RETHINK EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

HUMAN RIGHTS WEEK



SEPTEMBER 18-21, 2023 | 09 AM-02 PM CENTRAL LIBRARY - UNIVERSITY OF MOSUL











FOREWORD

THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS WILL BE 75 YEARS OLD IN DECEMBER 2023. THE RETHINK EDUCATION AND SCIENCE IN IRAQ (RESI) HUMAN RIGHTS WEEK IS A WEEK OF SCHOLARLY EVENTS TO COMMEMORATE THIS OCCASION BY DISCUSSING AND PROMOTING THE UNDERSTANDING OF HUMAN RIGHTS ACROSS ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES, CULTURES, LANGUAGES, AND GENERATIONS. HUMAN RIGHTS ARE NOT A RECENT INVENTION AND ARE FOUND IN VIRTUALLY EVERY AREA OF HUMAN ACTIVITY. THROUGHOUT HISTORY, CONCEPTS OF ETHICAL BEHAVIOUR, JUSTICE, AND HUMAN DIGNITY HAVE BEEN IMPORTANT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN SOCIETIES OVER THOUSANDS OF YEARS. THEY HAVE THE POWER TO BIND US TOGETHER THROUGH A SHARED SET OF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

DUE TO EXISTING INJUSTICES, HUMAN RIGHTS NEED TO BE CONSTANTLY DEFENDED, DEMANDED, FOUGHT FOR, AND DISCUSSED IN TERMS OF THEIR MEANING FOR PEOPLE IN VERY DIFFERENT LIFE SITUATIONS. OUR ACTIVITIES IN THE RESI HUMAN RIGHTS WEEK ARE DESIGNED TO STIMULATE DISCUSSIONS AND PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING OF HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AT LOCAL, NATIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS. THE HUMAN RIGHTS WEEK CONSISTS OF A SERIES OF ACADEMIC, ARTISTIC, AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES TO BRING TOGETHER STUDENTS, LECTURERS AND PROFESSORS FROM MOSUL, GRAZ AND TU DORTMUND UNIVERSITY, AS WELL AS ALL THOSE INTERESTED, TO ENGAGE WITH THE MANY DIMENSIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

ALL ACTIVITIES WILL TAKE PLACE FROM 18-21 SEPTEMBER IN THE CENTRAL LIBRARY OF MOSUL UNIVERSITY.

RESI IS A UNIVERSITY COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ (AUSTRIA), THE UNIVERSITY OF MOSUL (IRAQ) AND THE TU DORTMUND UNIVERSITY (GERMANY) WITH THE AIM TO SUPPORT THE UNIVERSITY OF MOSUL IN IT'S ACADEMIC REHABILITATION. LIKE ALL RESI ACTIVITIES, HUMAN RIGHTS WEEK IS ORGANISED BY AN INTERNATIONAL, INTERDISCIPLINARY STEERING COMMITTEE OF ACADEMICS UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF PROF. DR. HEIKE WENDT (UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ).

MANY THANKS TO ASSOCIATION INSCRIRE FOR THEIR WONDERFUL ARTWORK.











SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 18

SEPIEMBER 18	
OPENING	10:00
REALITIES OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN IRAQ DIMENSIONS AND AMBITION EXPERT TALK WITH DR. ABDULAZIZ ALKTHABI (MOSUL UNIVERSITY)	10:15
HUMAN RIGHTS AS A MEANS OF EXPRESSION & RECONCILIATION EXPERT TALK WITH DR. BARBARA REITER (GRAZ UNIVERSITY)	10:45
RIGHT TO EDUCATION: THE ROLE OF LIBRARIES INTERACTIVE LIBRARY TOUR WITH MR. SAYF AL ASHQAR (MOSUL UNIVERSITY)	11:30
SEPTEMBER 19	
THE PLACE OF HUMAN RIGHTS CONVENTIONS IN THE IRAQI LEGAL SYSTEM	9:00
WRITE THE HUMAN RIGHTS STUDENT WORKSHOP WITH DR. BARBARA REITER (UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ)	10:00
HUMAN RIGHTS & DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION EXPERT TALK WITH MR. THOMAS ZENKL (GRAZ UNIVERSITY)	12:00
SEPTEMBER 20 THE HUMAN RIGHT TO OWN PROPERTY EXPERT TALK WITH DR. MOHANNAD IBRAHIM ALI (MOSUL UNIVERSITY)	9:00
WORKSHOP HUMAN RIGHTS AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION STUDENT WORKSHOP WITH MR. THOHMAS ZENKL (UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ)	10:00
ENVIRONMENT & HUMAN RIGHTS EXPERT TALKS WITH DR. FAWZI JEBRAIL (MOSUL UNIVERSITY)	12:00
SEPTEMBER 21	
HUMAN RIGHTS RESEARCH POSTER PRESENTATION OF INNOVATIVE RESEARCH	10:00
FUTURE OF HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION & PEACEBUILDING ROUND TABLE WITH EDUCATORS, HUMAN RIGHTS EXPERTS AND POLICY MAKERS	11:00
EXHIBITION "RIGHT TO EDUCATION"	
HUMAN RIGHTS: A FRAMEWORK FOR POST-WAR TRANSFORMATION? ROUND TABLE WITH HUMAN RIGHTS EXPERTS AND POLICY MAKERS	12:00
CLOSING	13:00











REALITIES OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN IRAQ DIMENSIONS AND AMBITION

EXPERT TALK WITH DR. ABDULAZIZ ALKTHABI

SEPTEMBER 18

10:00

IRAQ ISSUED ITS FIRST CONSTITUTION IN 1925, AND IT WAS AN ADVANCED CONSTITUTION THAT INCLUDED MANY RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS. WITH THE COLLAPSE OF THE MONARCHY IN IRAQ ON 14 JULY 1958, PROVISIONAL CONSTITUTIONS WERE ISSUED THAT ALSO INCLUDED MANY RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS, BUT THEY WERE UNDER DICTATORIAL REGIMES AND A STATE OF INSTABILITY. UNTIL THE FALL OF THE IRAQI REGIME IN 2003 AND ITS OCCUPATION BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. THE PERMANENT CONSTITUTION OF IRAQ WAS ISSUED IN 2005, WHICH IS THE SECOND PERMANENT CONSTITUTION IN THE HISTORY OF THE MODERN STATE OF IRAQ. THIS CONSTITUTION INCLUDED A SECTION ON RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS, BUT THERE ARE SEVERAL LIMITATIONS IN IRAQI LEGISLATION IN THIS REGARD. WE ARE TALKING HERE ABOUT THE REALITY OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN IRAQ IN THE LIGHT OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS, WHAT ARE THE MAIN CRITICISMS OF THE IRAQI LEGAL SYSTEM, WHAT ARE THE TREATIES THAT IRAQ HAS JOINED AND WHAT ARE THE RESERVATIONS THAT IRAQ HAS MADE TO THESE TREATIES.

DR. ABDULAZIZ RAMADHAN ALKHTABI IS PROFESSOR OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND CHAIRMAN OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS DEPARTMENT OF THE FACULTY OF LAW AT MOSUL UNIVERSITY.











HUMAN RIGHTS AS A MEANS OF EXPRESSION & RECONCILIATION

EXPERT TALK WITH DR. BARBARA REITER

SEPTEMBER 18

10:45

IN THIS TALK THE DECLARATION OF 1948 WILL BE INTERPRETED BOTH AS A RESULT OF AN INTERNATIONAL DISCOURSE AND AS A HORIZON FOR SOME IDEAS CONCERNING HUMAN WELL-BEING.

DR. BARBARA REITER TEACHES ETHICS AND PHILOSOPHY AT GRAZ UNIVERSITY. SHE HAS BEEN WORKING ON PARTICIPATORY HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECTS FOR THREE DECADES BOTH IN FILM AND THE PUBLIC SPHERE OF SEVERAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.













