



DULLAH OMAR INSTITUTE

ANNUAL REPORT

2025



UNIVERSITY of the WESTERN CAPE
IYUNIVESITHI yaseNTSHONA KOLONI
UNIVERSITEIT van WES-KAAPLAND

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ORGANISATIONAL OVERVIEW

Advisory Board

Prof Josè Frantz, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: University of the Western Cape, represented by Adv Sibonile Khoza (Advocate at the Cape Bar)

Prof Robert Balfour, Rector and Vice-Chancellor: University of the Western Cape

Prof Jacques de Ville, Dean: Faculty of Law

Assoc Prof Lukas Muntingh, Director: Dullah Omar Institute

Judge Vincent Saldanha, Judge at the Western Cape High Court

Mr Ashraf Mahomed, Practising attorney

Prof Lea Mwambene, Law Faculty representative (until May 2025)

Prof Anthony Diala, Law Faculty representative (since November 2025)

Ms Fairuz Mullagee, Law Faculty representative

Prof Dr Waheeda Amien, Professor of Legal Pluralism, Religious Family Laws, and Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Cape Town

Management Committee

Adv Sibonile Khoza

Prof Jacques de Ville

Assoc Prof Lukas Muntingh

Prof Lea Mwambene

Dr Johandri Wright (Research staff representative)

Kirsty-Martine Wakefield (Support staff representative)

Staff

Assoc Prof Lukas Muntingh - Director

Financial Management

Sadieka Najaar - Finance Manager

Kirsty-Martine Wakefield - Office Administrator

Information and Communications Management

Keathélia Sapto – Office Administrator

Office Management

Debbie Gordon - Office Administrator

Children’s Rights Project

Prof Benyam Dawit Mezmur - Project Head

Assoc Prof Usang Maria Assim - Senior Researcher

Dr Meseret Kifle Ande - Postdoctoral Researcher

Dr Rongedzayi Fambasayi - Postdoctoral Researcher

Crystal Nitsckie – Office Administrator

Africa Criminal Justice Reform

Assoc Prof Lukas Muntingh - Project Head

Dr Jean Redpath - Senior Researcher

Janelle Mangwanda - Researcher

Dr Tina Lorizzo - Associate Researcher / Adjunct Professor

Crystal Nitsckie - Office Administrator

South African Research Chair in Multilevel Government, Law and Development (SARChI) and Multilevel Government Project (MLG)

Prof Jaap de Visser - South African Research Chair

Assoc Prof Tinashe Chigwata - Project Head of Multilevel Government

Prof Nico Steytler, Professor Emeritus, Dullah Omar Institute, UWC

Dr Thabile Chonco-Spambo - Doctoral Researcher / NGAP Lecturer

Dr Melissa Ziswa - Doctoral Researcher

Dr Curtly Stevens - Doctoral Researcher

Dr Jennica Beukes - Doctoral Researcher

Dr Johandri Wright - Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Benta Moige - Doctoral Researcher

Laura Wellen – Office Administrator

Socio-Economic Rights Project

Gladys Mirugi-Mukundi – Acting Project Head

Dr Aisosa Jennifer Omoruyi - Postdoctoral Researcher (Until June 2025)

Crystal Nitsckie - Office Administrator

Adjunct and Extraordinary Staff

Prof Henk Kummeling, Utrecht University

Adjunct Prof Stephen Berrisford, African Centre for Cities (UCT) / Pegasys Consulting

Adjunct Prof Tina Lorizzo, REFORMAR (Mozambique)

Prof Xavier Philippe, University of Paris I (Panthéon-Sorbonne)

Assoc Prof Zemelak Ayele, Addis Ababa University

Research Associates

Dr Jacqui Gallinetti, Plan International

Prof Jamil Mujuzi, Faculty of Law, UWC

Prof Julia Sloth-Nielsen, Huddersfield Business School, University of Huddersfield

