



UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE  
Centre for Children's  
Rights Studies

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS  
ACADEMY



**SUMMER SCHOOL**  
**CHILDREN AT THE HEART OF**  
**HUMAN RIGHTS**  
**XI Cycle**

**Programme**

In collaboration with: University of Pretoria



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA  
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA  
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA  
Faculty of Law

Study Programme Week 1  
August 25 - 29, 2025

Thematic day	Monday 25	Tuesday 26	Wednesday 27	Thursday 28	Friday 29
	Introduction and origins of children's rights	UNCRC Optional Protocols	National monitoring	Engaging with stakeholders Day	Children's past and right to identity
<b>Morning 9 – 10.30</b>	Welcome address and programme overview  <b>R. Ruggiero</b> (SS Director) <b>J. Zermatten</b> (SS Director) <b>E. Patrizi</b> (SS Programme Assistant)	Introduction: Project work	Lecture Independent children's human rights institutions in the middle: Bridging local and global governance  <b>R. Ruggiero</b> Director Children's Rights Academy	Lecture and case analysis Accountability for violations and crimes affecting children in armed conflict  <b>A. Lamazière</b> Lead on Children and Armed Conflict, Save the Children	Lecture Addressing historical violations of children's rights through transitional justice  <b>E. Patrizi</b> Scientific Collaborator, UNIGE
<b>10.30 – 11</b>	Break				
<b>11 – 12.30</b>	Lecture The origins of children's rights  <b>Z. Moody</b> Assistant Professor, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, UNIL	Lecture Optional Protocols to the UNCRC  <b>N. V. Sahovic</b> Former Member, UNCRC	Engaging with stakeholders Lecture Ombudsman for children: the role of child participation  <b>N. Muldoon</b> Ombudsman for Children, Ireland	Introduction to children and forced displacement and UNHCR's work  <b>A. Amirali</b> GBV & Child Protection Specialist, UNHCR	Lecture Child's right to identity  <b>M. Dambach</b> Director Child Identity Protection (CHIP), <b>N. Cantwell</b> International Consultant on Child Protection Policies
<b>12.30 – 14</b>	Lunch break				
<b>Afternoon 14 – 15.30</b>	Lecture Background and content of the CRC: Past and present debates  <b>N. V. Sahovic</b> Former Member, UNCRC	Lecture Climate cases strategic litigation  <b>A. Skelton</b> Former Chair, UNCRC	Discussion forum: <b>Meet the Members of the UNCRC</b>  Facilitator: <b>R. Ruggiero</b>  Current Member, UNCRC: <b>S. Kiladze</b> Current Member, UNCRC: <b>J. Scerri-Ferrante</b>	NGO's role in the implementation and strengthening children's role in society  <b>A. Kamarotos</b> Executive director, DCI <b>A. Gracia Corberó</b> Head of Programmes, Child Rights Connect	Project work
<b>15.30 – 16</b>	Break				
<b>16 – 17.30</b>	Lecture Schools of thought in children's rights  <b>K. Hanson</b> Director CIDE & Prof., UNIGE	Free time	Project work	<b>International Museum of the Red Cross and Red Crescent</b>	Lecture UN children's rights monitoring mechanisms  <b>B. Van Keirsbilck</b> Current Member, UNCRC

**Study Programme Week 2**  
**September 1 - 5, 2025**

Thematic Day	Monday 1 Children's rights in Africa	Tuesday 2 Child participation, decision making & the right to health	Wednesday 3 Access to justice	Thursday 4 Project work and Geneva lake tour	Friday 5 Project work presentation
<b>Morning 9 – 10.30</b>	<b>Lecture</b> Children's rights monitoring systems in Africa  <b>B. D. Mezmur</b> Former Chair & Current Member, UNCRC	<b>Engaging with stakeholders</b> Children's rights and health  <b>M. Stahlhofer</b> Adviser Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Development, WHO	<b>Lecture</b> Access to justice for children: Drafting General Comment No. 27  <b>V. Sedletzki</b> Independent Expert on Children's Rights	<b>Preparation for oral presentations</b>	<b>Presentation of group works (Part I)</b>
<b>10.30 – 11</b>	<b>Break</b>				
<b>11 – 12.30</b>	<b>Lecture</b> Children's rights in Africa  <b>B. D. Mezmur</b> Former Chair & Current Member, UNCRC	<b>Lecture</b> Child participation and digital environment  <b>K. R. Sylvander</b> Postdoc, Digital Futures for Children Centre, London School of Economics	<b>Lecture</b> The role of independent institutions of children's rights in the access to justice  <b>G. Lansdown</b> Independent Expert on CR, <b>V. Sedletzki</b> Independent Expert on CR	<b>Preparation for oral presentations</b>	<b>Presentation of group works (Part II)</b>
<b>12.30 – 14</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>				
<b>Afternoon 14 – 15.30</b>	<b>Lecture</b> Children's rights in Africa  <b>B. D. Mezmur</b> Former Chair & Current Member, UNCRC	<b>Lecture</b> Children's participation in decisions about their health  <b>D. Carnal</b> <b>A. Pasquier</b> Steering Committee for Human Rights in the fields of Biomedicine and Health (CDBIO), Council of Europe	<b>Project work: Finalization</b>	<b>Boat trip on Geneva Lake (Boat departure at 15.15)</b>	<b>Programme evaluation, closing ceremony</b>
<b>15.30 – 16</b>	<b>Break</b>				
<b>16 – 17.30</b>	<b>Visit to UNCRC Committee (Palais Wilson)</b>	<b>Lecture</b> Child participation and evolving capacities of the child  <b>G. Lansdown</b> Independent Expert on Children's Rights	<b>Project work: Finalization</b>	<b>Drink</b>	<b>Free time</b>