



**A global force for human rights? Assessing the EU's
comprehensive approach to human rights in crisis
management and conflict**

Workshop Programme

Expert Workshop (WP 10)

11 March 2016

**Law School
Seville, Spain**

El día 11 de marzo tendrá lugar el workshop titulado "A global force for human rights? Assessing the EU's comprehensive approach to human rights in crisis management and conflict" en la Facultad de Derecho de la Universidad de Sevilla. Para aquellos interesados en asistir, la inscripción es gratuita hasta completar aforo enviando un email a Laura Iñigo (linigo@us.es).

Workshop Programme

11 March 2016

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| 09.00-09.30 | Registration + Tea/Coffee |
| 09.30-09.45 | Opening Address
Prof. Dr. Carmen Márquez Carrasco, University of Seville |
| 09.45-10.30 | Keynote Speech: A Global Force for Human Rights? Preliminary Findings from the FRAME Project
Prof. Dr. Jan Wouters, Director, Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies, KU Leuven |
| 10.30-13.00 | Panel 1: The applicable regulatory frameworks regarding human rights violations in conflicts and the protection of vulnerable groups |

Our reports for the FRAME project have illustrated the diverse range of regulatory frameworks applicable in conflicts and the complex interplay among them, namely human rights, international humanitarian law and the law of humanitarian assistance. This panel will discuss the complexity and applicability of these legal frameworks and how and to what extent applies to EU-led crisis management with a focus on the emergence of a comprehensive regulatory framework for protection of vulnerable groups in situations of conflicts. This panel will also address the extent to which the application of ICL contributes to the promotion of democracy and protection of human rights in post-conflict situations.

Chair- Prof. Dr. Carmen Márquez Carrasco, University of Seville

- Prof. Dr. Gerd Oberleitner, University of Graz/ETC Graz
- Prof. Dr. Francesco Seatzu, University of Cagliari
- Dr. Mikaela Heikkilä, Institute for Human Rights, Department of Law, ÅboAkademi University.
- Prof. Dr. Elizabeth Salmón, Director of the Democracy and Human Rights Institute, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú.

13.00-14.00

14.00-16.00

Panel 2: Assessing the integration of human rights and international Humanitarian Law (IHL) and democracy/rule of law principles and tools into the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) and missions and evaluating their impact on vulnerable groups

Lunch

Our FRAME research conducted thus far has revealed that since the ESDP/CSDP was first conceived, human rights have come to play an increasingly important role in the planning and conduct of crisis management operations. Despite these developments there is still room for improvement, particularly with regard to the promotion and protection of human rights specific context in which a mission is deployed. The panellists will discuss how relevant policy commitments and tools for the integration of human rights, IHL and democracy/rule of law principles are or should be integrated and operationalized in CSDP, with a focus on the protection of vulnerable groups. The panel will also address the complementarity of EU CSDP with the actions of other relevant actors on various policy levels (UN, regional) and the role CSDP plays within wider comprehensive responses to crisis situations.

Chair – Prof. Dr. Pablo Antonio Fernández Sánchez, University of Seville

- Prof. Dr. Cristina Churruca, University of Deusto
- Ms. Ines Thevarajah, Human Rights Focal Point at the CPCC, EEAS
- Mr. Gabino Regalado de los Cobos, Colonel, EUTM Mali

16.00-18.00

Roundtable Discussion and Conclusion (tbc)

Chair - Prof. Dr. Jan Wouters, Director, Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies, KU Leuven

About this conference

The TEU directs the Union to respect human rights whenever it conducts activities on the international scene, including EU external policies in response to conflicts and crisis situations. The promotion of human rights at the international level is one of the principal objectives of the EU's external action (Art. 3, para. 5). This principle is formulated in Art. 21, paragraph 2 under the Union's commitment to 'define and pursue common policies and actions, and (to) work for a high degree of cooperation in all fields of international relations, in order to: ... b) consolidate and support democracy, the rule of law, human rights and the principles of international law'. In the 2012 Strategic Framework on Human Rights and Democracy and the 2015-2019 Action Plan for its implementation the EU addresses current and anticipates future challenges in the field and indicates solutions to enhance policy effectiveness and coherence, by proposing a comprehensive human rights approach to conflicts and crisis' (third strategic area of the Action Plan).

This international conference is organised by the **Research Group "Human Rights and Globalisation" (SEJ055)** of the University of Seville, and aims at discussing the findings of the FRAME project regarding the European Union external policies in response to conflicts and crisis situations. One of the main objectives of FRAME is to survey and analyse contemporary human rights violations especially against vulnerable groups, within the context of conflict and crisis within and among States, between and within communities and their link with historical and cultural factors.

This conference seeks to address ways to prevent and overcome violence through the critical assessment of the instruments available to the EU to integrate human rights, humanitarian law and democracy/rule of law principles in these policies with a focus on vulnerable groups in society (e.g., children, internally displaced persons and refugees).