Dr Nkatha Murungi, Centre for Human Rights

Assoc Prof Robert Doya Nanima, Faculty of Law, UWC

Prof Yonatan Fessha, Faculty of Law, UWC

THE INSTITUTE AT A GLANCE

		2025	2024
FINANCE	Total income	R 21 316 601	R 14 163 920.33
	Total expenditure	R 19 610 336	R 15 122 495.48
STAFF PROFILES	Number of males	7	6
	Number of females	18	18
	Number of staff in total	25	24
	Number of nationalities	7	7
	NRF-rated	3	3
	Staff with PhDs	16	10
	Male PhD candidate	-	1
	Female PhD candidates	1	6
ACADEMIC OUTPUTS BY INSTITUTE STAFF	Books	4	6
	Chapters in books	6	12
	Peer-reviewed articles	11	8
	Loose-leaf publications	1	-
	Doctoral degrees	7	2
OTHER OUTPUTS	Research reports	20	16
	Submissions	10	6
	Workshops & seminars	35	29
	Conferences	1	-
	Conference papers	4	3
MEDIA	Website views	109 915	86 226
	TV & radio interviews	51	11
	Print & online interviews	12	3
	Facebook likes	3.5K	3K
	Facebook followers	3 467	3 371
	X followers	3 800	3 664
	LinkedIn connections	1 448	-
	LinkedIn followers	1 144	-
	Email subscribers	6 732	7 125

PhDs, LLD, Masters' degrees and Postgraduate diplomas awarded

LLD/ PhD	MPhil/LLM
Student: Annette May Thesis title: The role of the Courts in shaping local government service delivery towards achieving 'developmental local government' in South Africa Supervisor: Prof Nico Steytler Student: Bhavna Mahadew Thesis title: Can the right to health provide for normative guidance to combat global pandemics? Insights from the COVID-19 pandemic in Mauritius and South Africa Supervisor: Prof Usang Maria Assim Student: Curtly Stevens Thesis title: Towards a suitable regulatory framework for the effective performance of municipalities in South Africa Supervisor: Prof Nico Steytler Student: Jennica Beukes Thesis title: Coalition governance in South Africa's local government: Law and practice Supervisor: Prof Jaap de Visser Co-supervisor: Prof Henk Kummeling Student: Melissa Ziswa Thesis title: The influence of South Africa's model of devolution in Kenya, Zimbabwe and Zambia: Why and how did the model, concepts and texts migrate? Supervisor: Prof Nico Steytler Co-supervisor: Prof Tinashe Chigwata Student: Robert Omita Thesis title: The right to education as a rehabilitative measure in prison in Uganda Supervisor: Prof Jamil Mujuzi Co-supervisor: Prof Lukas Muntingh Student: Thabile Chonco-Spambo Thesis title: One size does not fit all: An examination of the legal and policy framework for differentiated powers and functions of municipalities in South Africa Supervisor: Prof Jaap de Visser Co-supervisor: Prof Henk Kummeling	Student: Awonke Baba Thesis title: Analysis of the law regulating the declaration and publication of financial interests by senior managers in municipalities Supervisor: Thabile Chonco-Spambo Co-supervisor: Prof Jaap de Visser Student: Chelesile Ndlovu-Nachamba Thesis title: Does South Africa's law, policy and practice, including the Public Procurement Act 28 of 2024, enhance transparency in public procurement at municipal level? Supervisor: Dr Curtly Stevens Co-supervisor: Prof Jaap de Visser Student: Francesca Visagé Thesis title: An analysis of the City of Cape Town's response to street homelessness Supervisor: Prof Tinashe Chigwata Student: Le-Ann Cupido Thesis title: COVID-19 and the right to social security for self-employed and informal workers in South Africa Supervisor: Prof Usang Maria Assim Student: Palesa Pitso Thesis title: Recidivism in South Africa: Is the South African correctional service corrective? Supervisor: Gladys Mirugi-Mukundi Student: Sanele Macekiswa Thesis title: An analysis of South Africa's efforts to realise the right to basic education in light of COVID-19 Supervisor: Prof Usang Maria Assim Co-supervisor: Gladys Mirugi-Mukundi Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa (HRDA) Student: Joshua Nduku Thesis title: Understanding remedies for violations of the right to development in domestic courts in Africa Co-supervisor: Prof Usang Maria Assim Student: Tesfamhret Haile Thesis title: Means of addressing selected ultra vires actions by policy organs within the African Union Co-supervisor: Prof Usang Maria Assim