RIGHT TO EDUCATION: THE ROLE OF LIBRARIES

INTERACTIVE LIBRARY TOUR WITH SAYF AL-ASHQAR

SEPTEMBER 18

11:30

EDUCATION AND INFORMATION LITERACY ARE FUNDAMENTAL TO THE MISSION OF LIBRARIES OF ALL TYPES AND ARE THE FOUNDATION OF INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM. LIBRARIES PROVIDE ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND IDEAS THROUGH THEIR FACILITIES, RESOURCES AND SERVICES. LIBRARIES PROMOTE THE ABILITY TO USE THESE RESOURCES THROUGH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND INSTRUCTION. THE VALUE AND IMPORTANCE OF INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO EDUCATION IS WIDELY RECOGNISED IN THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, ADOPTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS IN 1948. IN ADDITION, THERE ARE MANY WAYS THAT LIBRARIES CAN PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS. TAKE THE INTERACTIVE LIBRARY TOUR WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ROLE THE CENTRAL LIBRARY OF MOSUL UNIVERSITY INTENDS TO PLAY IN FULFILLING ITS MISSION.

MR. SAYF AL-ASHQAR IS THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF MOSUL UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES.











THE PLACE OF HUMAN RIGHTS CONVENTIONS IN THE IRAQI LEGAL SYSTEM

EXPERT TALK WITH
DR. FATHI MOHAMMED AL-HAYANI
SEPTEMBER 19 9:00

THE PRESENTATION WILL FOCUS ON THE STATUS OF HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES IN IRAQI LAW, THE IMPACT OF THIS STATUS ON THE WORK OF THE IRAQI NATIONAL JUDGE, THE EXTENT OF HIS ABILITY TO INVOKE INTERNATIONAL TEXTS, THE CHALLENGES INVOLVED IN THIS PROCESS AND THE REASONS FOR IT.

DR FATHI MOHAMMED AL-HAYANI,
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF INTERNATIONAL
PUBLIC LAW AT THE FACULTY OF LAW OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF MOSUL AND HEAD OF THE
CENTRE FOR PEACE BUILDING AND
PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AT THE SAME
UNIVERSITY.













STUDENT WORKSHOP WITH DR. BARBARA REITER

SEPTEMBER 19

10:00

WHOEVER WANTS TO STAND UP FOR HUMAN RIGHTS OR INVOKE THEM MUST KNOW THAT THEY EXIST. DUE TO EXISTING INJUSTICES. **HUMAN RIGHTS MUST BE CONSTANTLY** DEFENDED, DEMANDED, FOUGHT FOR AND **DISCUSSED IN TERMS OF THEIR** SIGNIFICANCE FOR PEOPLE IN VERY DIFFERENT LIFE SITUATIONS. **WORKSHOP INVITES STUDENTS TO** PERSONALLY REFLECT ON THEIR OWN UNDERSTANDING OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND TO THINK ABOUT THE MEANING OF DIGNITY. FREEDOM, EQUALITY, SOLIDARITY, JUSTICE AND CITIZENSHIP. THESE IDEAS ARE CAPTURED IN A PROCESS OF DRAWING. THUS, IDEAS BECOME VISIBLE AND INVITE **FURTHER UNDERSTANDING AND** DISCUSSION.

DR. BARBARA REITER TEACHES ETHICS AND PHILOSOPHY AT GRAZ UNIVERSITY. SHE HAS BEEN WORKING ON PARTICIPATORY HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECTS FOR THREE DECADES BOTH IN FILM AND THE PUBLIC SPHERE OF SEVERAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.











HUMAN RIGHTS & DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

EXPERT TALK WITH MR. THOMAS ZENKL

SEPTEMBER 19

12:00

WHILST ALLOWING FOR NOVEL FORMS OF PARTICIPATION AND MEANS TO EXERCISE HUMAN RIGHTS, TECHNOLOGIES IN GENERAL AND APPLICATIONS OF AI ('ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE') IN PARTICULAR SIMULTANEOUSLY POSE NEW THREATS. ALLOWING FOR AUTOMATED SURVEILLANCE, MAKING BIASED DECISIONS, AND FAVOURING HARMFUL DISCOURSES IN DIGITAL SPACES, THESE SYSTEMS MAY BE COMPLICIT IN THE **VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE** PERPETUATION OF INEQUALITIES. THIS TALK AIMS TO HIGHLIGHT HOW DIGITAL TRANSFORMATIONS ARE AFFECTING HUMAN RIGHTS, BUT ALSO HOW HUMAN RIGHTS (AND THEIR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION) MAY BE THE BASIS TO FOSTER FURTHER TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES TOWARDS A HUMAN CENTRED DEVELOPMENT.

