last years, the impact of natural and technological disasters has been constantly on the rise, both within and outside the EU. The recent COVID 19 pandemic is just the last dramatic example.

Looking at this phenomenon through a legal lens, it is widely acknowledged that disasters heavily impact on the rights of the affected communities. At the same time, humanitarian organizations insist that human rights principles should be integrated into disaster management policies in order to strengthen prevention, response, and recovery efforts, while increasing the protection of the affected individuals and communities.

However, efforts to disseminate human rights standards applicable in disaster settings have been limited, including in Europe. The intensive course on European and International Human Rights Standards in Disaster Settings (EIHRSDS) aims at addressing these gaps.

NATURE OF THE COURSE

The course will last 5 days (Monday-Friday, generally 8.30 - 18.00) and run for a total of 38 hours. A maximum of 25 participants will be admitted. The course is planned to be held in person, subject to any development in the Covid-19 health emergency.



SCUOLA SUPERIORE S. ANNA

The course will be held at the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna ("the Scuola") in Pisa, within its Advanced Training Division.

The Scuola is a public, autonomous, special-statute university, which promotes education and research through undergraduate studies, master and PhD programmes in the fields of Social Sciences and Applied Sciences.

The Scuola has acquired a great experience in organizing advanced training courses for professionals engaged in humanitarian assistance and peace-keeping operations. The Scuola is also particularly active in conducting state-of-the-art research on the protection of human rights in emergency contexts.

COURSE SECRETARIAT TEL

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COURSE TUTOR

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EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS IN DISASTER SETTINGS

4-8 October 2021

Raise awareness on the crucial role of human rights in disaster settings



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The course aims to:

- provide participants with a sound knowledge of the legal frameworks and principal actors relevant to disaster management activities and the role of human rights in the prevention and response to natural and technological disasters;
- raise awareness on the critical role of human rights in disaster settings, and therefore favour a more human rights-sensitive approach to disaster management;
- offer a solid understanding of the specific needs of vulnerable groups affected by disasters.

MAIN TOPICS

The course is divided into five sub-modules, one for each day of classes:

- Introduction to International Human Rights Law (IHRL) and Disasters, providing a general introduction on international disaster law and IHRL and addressing the primary role of the affected State in disaster management activities;
- Actors in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection, focusing on non-State actors (UN, IFRC, NGOs) that have a role in disaster management activities, especially in those related to human rights protection;
- Applying Human Rights in Disaster Settings, dealing with concrete human rights standards applicable to disaster settings and describing the legal duties they impose on States (and non-State actors) with regards to disaster management activities;
- Protection Issues, shedding light on the notion of 'vulnerability' and exploring the specific protection needs of vulnerable segments of the population;
- Human Rights and Disaster Prevention/Mitigation, addressing the interplay between IHRL and other branches of international law that contribute to preventing and mitigating disasters;

METHODOLOGY

The teaching methodology will be characterized by a combination of frontal lecturing and more interactive training techniques (case study solving, etc.).

Participants will have access to on-line resources ahead of the sessions to favour their active participation during classes and improve the learning experience.

COURSE FEE

Thanks to financing from the Jean Monnet Module, attendance of the course will be free for graduate students. PhD students will be required to pay a fee of 100 Euro. Professionals working in the field of human rights and/or disaster management will be required to pay a fee of 300 Euro. The fee includes lunch on class days.

WHO CAN APPLY

The course is intended for graduate and post-graduate students, research fellows and other academics, practitioners working on disaster-management issues for national and international organizations, NGOs and other actors active in this field (IFRC, national Red Cross Societies, etc.). Applicants must have a sound working knowledge of English.

SELECTION PROCESS

Applicants will be selected on the basis of the information provided in their CVs and in the on-line application form, which is available at www.santannapisa.it/HR&Disasters/

Upon submitting the application form, please remember to attach your CV. In case of problems with the on-line procedure please contact riccardo1.luporini@santannapisa.it.

Applications must be received no later than **9 September 2021**. Applications will be processed on a rolling basis, which means that the course may be booked up before that date.

Successful applicants who require a visa to enter Italy are strongly advised to immediately contact the Italian Embassy or consular authorities in their country of residence (for more info please see: https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/servizi/sportello_info/domandefrequenti/sezione_visti_entrare_in_italia.html)

Selection will be conducted by an *ad hoc* committee headed by the course coordinator. Selection criteria will include: academic background; professional background; experiences as a volunteer; motivational statement.

CERTIFICATION AND CREDITS

Participants wanting to obtain university credits (ECTS) will be allowed to do so, provided that they pass the course's final exam. Participants attending at least 80% of the classes will be awarded a certificate of attendance.

DIRECTION AND TEACHING STAFF

The Course Director is Professor Emanuele Sommario, coordinator of the Jean Monnet Module. The faculty will include teaching staff members of the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna as well as academics, practitioners and other experts from Italian and foreign institutions.



**"A MORE HUMAN
RIGHTS-SENSITIVE APPROACH
TO DISASTER
MANAGEMENT"**