HELP in university education

Embedding **human rights in university education** with support from the Council of Europe HELP Programme and courses

Online event (in English)
11 December 2024 (14.00-17.00 CET)

REGISTRATION FORM – click **HERE**

The **Council of Europe (CoE) Programme on Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP)** is organising an online event, in English, aimed at assisting universities and university professors in their educational efforts on human rights.

HELP is the **main educational Programme of the Council of Europe for legal professionals**. Its aim is to train current and **future** judges, prosecutors, lawyers and other justice professionals on human rights standards in Europe. Targeting future professionals means that HELP also **targets university and post-graduate students.**

Apart from the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) and the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR), HELP covers other instruments like the European Social Charter (ESC) or CoE Conventions in key areas like data protection, violence against women, labour rights, cybercrime, bioethics, family law etc. Since 2015, most topical HELP courses also cover the EU legal ssytem, by including the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and relevant EU law or CJEU jurisprudence.

The HELP Programme develops and implements **free online courses on human rights** and rule of law issues relying on specific Council of Europe (CoE) expertise, HELP courses are developed by and for legal professionals primarily, judges, prosecutors and lawyers. Nevertheless, HELP courses on specific topics can be also relevant for other (current or future) justice professionals (prison and probation staff, police officers, court staff) or other practitioners (e.g. health sector, journalists or policy-makers).

HELP courses are interactive and visual and include case scenarios, quizzes and other interactive exercises. They are developed in English and then translated in other languages. In November 2024, there are 56 model HELP courses in English available in more than 650 different language versions.

Upon completion of HELP courses, participants can freely obtain an **individualised digital certificate** issued by the Council of Europe. This serves as a valuable addition to students' resumes or CVs and provides university professors with a reliable way to verify course completion.

In 2019, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted a Recommendation on the system of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) in university education and

professional training. The Recommendation stresses the fundamental role training in the ECHR plays to prevent violations and promote Human Rights, including efforts of the Council of Europe Programme on Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP). It also reinforces the mandate of the HELP Programme and values the contribution of its online courses on Human Rights in Europe.

HELP courses can be used by university professors as an additional tool to supplement their teaching curricula for students, primarily of law.

Objectives of the event

- To highlight the role of higher education institutions in promoting human rights through enhanced students' knowledge and engagement
- To introduce interested university professors to the Council of Europe HELP Programme and its courses as a tool for advancing human rights in the curriculum
- To provide practical guidance on integrating HELP courses into university curricula to support teaching and learning
- To present the most relevant HELP courses for university students for their academic and professional growth
- To share experiences from professors who have successfully integrated HELP courses

Target audience - university professors, primarily of law, but also of political studies, international relations, European integration, journalism, even medicine (on the Bioethics course).

REGISTRATION: Interested participants should fill in the **REGISTRATION FORM** by **9 December 2024.**

> **Want to know more about HELP and UNIVERSITIES?** Access the information page on the CoE HELP e-learning Platform Course: HELP in Universities (coe.int) (enrollment key HELPUNI)

Agenda

11 December 2024

13.45 – 14.00	**Registration of participants**
14.00 – 14.10	**Moderation:** *Ana-Maria Telbis, Head of the Justice and Human Rights Training Division, CoE* *Krystyna Khokhlova, Programme manager, Justice and Human Rights Training Division, CoE* **Wecome remarks** *Lilja Grétarsdóttir, Head of the Department for the Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Co-operation Standards, CoE*
14:10 – 14:30	**Role of Universities in promoting Human Rights standards and values** *Elizabeth Kasa-Mälksoo, Programme Director of Master's Programme in International Law and Human Rights, University of Tartu*
14:30 – 14:45	**Integration of human rights base approach in higher education institutions** *Katia Dolgova-Dreyer, Head of Unit, Education Department, CoE*
14:45 – 15:15	**Overview of the HELP Programme: Practical Steps for Integrating HELP Courses into University Curricula** *Ana-Maria Telbis, Head of the Justice and Human Rights Training Division, CoE*
15:15 – 16:00	**HELP in Universities – achievements and sharing of experience by professors from CoE member states** *Moderated by Krystyna Khokhlova, Programme manager, Justice and Human Rights Training Division, CoE*
16:00 – 16:15	**Presentation of the Open CoE Academic Network (OCEAN)** *Olaf Köndgen, OCEAN Coordinator, CoE*
16:15 – 16:35	**Overview of selected HELP courses relevant for the civil, criminal, human rights curricula** New HELP courses: - Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights - Gender equality and gender mainstreaming - International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights - Right to liberty and Security Relevant HELP courses: • Introduction to the ECHR / Introduction to the European Social Charter • Interplay between the ECHR and the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights • Asylum, migration and displacement related courses

	• [Freedom of Expression](#) • [Fight against Racism, Xenophobia, Homophobia, Transphobia](#) • [Business and Human Rights](#) • [The Environment and Human Rights](#) • [Human Rights in Sports](#) • [Transitional Justice and Human Rights](#) • [Data Protection and Privacy Rights](#) *HELP Secretariat*
16:35 17:00	**Equiping Universities to integrate HELP courses in the curriculum** **Conclusions and closure** **Q&A**

*The agenda may be subject to change