

# Students, broaden your knowledge of Victorian human rights legislation



Teams compete in our 2014 competition

Students from all Australian universities are invited to compete in the 9th annual Castan Centre Human Rights Moot Competition. In 2014 sixteen teams from eleven universities entered, representing almost every Australian state and territory.

The moot problem will focus on issues which arise under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities, giving students an opportunity to test their advocacy and legal analysis skills. This law enshrines civil and political rights derived from the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Previous moot problems have included issues around treatment of prisoners, supervision orders for sex offenders, access to IVF, mental health, imprisonment of minors, same-sex rights and more.

The Moot will be held at Monash University Law Chambers in the Melbourne CBD from Monday 7th to Wednesday 9th of September 2015.

**Students may apply by contacting the delegate listed at the [moot webpage](#) or contacting the Castan Centre directly if there is no delegate. Applications close on Wednesday 5th August 2015.**

## Human Rights Law Masters at Monash

The Monash Faculty of Law (home to the Castan Centre) offers the oldest masters degree in Australia dedicated to the study of human rights law.

To ensure these opportunities are open to as many people as possible, graduates from both law and non-law disciplines can study postgraduate human rights law at Monash.

New units offered for the first time in 2015 include:

**Sexual and Gender Minorities and Human Rights**, with Castan Centre Deputy Director Associate Professor Paula Gerber.

This unit will analyse contemporary issues such as same-sex marriage/relationship recognition, criminalisation of homosexuality, anti-discrimination laws, hate-based violence 'gay propaganda' prohibitions. Students will also critique the work of the UN in the field of human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people.

**Racial Ethnic and Linguistic Minorities and Human Rights**, with Castan Centre Deputy Director Melissa Castan.

Students undertaking this unit will analyse contemporary legal dimensions of the human rights of racial, ethnic

and linguistic minorities; such as self-identity and recognition at international law, exclusionary laws impacting upon minorities, anti-discrimination laws, ethnic violence and other restraints on ethnic and cultural practices.

Units taught by visiting scholars include:

**Economic Social and Cultural Rights and International Law** with Professor Olivier de Schutter., former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right to food and member of the UN Committee on Economic Social and Cultural Rights.

The unit addresses the theory, history, law and politics of economic social and cultural rights (eg the right to food, the right to education).

**Genocide in International Law**, taught by Professor Elies van Sliedregt, Professor of International Criminal Law, Dean of the Law School of the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and Director of its Centre for International Criminal Justice.

The unit investigates the legal and political meaning of "genocide", the origins of the Genocide Convention, and legal and policy issues associated with its international criminalization.

## Are you a future human rights leader?

Our global internship program provides an opportunity for high achieving students with a commitment to human rights to travel to New York, Geneva or Kuala Lumpur and spend 3-6 months with an international organisation.

The 2016 program will offer internships for Monash law students at the Center for Constitutional Rights, Human Rights First, International Women's Rights Action Watch-Asia Pacific or International Service for Human Rights, and an additional opportunity for an indigenous student from any Monash faculty to intern at the Australian delegation to the UN Human Rights Council. We are currently investigating a 6th internship so keep your eyes out for that too.

The global internship program is a training ground for future human rights leaders and many interns go on to have significant roles within in the legal industry working in government, major legal firms, the United Nations, international NGO's and at the bar

Funding for the internship is provided by the Castan Centre and ranges from \$7,300 to \$9,400 depending on the location of the internship.

**Applications for the program open on Monday 6th July 2015. More information can be found on the [Castan Centre website](#).**