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC LAW	
Aaron Bhekuyise Bheki Shelembe Andile Mbali Carlo Afthon Loff Damaris Kiewiets Dichikane Rachel Mashego Gcina Mgwali Lerato Phylicia Sanny Maeko	Raymond Le Grange Sello Alphoncinus Ntatsane Thapelo Vincent Jacobs Themba Andrew Makamu Vuyiswa Nonhlanhla Nontando Mathaba Xolani Goodman Mbali Zolile Mjandana

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The year 2025 unfolded in a context marked by continued political transition and institutional uncertainty in South Africa. The Government of National Unity, established in 2024, has reshaped the political landscape, introducing new opportunities for cooperation while also exposing the fragility of governance arrangements. At the same time, persistent socio-economic inequality, pressures on public institutions, and growing concerns about accountability in the criminal justice system have underscored the urgency of sustained, evidence-based engagement with governance and rights.

The Institute has continued to respond to this complex environment with a strong programme of research, teaching, and policy engagement. Across its projects, the Institute remained committed to advancing constitutionalism, strengthening accountability, and promoting socio-economic justice in South Africa and across the African continent.

A notable highlight of 2025 was the 15th Dullah Omar Memorial Lecture, delivered by Prof Nico Steytler (former Director of the Institute and Professor Emeritus). It offered a timely and deeply reflective engagement with the enduring meaning of human rights practice in South Africa's current moment. Revisiting Dullah Omar's legacy, the lecture underscored that human rights are neither abstract ideals nor state-conferred entitlements, but are realised through ongoing struggle, civic mobilisation, and democratic accountability. It emphasised the inseparable relationship between human rights, democracy, and the rule of law, while warning against the dangers of growing inequality, institutional fragility, and the normalisation of impunity. At its core, the lecture issued a clear call to action: that the realisation of constitutional promises depends not only on institutions, but on an engaged and independent civil society, rigorous scholarship, and a renewed commitment to accountability and socio-economic justice. In this sense, Dullah Omar's legacy remains not only a source of reflection, but a practical guide for confronting the governance and justice challenges of the present.

During the year under review, the Institute produced a wide range of research outputs, including peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, policy briefs, and major research reports. These outputs were complemented by extensive engagement with policymakers, civil society, and regional and international bodies. Our postgraduate teaching programme continued to grow, with strong enrolment in the Postgraduate Diploma in Public Law and sustained supervision of Master's and doctoral candidates across all projects. The graduation of eight doctoral students in 2025 is a particularly important milestone, contributing to the development of a new generation of African scholars.

The Children's Rights Project (CRP) continued to consolidate its position as a leading centre for research and advocacy on children's rights in Africa. In 2025, its work focused particularly on the intersections between children's rights, climate change, and the role of the business sector, while also addressing issues such as digital rights, disability, and children affected by armed conflict. The CRP convened a number of high-level international and regional engagements, including a major symposium on African perspectives on international climate change law and a stakeholders' forum on children's rights and business in Addis Ababa. These engagements strengthened partnerships across the continent and contributed to shaping emerging legal and policy debates. The Project also maintained a strong teaching and supervision programme, with continued contributions to postgraduate education and international academic networks.

