

MASTER - Droit des libertés

Human Rights Law in a changing World

Pré-requis obligatoires

For 2023-2024, recruitment will take place at the Master 2 level by application on the e-candidat platform: <https://ecandidat.unistra.fr/>

Entry requirements: In order to access the Master 2 degree program, students must have a diploma in Law (or political sciences with a good training in Law) equivalent to 4 years of studies in a Higher education institution.

For students coming from the French Higher Education system, recommended masters are Droit des Libertés, Droit international, Droit européen.

Students must demonstrate that they have solid basic knowledge in International and European Human Rights Law.

Students must demonstrate excellent grades, in particular in Fundamental Freedoms and Human Rights, International Public Law, European Law, or similar courses.

Proficiency (B2/C1) in English is a pre-requisite as courses and assessments take place in English (proof of level by certification or other means demonstrating the required level).

A second language class must be followed during semester 3. For French, German or Spanish Language, courses are delivered within the Law Faculty for non-beginners (minimum B1 level, it is not possible for a native speaker to follow a class in his/her native language).

For students who cannot follow French, German or Spanish classes or who would like to learn another language, it is possible to follow language courses at the LANSAD department.

langues.unistra.fr/formation/ue-de-langues-ue4

Passive knowledge of French is a plus in order to enjoy life in Strasbourg. It is also possible to self-train in French at the Lansad.

lansad.unistra.fr/formations/etudiants/

Langue du parcours	Anglais
ECTS	120 ECTS
Volume horaire	
TP : 0h	TD : 30h
CI : 0h	CM : 135h
Formation initiale	Oui
Formation continue	Oui
Apprentissage	Non
Contrat de professionnalisation	Non

Objectifs du parcours

Overview of the program

The aim of this **English-taught program** is to provide students **from all over the world access to a high-level education in Human Rights Law**. Human Rights is an essential component of a vibrant democratic regime. Despite a very strong support and development post WWII, Human Rights are now facing a backlash in different parts of the world. Disputed in their theoretical basis, their implementation is in danger because of various regressive movements, from the "Rule of Law backsliding" to war, to name only a few of the contemporary challenges Human Rights are facing in a changing world. In addition, Human Rights Law is an evolving subject, which encounters new challenges due to the evolution of our societies: climate change and a degrading environment, new technologies bringing positive developments but also threats, etc.

The purpose of this program is **to build on the excellence of Human Rights education in Strasbourg University, and the institutional environment of the city, to provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills to become high-level Human Rights Law experts**, so as to contribute to the defence, implementation and furtherance of Human Rights in their country and on the international stage.

The program naturally fits into the European environment of the University of Strasbourg, characterized by the presence of European institutions, emblematic of the protection of human rights and democracy: the Council of Europe, the European Court of Human Rights, the Venice Commission and the European Parliament.

The program is part of semester 3 and 4 of the Master Droit des Libertés.

Semester 3 (september-december) is dedicated to on-site courses.

Semester 4 (January-September) is dedicated to a long-term internship (4 months minimum; internships may take place until the 30th of September) or to writing a thesis (defended before a jury in early July).

The teaching schedule is adapted to the presence of professionals in the program. Classes may be delivered from 12 to 2 pm and after 5 pm.

Compétences à acquérir

Intended learning outcomes The Program intends to train lawyers in the field of human rights, and develop awareness as to the many challenges arising in this field at National, European and International level. It will offer students an opportunity to acquire advanced legal knowledge and skills to understand and analyze these challenges.

The program is both practical and theoretical and leads, depending on the project of the student, to the delivery of a master's degree with a professional (internship) or research aspect (thesis). Courses are taught by both academics and practitioners (judges or members of the registry of the European Court of Human Rights, experts from the Council Europe, lawyers specialized in Human Rights, etc.).

Knowledge

After having completed the program, students will have acquired advanced knowledge about:

- The interplay between the defence of Human Rights and the defence of the Rule of Law and Democracy
- The legal framework related to various contemporary issues affecting Human Rights (migration, environment, poverty, new technologies...)
- The roles and actions played by European and International actors in the promotion and protection of Human Rights, the Rule of Law and Democracy
- The importance of interdependence between the various categories of Human Rights

Skills

After having completed the program, students will be able to:

- Search and identify primary sources in different legal systems and academic literature about the various topics covered during the classes, and prioritize information.
- Critically appraise the material, in particular students will be able to analyze and assess the case law of the Regional Human Rights Courts, the UN Committees, the Court of Justice of the European Union...
- Apprehend the challenges of Human Rights Law implementation in the modern world.
- Manage the administrative and legal aspects of litigation in the field of International and European Human Rights Law
- Present complex arguments orally and in writing and participate in legal discussion about Human Rights in a constructive and critical way
- Improve autonomy in work, apply knowledge and problem-solving skills in the relevant areas
- Demonstrate open-mindedness and team spirit essential for an international career in the field of Human Rights.

Contact

Peggy Ducoulombier : ducoulombier@unistra.fr

Master 2 - Droit des libertés – Human Rights Law in a Changing World

Semester 3 - Human Rights Law in a changing World : Theoretical and practical legal approaches

	ECTS	CM	CI	TD	TP	TE	Stage
Teaching Unit 1. Defending the Rule of Law and Democracy	12 ECTS	52 h					
Independence of Justice and the Rule of Law		20 h					
Political rights and Democracy		20 h					
Social, economic and cultural rights		12 h					
Teaching Unit 2. Contemporary challenges in Human Rights Law	12 ECTS	52 h					
Responding to Human Rights violations		12 h					
New technologies and Human Rights		12 h					
Business and Human Rights		12 h					
Environment and Human rights		12 h					
Migration and Human Rights		12 h					
Teaching Unit 3. Human Rights Law in Practice and Skills Development	6 ECTS	31 h		15 h			
How to lodge an application before ...		15 h					
Elective course		10 h					
Research methodology		6 h					
Conferences, webinars							
L'étudiant choisit une langue parmi:							
Français langue étrangère				15 h			
Allemand				20 h			
Espagnol				20 h			
Autre langue étrangère délivrée au LANSAD ou 2e elective course							

Semester 4 – Human Rights Law in a changing World : internship or research track

	ECTS	CM	CI	TD	TP	TE	Stage
Teaching Unit 4. Internship track	30 ECTS						
Internship							16 sem
Teaching Unit 4. Research track	30 ECTS						
Research thesis							