THOMAS ZENKL IS A RESEARCH ASSISTANT AT THE INSTITUTE OF SOCIOLOGY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ. IN HIS PHD THESIS, HE IS INTERESTED IN THE SOCIETAL EMBEDDING OF AI AND ALGORITHMIC SYSTEMS AND THE SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES, DISRUPTIONS, RESISTANCES, AND TRANSFORMATIONS ARISING FROM THE APPLICATION OF AUTOMATED SYSTEMS.











HUMAN RIGHT TO OWN PROPERTY

EXPERT TALK WITH DR. MOHANNAD IBRAHIM ALI



SEPTEMBER 20

9:00

THE RIGHT TO PROPERTY IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF A JUST AND EQUITABLE SOCIETY. IT HELPS TO ENSURE THAT PEOPLE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD A BETTER LIFE FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES. IN THIS PRESENTATION, I WILL DISCUSS THE MEANING OF THE RIGHT TO PROPERTY AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO THE IRAQI CONSTITUTION AND LAW, AS WELL AS IMPORTANT CHANGES IN ITS INTERPRETATION AND PHILOSOPHY SINCE 2003.

DR. MOHANNAD IBRAHIM ALI IS ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF COMMERCIAL LAW AT THE FACULTY OF LAW. UNIVERSITY OF MOSUL.













STUDENT WORKSHOP WITH MR. THOMAS ZENKL

SEPTEMBER 20

10:00

TECHNOLOGIES ARE NOT MERE TOOLS,
THEY ARE NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD NOR
ARE THEY NEUTRAL. THEY ARE SHAPED BY
NEEDS AND INTERESTS OF INDIVIDUALS
AND GROUPS, EXPRESS CULTURAL AND
SOCIETAL VALUES, AND VICE VERSA THEY
SHAPE US. IN THIS WORKSHOP WE ARE
INVESTIGATING THE WAYS IN WHICH WE
INTERACT WITH DIGITAL DEVICES AND TRY
TO DEVELOP AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE
IMAGINARIES WE HAVE OF THE
APPLICATIONS WE USE.

MR. THOMAS ZENKL IS A RESEARCH ASSISTANT AT THE INSTITUTE OF SOCIOLOGY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ. IN HIS PHD THESIS, HE IS INTERESTED IN THE SOCIETAL EMBEDDING OF AI AND ALGORITHMIC SYSTEMS AND THE SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES, DISRUPTIONS, RESISTANCES, AND TRANSFORMATIONS ARISING FROM THE APPLICATION OF AUTOMATED SYSTEMS.













HUMAN RIGHTS RESEARCH

POSTER SESSION

SEPTEMBER 21

10:00

IN ORDER TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS, WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND HOW THEY ARE INTERPRETED AND VIOLATED IN DIFFERENT CONTEXTS, AND TO DEVELOP METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING AND DOCUMENTING VIOLATIONS. HUMAN RIGHTS-FOCUSED RESEARCH, INVESTIGATION AND DOCUMENTATION HAS LED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF RIGHTS-BASED INTERVENTIONS AND THE PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. AT THE SAME TIME, HUMAN RIGHTS INVESTIGATIONS RAISE COMPLEX ETHICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL CHALLENGES.

WE INVITE RESEARCHERS TO SHARE AND DISCUSS THEIR FINDINGS IN THE FORM OF A RESEARCH POSTER. SUBMISSIONS FROM ALL DISCIPLINES ARE WELCOME. SUBMIT A SHORT ABSTRACT VIA OUR WEBSITE BY 18 SEPTEMBER.













