



30th

ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTHERN INSTITUTE
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND MINORITY LAW



Programme

HOW TO DEVELOP HUMAN AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS RESEARCH IN FINLAND

30th Anniversary Seminar of
The Northern Institute for Environmental and Minority Law
organized in cooperation with
Human Rights Center

10 -11 September, 2015
Arctic Centre, Rovaniemi
Hotel Pyhätunturi, Pyhätunturi



To celebrate its 30th anniversary, The Northern Institute for Environmental and Minority Law (NIEM) is organizing an Anniversary Seminar on “How to Develop Human and Fundamental Rights Research in Finland” in cooperation with the Human Rights Centre (HRC). The two-day event will be held in Rovaniemi and Pyhäntä. The seminar language is English. Human and fundamental rights researchers from different fields of science are warmly welcomed and strongly encouraged to attend this highly multidisciplinary seminar.

Format

The seminar is designed to develop human and fundamental rights research in Finland using a participatory format. Participatory approach has been integrated into the planning of the seminar from its inception. The seminar will address key thematic areas of human and fundamental rights research which will be carefully selected based on the preliminary mapping of the topics and the research focus areas of the participants. The seminar is organized using an open format that allows participants to openly discuss human and fundamental rights issues among other persons with similar research interests. Structured around a mix of panel discussions, workshop and roundtables the seminar addresses key topics of human and fundamental rights research. Furthermore, the floor will be open for a minority group, the Sámi, who will have a voice of their own in human and fundamental rights research.

Why should you attend?

- First multidisciplinary seminar on human and fundamental rights research in Finland
- New nation-wide network → participants will be recognized figures and members of national human and fundamental rights research community
- Conference collects academics, scholars and practitioners who will have an opportunity to address key thematic areas of human and fundamental rights in Finland and future develop the field
- We will make sure that participants to this seminar will be located in a group where there are persons with similar research interests
- Because of LAPLAND and the beautiful autumn colors!

Travel Expenses

Please note that participants are expected to cover their own travel expenses (travel & hotel).



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30th Anniversary Seminar Programme THURSDAY, September 10 Arktikum house, Pohjoisranta 4

08.00 Registration

09.00 Opening words

09.10 Introduction to NIEM

Arktikum Glass Tube

Mauri Ylä-Kotola, Rector, University of Lapland

Lauri Hannikainen, Professor Emeritus, University of Helsinki

Timo Koivurova, Research Professor, Director of NIEM,
Arctic Centre, University of Lapland

09.30 General introduction to the
thematic of the seminar

Leena Heinämäki, Senior Researcher, NIEM, Arctic Centre
University of Lapland

09.45 Coffee break

SESSION I – How to Develop Human and Fundamental Rights Research

10.30 PANEL DISCUSSION

Moderator: **Kamrul Hossain**, Research Director (Acting), Northern Institute for Environmental and
Minority Law, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland

Panelists: **Sirpa Rautio**, Director, Finnish Human Rights Centre
Maija Sakslin, Deputy-Ombudsman, Office of the Parliamentary Ombudsman
Elna Pirjatanniemi, Professor of Constitutional and International Law, Director of the
Institute for Human Rights, Åbo Akademi University
Reetta Toivanen, Member of European Commission against Racism and
Intolerance, Council of Europe, President, Finnish League for Human Rights Finnish
Academy Research Fellow, Erik Castrén Institute of International Law and Human
Rights, University of Helsinki
Jukka Viljanen, Adjunct Professor on Human Rights Law, University of Tampere
Merja Pentikäinen, Legal Expert and Advisor, Opinio Juris - MP
Aini Linjakumpu, University Lecturer, University of Lapland
Helena Ranta, Forensic Odontologist, University of Helsinki
Stefan Kirchner, Senior Lecturer for Fundamental and Human Rights, University of
Lapland

12.00 Questions and discussion

12.30 Seminar Lunch for registered participants



SESSION II – Key Thematic Areas of Human and Fundamental Rights Research

13.30 WORKSHOP

The seminar will address key thematic areas of human and fundamental rights research which have been carefully selected based on the preliminary mapping of the topics and the research focus areas of the participants. Participants will be divided into multidisciplinary working groups.

The aims of the working groups are to:

- share information from different fields of science
- map challenges and important topics for future research
- exchange ideas and knowledge on new approaches

The key thematic areas are:

1) European Human Rights

- The role of EU as a promotor of human rights and fundamental rights
- Court of Justice of the European Union
- European Court of Human Rights: New dimensions including the environment

2) Digital Human Rights and technological challenges on Human and Fundamental rights

- Information and communication rights
- Challenges to information and network society
- Freedom of speech and hate speech

3) Inclusiveness and Universality

- Effective implementation of economic, social and cultural rights
- Safeguarding welfare state

4) Promotion of Equality, Non-discrimination and Participation:

Specific features of human rights of vulnerable groups

5) New Dimensions of Human Rights Education

- Promotion of values, beliefs and attitudes
- Human rights as collective responsibility
- Implementing new tools for education

6) Identity and Migration in relation to Human Rights

7) Corporates and Human Rights including Environmental Rights

8) Procedural Rights/Human Rights and Policy Making

15.30 Report Out - Summaries by selected reporters

16.00 Coffee break





SESSION III - Indigenous peoples' Human Rights in Finland: Voice of the Sámi

16.30 PANEL DISCUSSION

Introduction to the theme by **Leena Heinämäki**, Senior Researcher, Northern Institute for Environmental and Minority Law, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland

Moderator: **Juha Karhu**, Professor of Contract Law and Tort Law, Dean of the Faculty of Law, University of Lapland

Panelists: **Irja Seurujärvi-Kari**, University Lecturer, University of Helsinki
Anne Nuorgam, Junior Researcher of Sámi Research, University of Lapland
Anne-Maria Magga, PhD Student, University of Oulu
Stina Roos, M.A of Arts, Vice-Chairman of Queer Sámit

17.30 Questions and discussion

17.45 **Concluding remarks for the first day**

18.00 Toast on 30th Anniversary of NIEM and **Adjournment**

19.30 Seminar Dinner at Sky Hotel Ounasvaara





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Programme FRIDAY, September 11 Hotel Pyhätunturi, Kultakeronkatu 21, Pyhätunturi

08.45	Assembly point, Arktikum house (the lobby), Pohjoisranta 4
09.00	Buss leaves from Arktikum house to beautiful autumn Pyhätunturi
10.30	Welcoming Coffee at the Hotel Pyhätunturi, Meeting Room Isokuru
10.45	Opening Words by Kamrul Hossain , Research Director (Acting), Northern Institute for Environmental and Minority Law, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION SESSIONS

SESSION a) Increased Cooperation and Exchange of Information

Moderator: **Kristiina Kouros**, Expert, Human Rights Centre

The aims of the roundtable are to:

- confront experiences and discuss forms of cooperation
- discuss ways to improve the exchange of information

Concluding remarks

SESSION b) Open Discussion, Next Steps and Conclusions

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

Moderator: **Sirpa Rautio**, Director, Human Rights Centre

The aims of the roundtable are to:

- outline ways for future development of human and fundamental rights research
- conclude with suggestions for next steps

Concluding remarks

12.30	Seminar Lunch for registered participants
13.15	Change to experience the magnificent landscape, beautiful natural features and peace of Pyhä-Luosto National Park. Short hike to Isokuru Ravine.
14.45	Closing of the seminar & Coffee
15.15	Return to Rovaniemi
18.10	Flight to Helsinki

