Dear Friends of the IFHV,

In early 2018, the IFHV welcomed two new Professors: DAAD Guest Professor Dr. Robert Heinsch joined us as new Professor for International Humanitarian Law, International Criminal Law and Applied Legal Studies. Juniorprofessor Dr. Ulrike Krause has also become a member of the IFHV as new Professor of Global Governance and Humanitarian Action. We are very glad to have you two with us and look forward to our cooperation. In June 2018, the first issue of our new legal journal “Humanitäres Völkerrecht” (HuV) has come out – now published with the Berlin Wissenschaftsverlag (see below). In late 2018, the IFHV will also celebrate its 30th anniversary – stay tuned with us on www.ifhv.de and RUB.IFHV on Facebook so you don’t miss the planning of our celebration in fall 2018!

Enjoy the read,

Pierre Thielbörger, Executive Director, IFHV

New legal journal

As of this year, our “Journal of International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict” (JILPAC) or “Humanitäres Völkerrecht” (HuV) will be published by the IFHV with the Berliner Wissenschafts-Verlag. In two issues per year, peer-reviewed articles analyse contemporary challenges of armed conflict and discuss comprehensive questions of international humanitarian law and related fields, in particular human rights law, refugee law and international criminal law. Combining research and practice, JILPAC / HuV also deals with both practical and theoretical challenges of humanitarian aid and peace missions.

Ulrike Krause is the new Juniorprofessor

The IFHV would like to welcome its new Juniorprofessor for Global Governance and Humanitarian Action, Ulrike Krause. She was appointed by the Ruhr University-Bochum’s Rector Prof. Axel Schölmerich in the presence of the IFHV’s Executive Director Prof. Thielbörger in January and joined the Institute on 1st of February, 2018. Before starting her new position, Prof. Ulrike Krause was Research Associate at the universities of Marburg and Oxford. Prof. Krause is one of Germany’s leading young academics in the areas of humanitarian refugee protection, resilience, gender research as well as sexual and gender-based violence.

New DAAD Visiting Professor

We are very proud to announce that Prof. Robert Heinsch started Germany’s first International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Clinic (read more at p. 3) at the IFHV. Prof. Robert Heinsch is an Associate Professor of Public International Law at the Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies of Leiden University, Director of the Kalshoven-Gieskes Forum on IHL at Leiden University and its IHL Clinic and Member of the German IHL Commission. He is currently a DAAD Visiting Professor at the IFHV. His main research focus is in international humanitarian law, international criminal law, general public international law as well as international institutional law.

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Cooperation between APPRO and the IFHV

From 21st to 26th of April, 2018, Prof. Dennis Dijkzeul gave a certified course on Program/Project Cycle Management and Evaluation at the Afghanistan Public Policy Research Organisation (APPRO) in Kabul, Afghanistan. 30 Afghan professionals from civil society organisations, UN organisations, the media and public institutions attended the course, which is part of an ongoing cooperation between APPRO and the IFHV.

The “Essence” of Fundamental Rights in EU Law

On the 17th of May, 2018, Prof. Pierre Thielbörger spoke at the conference “The ‘Essence’ of Fundamental Rights in EU Law” in Leuven. Prof. Thielbörger’s presentation addressed the question “Is the Concept of ‘Essence’ of Fundamental Rights mirrored in International Human Rights Law?”. The conference brought together international academics and high-level representatives of the European institutions, including the European Parliament, as well as advocate generals and judges from the Court of Justice of the European Union and the General Court of the European Union.

New Members at the IFHV

The IFHV welcomes Prof. Ulrike Krause (Juniorprofessor for Global Governance and Humanitarian Action), Prof. Robert Heinsch (DAAD Visiting Professor, IHL Clinic), Isabel Franzke (graduate assistant), Holger Mann (PhD candidate, Weltrisikobericht) as well as Marion Zastepinski (secretary). Great to have you!

