

Helena Nygren-Krug

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EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, USA: LL.M. – 1994-1995

The London School of Economics and Political Science, UK: LL.M. – 1991 to 1992

The London School of Economics and Political Science, UK: LL.B. – 1988 to 1991

EMPLOYMENT

UNAIDS (Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS), Geneva, Switzerland

● Senior Adviser, Joint Programme, 2023 to present

- Leading efforts to revitalize the Joint Programme, leveraging its multisectoral and inclusive model as a pathfinder for UN reform as well as coordinating and fostering enhanced collaboration within and across the UNAIDS Secretariat and the eleven Cosponsors.

● Senior Adviser, Executive Office, 2015-2023

Exercised support to the leadership agenda of UNAIDS and the Executive Director:

- Coordinated a process, during the transition period (2020-21), to generate guidance from an external advisory group and thematic subgroups on priority themes that helped define the organizational position on critical policy matters.
- Supported the development of the Global AIDS 2021-25 Strategy and 2021 UN General Assembly High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS.
- Drafted talking points, policy briefs and speeches for the Executive Director.

● Senior Adviser, Law and Human Rights/ Rights, Gender, Prevention and Community Mobilization department – 2013 to 2015

- Supported countries on a human rights-based approach to HIV by conducting briefings and trainings, reviewing draft legislation, and producing guidance materials.
- Ensured strategic engagement with the UN human rights system on HIV-related issues.
- Integrated human rights into specific initiatives such as the scale-up of access to HIV treatment and greater inclusion of persons with disabilities in national HIV responses.
- Developed chapters on prisoners and persons with disabilities for global report and a discussion paper on the Right to Health for a High-Level Meeting of the European Union.
- Issued amicus briefs for HIV-related litigation concerning sex workers (Supreme Court of Canada) and people who inject drugs (the European Court of Human Rights).

The WHO (World Health Organization), Geneva, Switzerland

● Technical Officer on Gender, Equity and Human Rights – 2012 to 2013

Supported the setting up of a new team dedicated to mainstreaming gender, equity, and human rights across health programmes in WHO:

- Developed the work plan, including outputs and indicators to enhance accountability, and a strategy for WHO capacity development.

● **Human Rights Adviser/ Ethics, Equity, Trade and Human Rights department – 2003 to 2012**

Led a small team that acted as focal point for human rights at WHO:

- Coordinated WHO's health and human rights activities through an organization-wide working group that included representatives from all regional offices and programmes to enhance exchange of information and foster synergy in approaches.
- Developed tools for health policy makers to align their national health sector strategies with human rights and to integrate the right to health into poverty reduction strategies as well as a series of fact sheets.
- Heightened attention to health issues on the UN human rights agenda including the UN Human Rights Council and the UN Human Rights treaty monitoring bodies, inputting to the state party reporting process, the development of indicators, general comments and recommendations.
- Established partnerships with civil society organizations, academic institutions, UN agencies and UN human rights mechanisms to support the work of individual departments of WHO in areas such as mental health, tuberculosis, humanitarian emergencies, health systems and helped fill research gaps to promote the health rights of different population groups such as indigenous peoples, sexual and gender minorities, migrants, and prisoners.
- Developed annotated bibliographies and databases on international, regional and national human rights instruments, national constitutions, legislation and case law relevant to health rights.
- Implemented a range of training and other capacity building activities across WHO regional and country offices as well as e-learning courses.

● **Human Rights Adviser, Strategy Unit, Director-General's Office – 2002 to 2003**

- Supported the strategic vision, approach, and direction of the Director-General of WHO in the context of the broader global health and development agenda

● **Short-term Professional on Human Rights – 1999 to 2002**

- Developed a WHO strategy on health and human rights in close consultation with WHO regional offices and the Director-General's Office.
- Worked closely with the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to develop a General Comment 14. on the Right to Health and indicators for monitoring progress towards the realization of the right to health.
- Launched a WHO health & human rights publication series starting with *25 Questions and Answers on Health & Human Rights* (disseminated in a dozen languages) along with a working paper series.

OHCHR (The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights), Switzerland

Human Rights Officer, Special Procedures – 1998 to 1999

- Coordinated the mandates of the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women (VAW), children in armed conflict and sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.
- Served as a member of the OHCHR Gender Team, which had the mission of mainstreaming gender into all the operation of the OHCHR.
- Represented the Special Rapporteur on VAW at the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in New York and the Crime Commission meeting in Vienna to draft a protocol on trafficking of human beings.

