

**Iowa Human Rights Research Conference**  
**Saturday, April 20, 2024**  
**The University of Iowa College of Law**

*Organized by the Iowa Network of Human Rights Academics  
and University of Iowa Center for Human Rights*

**9:00 Registration begins (Boyd Law Building lobby)**

**9:30 Welcome remarks (Levitt Auditorium)**

*Laura Yost, Kirkwood Community College  
Brian Farrell, University of Iowa*

Recognition of Human Rights Educators USA's 2023 Youth in Action for Human Rights Award Winner Reem Kirja

**10:00 First Session**

Panel A (225 BLB)

"The Human Right to Healthcare Behind Bars: A Philosophical Argument for Increased Quality of Prison Healthcare," Signe Dobbs, University of Iowa

"Is the Police Union Good?," Emma Johnston, Upper Iowa University

"The United States Prison System: Exploring Race, Gender and Intersectionality Behind Bars," Alison Meagher, University of Northern Iowa

*Discussants: Claudia Corwin, University of Iowa & Neal McNabb, Coe College*

Panel B (235 BLB)

"Structural Vulnerability and Social Integration of F-2 Visa Holders in the United States," Fatemeh Bakhshalizadeh, Iowa State University

"Built on Unstable Soil: Neoliberalism as a Destructive Force in the Pursuit of Human Rights and Fulfillment," Oliver Melander, Morningside University

"The Responsibility of Excess Poverty," Skylar Radz, University of Iowa

*Discussants: Orçun Selçuk, Luther College & Amy Weismann, University of Iowa*

## **11:00 Break & Poster Session**

### Posters (Boyd Law Building lobby)

“Exploring the Complex Contexts of Undergraduate/Graduate Single Student Mothers,”  
Cecilia Botwe, University of Iowa

“Rights, Race, and Opium Regulation in Washington Territory,” Ellis Chen, Grinnell College

“International Legislation on the Preservation and Destruction of Cultural Heritage:  
Possibilities and Challenges,” Blake Etringer, Tristen Wendling, & David Sutter,  
University of Iowa

“College Food Security: Practices and Perspectives of Kirkwood Community College and  
University of Iowa Undergraduates,” Anna Peach, University of Iowa

“Water Crisis in Yemen: Death, Disease, and Human Rights Violations,” Lydia Swarney &  
Alex Meeter, Luther College

*Discussant: Laura Yost, Kirkwood Community College*

## **11:30 Plenary (Levitt Auditorium)**

Keynote: “Art, Human Rights, and the Liberation of Nazi Camps”

*Mark Celinscak, University of Nebraska Omaha*

*(Organized through conversations hosted by the Great Plains Regional Programming Initiative of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum)*

## **12:15 Lunch for registered attendees (Boyd Law Building lobby)**

## **1:15 Second Session**

### Panel A (225 BLB)

“Understanding Iran's Theocratic Regime and Geo-Political Dynamics; Advocating for the  
Release of Dr. Ahmadreza Djalali,” Emma Anderson, University of Iowa

“The Words We Choose,” Kelsey Jamison, Cornell College

“Violations of Chinese Legal Rights,” Indigo Meads, Cornell College

*Discussants: Shilpashri Karbhari, Upper Iowa University & Brooke Sherrard, William Penn University*

### Panel B (235 BLB)

“Silence on Genocide: How (& Why) International Actors Continually Failed the Nargorno-Karabakh Population,” Hunter Eigenman, University of Iowa

“Safeguarding the Right to Education Amid Conflict: A Case Study of Violations in the Warzones of Ukraine,” Jackson Gillingham, University of Iowa

“Bringing International Accountability Home? The Impact of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia on How Former Yugoslav States Prosecute War Crimes,” Ryan Westhoff, University of Iowa

*Discussants: Evan Renfro, University of Northern Iowa & Adrien Wing, University of Iowa*

**2:15 Break**

**2:45 Third Session**

Panel A (225 BLB)

“AI-Powered Solutions for Atrocity Prevention and Peacebuilding,” Roya Green, University of Iowa

“Poisoned Pens and Pixels: A Historical Comparison of Genocidal Propaganda,” Serenity Kollasch, University of Northern Iowa

*Discussants: Mark Celinscak, University of Nebraska Omaha & Elke Heckner, University of Iowa*

Panel B (235 BLB)

“Relevance of Iowa’s Child Welfare Legislation and Criminal Justice- A Perspective,” Kelsey Kirby, Upper Iowa University

“Veiled Child Labor: A Focus on the “Almajiri” and “Yar Aiki” Systems in Northern Nigeria,” Aisha Suleiman, University of Iowa

*Discussants: Wendy Brame, Briar Cliff University & David Yamanishi, Cornell College*

Panel C (245 BLB)

“From the Civil Rights Movement to Black Lives Matter: Toward a Coherent History of Radical Action,” Arissa Friesen, William Penn University

“An Easy Rescue for Climate Change,” Sophia Heller, University of Iowa

*Discussants: Blake Rupe, University of Iowa & Jim Zaffiro, Central College*

**3:30 Closing Remarks (Levitt Auditorium)**

*Adrien Wing, University of Iowa*