The Multilevel Government (MLG) Project operated in a rapidly evolving governance context characterised by increasing political fragmentation and deepening national crisis in municipal service delivery. The continued decline in electoral dominance by a single party, combined with the likelihood of further coalition governance at local level, has heightened the importance of research on intergovernmental relations and decentralisation. In this context, the MLG Project advanced a substantial programme of research, teaching, and policy engagement. Notable achievements included the graduation of four doctoral candidates, continued delivery of postgraduate programmes, and the successful hosting of the 5th African School on Decentralisation. The Project also contributed directly to policy processes, including the review of the White Paper on Local Government and work with the South African Human Rights Commission on systemic service delivery failures. Its work on coalition governance guidelines for municipalities represents an important intervention in strengthening administrative stability in an increasingly uncertain political environment.

The Socio-Economic Rights Project (SERP) continued to address pressing challenges relating to access to justice, health rights, and food justice. In 2025, SERP's work was shaped by persistent structural inequalities and growing recognition of the need for stronger regulatory frameworks to address the commercial determinants of health. The Project made significant contributions to regional and international debates on sexual and reproductive health and rights, including multi-country research on obstetric violence and maternal health, and engagement with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. Its work on food policy, including participation in the Food Policy Programme and contributions to global advocacy platforms, has strengthened the evidence base for rights-based approaches to nutrition and public health. SERP also advanced its research on community-based paralegals, highlighting their critical role in addressing justice gaps across Africa. Across these areas, the Project demonstrated a strong integration of research, advocacy, and capacity-building.

The Africa Criminal Justice Reform (ACJR) project continued to engage deeply with the challenges facing the criminal justice system in South Africa and the region. Progress in addressing state capture remains limited, and structural reforms to key institutions, including the National Prosecuting Authority, have been slow. Against this backdrop, ACJR pursued a multi-level strategy combining research, advocacy, litigation support, and public engagement. The Project made significant contributions to national debates on prosecutorial reform, policing, and accountability, including submissions to Parliament and participation in high-level policy processes. It also expanded its regional work on the criminalisation of poverty and the impact of exceptional laws, with research and engagement in several African countries. Through its convening role, ACJR created important platforms for dialogue on the future of the criminal justice system, while its media engagement ensured that research findings informed public discourse.

Across all projects, the Institute continued to play an important convening role, hosting and participating in numerous conferences, seminars, and workshops. These engagements brought together scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and civil society actors, fostering dialogue and collaboration across disciplines and regions. The Institute's work was further amplified through sustained media engagement, ensuring that its research contributed to broader public debate.

We remain deeply grateful to our donors for their continued support, which enables the Institute to pursue its mission with independence and integrity. I would also like to thank the Dean of the Law Faculty for his ongoing support, as well as the members of our Advisory Board and its Management Committee for their guidance and commitment. Let me also express my sincere appreciation to Ms Kirsty Wakefield for her dedicated service as the Institute's bookkeeper since March 2016. She has since left the Institute to take up a position in the Law Faculty.

Finally, I extend my sincere appreciation to the staff, students, and interns of the Institute. Your dedication, intellectual energy, and commitment to advancing justice and good governance are the foundation of the Institute's work. It is through your efforts that 2025 has been another year of meaningful impact and continued growth.

Prof Lukas M Muntingh

Director

PROJECT REPORTS

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS PROJECT (CRP)

Context

The year offered another opportunity for the Children's Rights Project (CRP) to reflect on the progress as well as challenges in implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child in Africa. The intersection of climate change, and the role of the business sector in the realisation of children's rights took centre stage. The CRP has also undertaken activities related to digital rights, the rights of children with disabilities, and children's rights in the context of armed conflict. The year also offered the CRP the opportunity to deepen its partnerships by undertaking joint activities, and place more emphasis on the SADC region in the context of children's rights.

Key objectives

Building on 2024, 2025 focused on knowledge production and sharing on children's rights and climate change, children's rights and the business sector (with a particular focus on the sustainable development goals), as well as children affected by armed conflict.