The Carter Center, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Human Rights Consultant/Adjunct Professor Emory Law School – 1995 to 1998

- Supported President Carter in his role as human rights advocate. This included drafting briefings, opinion-editorials for major newspapers (on issues such as child soldiers, the right to housing, and the establishment of a permanent international criminal court), forewords to publications, talking points for meetings and speeches on major human rights issues.
- Coordinated the casework (allegations of human rights violations received daily by President Carter) and established a clinical program at Emory University Law School, under which I supervised law students enrolled for credit to review and respond to the cases.
- Organized major conferences on the death penalty in the US and the role of the US in the establishment of a permanent international criminal court.
- Coordinated the human right activities in the Carter Center's overall support to Liberia's transition to democracy and conducted several assessment missions, designed, and implemented trainings on human rights to local NGOs, and developed proposals for human rights activities.

Swedish Foreign Ministry, Legal Department, Sweden

Fellow- summer 1994

- Updated a handbook for Ministry officials explaining the various UN human rights instruments. Prepared a position paper on the proposal to set up a Permanent Forum for Indigenous Peoples in the UN system.

The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Tanzania

Relief Worker – 1994

- Registered refugees from Burundi and coordinated the IFRC food distribution in Benaco refugee camp, Ngara, following the large influx of refugees in the context of the genocide in Rwanda.

UN International Civilian Mission in Haiti, Haiti

Human Rights Monitor – 1993 to 1994

- Following 3-week training in human rights investigation techniques in Port-au-Prince, deployed to monitor human rights violations in prisons and communities in Les Cayes, Haiti, (until the mission was evacuated due to the security situation.)

UN Centre for Human Rights, Switzerland

Consultant – 1992 to 1993

Involved in the substantive preparations for, and the drafting of, the final declaration of the World Conference on Human Rights that was adopted in Vienna.

LANGUAGES

Bilingual English and Swedish, with fluent French, and intermediate Spanish.

RELEVANT CERTIFICATES & AWARDS

Training on the Protection of Human Rights & the Environment, Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, 1-5 July, 2019.

Elected to Who's Who Among American Universities and Colleges in recognition of outstanding merit and accomplishment at Harvard Law School Graduate Program, 1994-95.

Awarded the Raoul Wallenberg Scholarship for Human Rights by Lund University, Sweden, 1992.

EXAMPLES OF RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

The Right(s) Road to Universal Health Coverage, Health and Human Rights Journal. Harvard University (2019).

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS: With Communities for Human Rights in volume *Human Rights in Global Health: Rights-Based Governance for a Globalizing World* edited by Benjamin Mason Meier and Lawrence O. Gostin (2017) Oxford University Press.

The Future of Global Governance for health: Putting Rights at the Centre of Sustainable Development, co-authored with Michel Sidibé et al. in volume *Human Rights in Global Health: Rights-Based Governance for a Globalizing World* edited by Benjamin Mason Meier and Lawrence O. Gostin (2017) Oxford University Press.

The Right to Health from Concept to Reality, Advancing the Human Right to Health, Edited by José M. Zuniga, Stephen P. Marks, and Lawrence O. Gostin (2013) Oxford University Press.

Human Rights-based approaches to HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria, co-authored together with other WHO staff members, Advancing the Human Right to Health, Edited by José M. Zuniga, Stephen P. Marks, and Lawrence O. Gostin (2013) Oxford University Press.

A human rights-based approach to health as a means towards poverty eradication, UNESCO, Freedom from poverty as a human right: law's duty to the poor, edited by Geraldine van Bueren (2010).

A human rights-based approach to non-communicable diseases- chapter published in Swiss Human Rights Book Vol. 3 Realizing the Right to Health edited by Andrew Clapham and Mary Robinson (2009).

Health and Human Rights - A historical perspective" Article published in UN Special May (2008).

The World Health Organization paves the way for action to free people from the shackles of pain, Scholten, Willem; Nygren-Krug, Helena; Zucker, Howard A, ANESTHESIA AND ANALGESIA (2007).

Human Rights: A potentially powerful force for essential medicines, co-authored with Hogerzeil, Hans V., Bulletin of the World Health Organization (2006).

Health and freedom from discrimination: Durban 2001, The Lancet (2002)

Genocide in Rwanda: Lessons learned and future challenges to the United Nations human rights system Nordic Journal of International Law 67:165-213, (1998).

Development and the Universal Enjoyment of All Human Rights: Before and after Vienna, co-authored with Brouwer, Marjolein, Journal of the Society for International Development 2 (1994) 6

Women and the World Conference on Human Rights, the Nordic Journal of International Law (1993).

Health and Medical Ethics: A Survey of International and Regional Human Rights Instruments - Report of the Commonwealth Medical Association Conference on Guidelines on Medical Ethics (1993)