Presentation on laws dealing with autonomy

On the 22nd of March, 2018, the IFHV’s Prof. Hans-Joachim Heintze spoke at Andalas University of Padang (Sumatra, Indonesia) and gave a presentation on laws dealing with autonomy and the internal dimension of the right of indigenous peoples to self-determination. The overarching conference dealt with decentralisation and legal autonomy frameworks in the interest of protecting minorities, with a focus on the situation of Indonesia.

Young International Law Workshop Series

On 1st of February, 2018, the IFHV hosted the fourth instalment of the “Young International Law Workshop Series” (YIL). Dr. Valentina Azarova (Centre for Global Public Law, Koç University) and Assistant Prof. Emma Irving (Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies, Leiden University) joined several of the IFHV’s doctoral students to provide feedback on upcoming conference papers, thesis exposés and PhD chapters.

Workshop on Privacy, Data Protection & Surveillance

On 10th of April, 2018, the IFHV in cooperation with the Alexander von Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society (HIIG) hosted the 6th Interdisciplinary Workshop on Privacy, Data Protection & Surveillance. The event was held in Bochum for the first time and chaired by the IFHV’s Stephan Kološa. Participants used the opportunity to present and discuss their research in disciplines ranging from law to social sciences and even literature.
Practical Exercise on Humanitarian Aid in Bochum

On 13th of January, 2018, the 32nd practical exercise on Humanitarian Aid provided interested participants and the public with an introduction to the tasks and experiences of international aid workers. **Bochum’s central Dr. Ruer Square** was transformed into a disaster response unit, including a field hospital and a water treatment plant. The event was jointly coordinated by the German Red Cross local branches of Bochum and Westfalen-Lippe, RUB’s Medical Faculty, Westfälische-Wilhelms-Universität Münster, the University of Applied Sciences Münster and the IFHV’s NOHA Programme. Dr. Norbert Lammert, former president of the German Bundestag, joined the exercise as a guest speaker.

Video available at: https://vimeo.com/251545476

New International Humanitarian Law Clinic

In April 2018, **Prof. Robert Heinsch** led the first “Bochum IHL Clinic”, which enabled our NOHA students and German students from the RUB’s law faculty to learn through experience by applying legal theory to real-world situations. The students conducted research on projects for real life partners, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross, the German Red Cross and Médecins Sans Frontières. The different projects under the umbrella of the Bochum IHL Clinic can draw from any topic within the variety of legal issues currently challenging the field, including the scope of application of IHL, the legality of certain types of weaponry, humanitarian assistance, as well as the relationship between IHL, Human Rights Law and Refugee Law. The students will have the opportunity to exchange their experiences with members from other universities that are part of an international IHL Clinic cooperation. The Bochum IHL Clinic is the first of its kind in Germany.

NOHA Students in The Hague

The IFHV’s second semester NOHA students spent a day in The Hague, visiting the Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL) and the International Criminal Court (ICC). The aim of the trip was to familiarise students with the inner workings of both institutions. At the STL, students received first hand accounts of the work of the tribunal’s organs by members of Chambers, Prosecution, Registry and Defence. At the ICC, they met with Judge Raul Cano Pangalangan for a private questions and answers session. The field trip is part of the second semester course module “Legal Institutions”.

Meet our students: Manouck Wagner

“Studying at the IFHV as a NOHA student during the second semester has been a great experience. The approach of Humanitarian Action from a legal and leadership perspective has been insightful and it has definitely broadened my knowledge on the subject matter. Personally, I especially enjoyed the International Humanitarian Law Clinic as we were able to put our theoretical knowledge into practice by assisting an actual client. It was incredible to see how our hard work was paying off and I am just hoping that our clients are satisfied with the results. We finished our semester with highly interesting lectures on Leadership in Refugee Protection and of course the Simulation Exercise, which was a positive and wonderful end of an excellent semester!”

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Selected Publications