ART COMPETITION

SEPTEMBER 21

11:00

THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION IS A (ART.26) FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT, SINCE IN THE MODERN WORLD THE FULL DEVELOPMENT OF THE HUMAN PERSONALITY IS HARDLY POSSIBLE WITHOUT A MINIMUM OF FORMAL EDUCATION. EDUCATION IS ALSO NECESSARY FOR THE EFFECTIVE EXERCISE OF HUMAN RIGHTS SUCH AS FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION OR PARTICIPATION IN SOCIETY. VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS TAKE MANY FORMS. WHAT ARE THEY LIKE IN IRAQ? AND WHAT DO YOU THINK NEEDS TO BE DONE?

SHARE YOUR ARTWORK WITH US! ALL FORMS OF ARTWORK (E.G. PAINTING, PHOTOGRAPHY, ...). ARE WELCOME! A JURY OF EXPERTS WILL REVIEW SUBMISSIONS. ARTWORK WILL BE EXHIBITED ON 21 SEPTEMBER. SUBMIT YOUR CONTRIBUTION VIA OUR WEBSITE BY 19 SEPTEMBER.











FUTURE OF HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION & PEACEBUILDING

ROUND TABLE

SEPTEMBER 21

11:00

HOW CAN WE CREATE A WORLD WHERE EVERYONE'S HUMAN RIGHTS ARE RESPECTED?

THERE IS A GROWING RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION IN PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS, PREVENTING **HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AND** CONFLICTS, AND ADDRESSING THE ROOT CAUSES OF CONFLICT SUCH AS POVERTY, INEQUALITY AND DISCRIMINATION. AT PRESENT, WE SEE A WIDE VARIETY OF APPROACHES BEING APPLIED, RANGING FROM TARGETED TRAINING TO VERY HOLISTIC APPROACHES LINKING **EDUCATION WITH OTHER KEY SECTORS** SUCH AS HEALTH, JUSTICE AND SECURITY. THE ROLE THAT ONLINE PLATFORMS. SOCIAL MEDIA AND MOBILE APPLICATIONS CAN PLAY REMAINS TO BE EXPLORED.

THE ROUNDTABLE WILL BRING TOGETHER HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATORS, ACADEMICS AND POLICY MAKERS TO DISCUSS FUTURE PERSPECTIVES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEACE EDUCATION IN IRAO.













ROUND TABLE

SEPTEMBER 21

12:00

HUMAN RIGHTS ARE A FUNDAMENTAL ASPECT OF POST-CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION, PROVIDING A FRAMEWORK FOR ENSURING JUSTICE. **EQUALITY AND DIGNITY FOR ALL. SOCIETIES EMERGING FROM ARMED CONFLICT OFTEN FACE MANY CHALLENGES** IN REBUILDING AND ESTABLISHING A PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETY. **HUMAN RIGHTS PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE IN** ADDRESSING THESE CHALLENGES AND PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE PEACE. **POST-CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION ENCOMPASSES VARIOUS PROCESSES AIMED** AT REBUILDING SOCIETIES AFFECTED BY ARMED CONFLICT. THESE PROCESSES INCLUDE DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILISATION AND REINTEGRATION OF FORMER COMBATANTS, RECONCILIATION EFFORTS. JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS, INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES. TO WHAT EXTENT CAN HUMAN RIGHTS SERVE AS A GUIDING FRAMEWORK IN THESE PROCESSES? THE ROUNDTABLE INVITES ACADEMICS.

THE ROUNDTABLE INVITES ACADEMICS, POLICY-MAKERS AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS TO DISCUSS THIS QUESTION













PARTICIPATION IN THE STUDENT WORKSHOPS IS LIMITED. ENTHUSIASTIC PARTICIPANTS WHO DO NOT MISS MORE THAN TWO OF OUR ACTIVITIES WILL RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE.

FOR BETTER PLANNING WE KINDLY ASK YOU TO REGISTER YOUR PARTICIPATION VIA OUR WEBSITE.