Prominent activities

Teaching

Two postgraduate modules were convened by Prof Mezmur – namely 'International Protection of Human Rights Law' (IHR 814) and 'Contemporary Human Rights Issues' (IHR 816). The two courses have benefitted from the support of Dr Ande who is a post-doctoral fellow at the CRP. The practice of exposing students to various insights by inviting guest speakers has continued. In respect of the former module, for example, Prof Muntingh lectured a class on the prevention of torture. In respect of the latter guest lecturers included Yao Agbetse (former independent Expert on the Human Rights Situation in the Central African Republic), Prof Michael Stein (Director, Harvard Project on Disability), and Prof Cephass Lumina (former Special Rapporteur on human rights and foreign debt). During the second Semester Prof Mezmur and Prof Assim co-convened the LLM module "Children's rights". Guest lecturers included Prof Robert Nanima (children and armed conflict) and Dr Sonia Vohito (on corporal punishment). Prof Assim also co-convened the LLM Module Socio-Economic Rights (SER811) during the first Semester. Finally, for its seventh year, the Advanced Short Course on Children's Rights in

Africa (from 23-27 June) was co-convened between the CRP, the Centre for Human Rights and the Centre for Child Law. Prof Assim gave lectures on the regional normative frameworks of children's rights.

Prof Mezmur's guest lecturing roles have continued, involving universities such as Harvard University (both the School of Law and School of Public Health), University of Pennsylvania, Ghent University, NOVA School of Law, Geneva University, and Erfurt University. The topics that Prof Mezmur lectured covered, amongst others, transitional justice and children's rights at the NOVA School of Law in Portugal, and on the 'Prison conditions in Africa' at the University of Ghent Summer School on the Deprivation of Liberty. (Online, 19 June 2025)

Prof Assim continued her guest lecturing role on the LLM in Sexual and Reproductive Rights in Africa programme by the Centre for Human Rights.

The list of journals that members of the CRP peer reviewed include the Journal of African Law, the Global Campus of Human Rights Journal, Journal of Climate Law and Justice, the African Human Rights Law Journal. Dr Ande and Dr Fambasayi have also been involved in peer-review activities. For instance, Dr Fambasayi peer reviewed a manuscript for an edited volume celebrating the scholarship of Professor Charles Fombad as well as for a Special Edition on Child Justice for the East African Law Journal, University of Nairobi.

Supervision, examination and moderation

A number of postgraduate students are supervised by CRP staff. Doctoral Candidate Aamina Petersen submitted her thesis for examination at the end of 2025. Prof Mezmur also examined an LLD thesis from the University of Pretoria and served as external course moderator for the International Rights of the Child at the University of Cape Town.

Under Prof Assim's supervision, Bhavna Mahadew obtained her LLD. Prof Assim supervised a number of postgraduate students that completed in 2025. For instance, Tesfamhret Haile and Joshua Nduku graduated with their LLM at the University of Pretoria in December, while students Le-Ann Cupido and Sanele Macekiswa (co-supervised with G Mirugi-Mukundi) graduated in September. Prof Assim was also an examiner for both LLD and LLM theses at the University of the Free State, University of Pretoria, University of Venda, and North-West University.

Hosting interns

During the second half of the year, the CRP hosted two research interns from the Centre for Human Rights under the Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa Programme; they were Joshua Nduku and Tesfamhret Haile, and their research engagements focused on multiple child rights issues. These covered climate change, the mandate and jurisprudence of the African Committee on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, safe surrender of infants and obstetric violence, and children's rights and the business sector.

Conferences, seminars and workshops

The CRP staff hosted, participated in, and made presentations at a number of conferences, seminars and workshops, both in-person and virtually.

A number of seminars, workshops and other similar events were (co)hosted by the CRP during the year. In April, the CRP co-organised 'Symposium on African perspectives on climate change law'. (Harvard Law School, Cambridge, 28 March).

Two major (co)convenings deserve special mention at the outset. From 6-7 November 2025, the CRP, along with the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, African Child Policy Forum, and Plan International hosted a Stakeholders' Engagement Forum on Children's Rights and Business in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The objectives of the Forum were, among others, to facilitate direct dialogue between the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, relevant AU members states, UN agencies, international organizations, CSOs and business actors on children's rights and business practices in Africa; disseminate and promote the findings and recommendations of the Continental Study on Children's Rights and Business; and strengthen partnerships between the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, African Continental Free Trade Area, private sector actors, chambers of commerce, business associations, trade unions, government institutions and national human rights institutions. It was attended by stakeholders, such as child representatives, Member States, national and international organisations, national human rights institutions, and academic institutions.

From 7-8 April the CRP co-hosted, with the Centre for International Law and Policy in Africa, the Human Rights Programme at Harvard Law School, and with the collaboration of the Global Environmental Law Centre at the UWC and the Centre for International Law at the National University of Singapore, a two-day hybrid symposium on 'African Perspectives on International Climate Change Law' in Cape Town. The symposium built on the success of the first 'African Perspectives on

International Climate Change Law Symposium', held at Harvard Law School in March 2024, which foregrounded African voices in global climate law discourse. The second convening in Cape Town was an outcome of the first symposium and brought together leading and emerging scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and civil society representatives from the continent to explore key legal and policy issues related to Africa's role in shaping international climate change law. CRP staff participated in different capacities including as presenters, and a conscious effort was made to ensure that a number of doctoral candidates benefitted from the platform to share their work.

Within the African Children's Charter Project framework, the CRP hosted a Community Leaders Training Workshop on Children's Rights and Climate Change: 'Championing Child-Responsive Climate Action Through Local Leadership' (11 August) as well as a Community Leaders Training Workshop on Children's Rights and Business: 'Centering Children's Rights and Business Principles in Community-led Business Initiatives' (12 August). Both of these workshops allow the CRP to have activities focusing on South Africa, as recommended by the DOI Board some years ago.

The convenings by the CRP have also paid attention to global developments that are of relevance for children's rights in Africa. For example, with a view to generate knowledge and information for the Africa Climate Summit, the CRP hosted a webinar titled 'Climate Change and Children's Rights - Are Global Climate Convenings Delivering for Children? Reflecting on the 2nd Africa Climate Summit and COP30' (Online, 2 December).

CRP staff presentations also straddled multiple topics, countries and continents.

Prof Mezmur presented on 'Combating crime against children in the digital environment' at the 'Child rights and digital environment, including Artificial Intelligence: Challenges and opportunities for children' conference hosted in Tbilisi (Georgia) (Online, 11 March) and on 'Accountability for children in the context of violence'. He presented at the side event of the 58th Session of the Human Rights Council titled 'Ensuring accountability and action: Sustaining momentum on violence against children'. (Online, 13 March). He also presented on 'Children's rights and climate change in Africa' at the 'Right here right now: Global Climate Summit on climate change and human rights'. (Online, 4 June); and on 'The rights of children in vulnerable situations in Africa in the context of climate change' Presented at the 2nd Symposium on African Perspectives on International Climate Change Law. (UWC, Bellville, 7 April).

A number of webinars, some within the African Children's Charter Project framework, were hosted by the CRP during the year. These included 'Children's Rights and Business in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities' (17 July); 'Climate Change and Children's Rights: Integrating Children's Rights in the

Delivery of Climate Action in Africa - Aspirations for the Africa Climate Summit'(5 September); 'Mining and the Extractive Industry in Africa: Implications for Children's Rights' (16 October); and 'Toiling for Survival: Children in the Urban Informal Sector in Africa' (9 December).

Postgraduate students also benefitted from the convenings. For example, *Conversation* sessions were hosted with Dr Japhet Biegon, Advocacy Officer for Amnesty International (Online, 4 November) on the changing advocacy space in Africa and with Mr Gehad Madi the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Migrants (Online, 9 October) and on 'Disability and climate change' with Prof Jodin of McGill University (Online, 17 September).

CRP has also continued to be represented and contribute to important child rights related convenings within the African continent. Prof Mezmur took part in the Africa Climate Summit in Addis Ababa in September. Prof Assim attended the Civil Society Organisations' Forum and side events at the 85th Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. (Banjul, 16-21 October), including taking part in a strategy session by the Initiative for Strategic Litigation in Africa on 'Countering Anti-Rights Actors'. She was also involved in side events at the 46th Ordinary Session of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, chiefly on 'Advancing the Right to a Nationality and Ending Childhood Statelessness in Africa', during which she gave a presentation on 'Climate Change and Statelessness' (26 November). It was co-hosted by Lawyers for Human Rights, Centre for Human Rights (University of Pretoria), and the Centre for Child Law (University of Pretoria) in collaboration with the Southern Africa Nationality Network, the Eastern Africa Nationality Network, and the Pan African Nationality Network. In September, the Human Rights Council hosted a three-day engagement on the proposed new (fourth) Optional Protocol on the Right to Education which Prof Mezmur attended.

Dr Fambasayi presented on 'Climate-Early Childhood Development nexus and the landscape in Africa from a regional perspective' at the East Africa Community Early Childhood Development Forum (Online, 6-8 May); 'Protecting Early Childhood Care and Education or Development Education in Emergencies' Presented at the SADC Regional Webinar Focusing on the climate-Induced impacts to education hosted by Early Childhood Development Networks (Online, 27 May); and 'Impacts of climate change in Early Childhood Development ' Presented at the session on 'Children in Crisis' at the Africa Childcare Conference at the African Union Commission Headquarters (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 18-20 June).

Training

Members of the CRP supported, as resource persons, training involving civil society organisations and practitioners. For instance, Prof Mezmur was a resource person for the Statelessness course hosted by the Institute for Statelessness and Inclusion in the Netherlands (Online, 7 October). He also provided training sessions to diplomats on human rights (on climate change, digital media and human rights treaty bodies) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Ethiopia (in person on 17 October and online on 16 December).

Submissions

In June, Prof Mezmur made a submission on children with disabilities and climate change to the UN Call for Input for the report on best practices, challenges and lessons learned concerning integrated approaches to the promotion and protection of human rights and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the global level. Prof Assim made a submission at the 46th Ordinary Session of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (26-30 November).

Appointments

Prof Mezmur was appointed to the Editorial Board of the South African Public Law Journal as well as the *Global health, Human Rights and Social Justice* (Brill Series). Prof Assim was appointed to the International Editorial Board of the Daystar University Law Journal, and, on the recommendation of the Regional Director of the Africa Coalition for Academic Freedom (ACAF), was appointed as the representative of ACAF, to the Scholars at Risk Network's International Advisory Committee.

Assessing impact

Most of the engagements of the CRP revolve around knowledge production and skills transfer that are expected to impact developments around law and policy on children's rights at the national, regional and international levels.

A number of the engagements on children's rights and the business sector, including the Stakeholders' Engagement Forum on Children's Rights and Business held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, are expected to contribute towards finalising the *Draft African Union Principles and Guidelines on Business and Human Rights* and inform a major study on the topic involving three countries – South Africa, Malawi and Mauritius – to be conducted in 2026. Some academic publications are also expected from the 7-8 April two-day hybrid symposium on *African Perspectives on International Climate Change Law* in Cape

Town. Moreover, some of the information from the Symposium has been used for an *amicus curia* submission to the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights Advisory Opinion process.

Publications

Selected key publications include:

Peer reviewed articles

Assim U.M (with Adeyemo D.D) 'Autocratic legalism through anti-corruption strategies and agencies: A case study of Nigeria' *Journal of Anti-Corruption Law* (2025) Vol. 9(1) pp. 27-42.

Assim U.M. (with Durojaye E. & Nkrumah B.) 'Earthjustice: The role of the African regional human rights system in containing climate change' (2025) Vol. 31(1) *Journal of African Policy Studies* pp. 133-166

Nanima R.D and Mezmur B.D, 'The normative dilemma(s) in the African human rights system and its effects on the development of human rights jurisprudence: A focus on the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights and the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child' *Stellenbosch Law Review* (2025) Vol 36(2) pp. 235-268.

Book

Durojaye E, Mirugi-Mukundi G, Iyi J and Assim U.M (eds) *Conflict and Poverty in Africa: A Research Companion* (Routledge, 2025) pp. 428.

Chapter

Durojaye E, Mirugi-Mukundi G, Iyi J and Assim U.M (2025) 'Exploring the link between conflict and poverty in Africa' in Durojaye E, Mirugi-Mukundi G, Iyi J and Assim U.M (eds) *Conflict and Poverty in Africa: A Research Companion* (Routledge) pp. 1-12.

Media

Mezmur B.D, Joined a panel at a media press conference at the Vatican on child sexual abuse cases within the Catholic Church (16 October 2025).

SOUTH AFRICAN RESEARCH CHAIR IN MULTILEVEL GOVERNMENT, LAW AND DEVELOPMENT (SARChI) and MULTILEVEL GOVERNMENT PROJECT (MLG)

Context

Multi-level governance is an important component of the success or failure of a peaceful and prosperous South Africa. First, the political dynamics in the country is thrusting subnational governments to the fore. The 2021 and 2024 national/provincial elections marked an acceleration of the trend, which started in the 2016 local government elections, namely that the African National Congress (ANC) is losing support to opposition parties. The ANC won outright majorities in only two of the eight metropolitan municipalities, with the remainder requiring coalitions, or run by an outright DA majority. Unlike in 2016, there were significant losses for the ANC in rural municipalities too. The 2024 national/provincial elections saw a continuation of the steady decline in support for the ANC, resulting in it losing outright majorities in more provinces, and in the National Assembly. Predictions are that the 2026 local government elections will further fragment politics. This scenario tests the resilience of the multilevel government system. Political battles will increasingly be contested through the multilevel government system. Thirdly, in a deteriorating economic environment, the demands for services also from provinces (education and health) and local government will increase, which, if not met, will increase the risk for social instability. Fourthly, the dismal state of many municipalities can no longer be characterised as ‘localised crises’, but rather as structural failures ascending to the status of a national emergency. In this context, research and understanding of the functioning of the multi-level governance system will be at a premium to enable effective and informed engagement between power holders in addressing challenges.

Key objectives

Federalism and decentralisation in Africa are bound to grow in importance as the continent searches for peaceful solutions to enduring conflicts and eluding equitable socio-economic development. The Multilevel Government Project’s research agenda, including that of the SARChI Chair, is informed by growing interest in multilevel government across the continent. More countries are considering to deepen decentralisation. In some instances, this relates to constitutional change (Kenya, Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, and in other cases it is reform of decentralisation statutes (Angola and Lesotho). Nonetheless, the ambivalence in most African countries towards federalism persists. The fear for decentralisation-induced disunity is palpable and pollutes discussions on decentralisation to local governments. At the same time, African cities continue to grow in size, population and

importance, with fundamental consequences for how challenges such as economic development, climate change, population growth, urban sprawl and the management of natural disasters will be addressed. It is critical that the 'unknowns' of decentralisation are demystified, and addressed through proper legal frameworks. There are trends and features in decentralisation unique to Africa. The many different manifestations of decentralisation on the continent must be studied, compared and analysed here, to support the emergence of body of scholarship, produced by African scholars on decentralisation in Africa.

Prominent activities

The Chair and the Project's strategy over the past years to build a cadre of young engaged scholars in multilevel government is bearing fruit. The Team now boasts three post-doctoral researchers and a New Generation of Academics Programme researcher, working alongside the SARChI Chair, Project Head and Emeritus Professor/former SARChI Chair. We aim to consolidate this and continue making impact in the multi-level government sector. This team is well engaged in teaching, research and policy advocacy on multilevel government and other governance matter.

Teaching

The Chair, together with the Multilevel Government Project, administer postgraduate programmes in multilevel government and local government. Major highlights in this respect were four members of the MLG Team, namely Annette May, Jennica Beukes, Melissa Ziswa and Thabile Chonco-Spambo receiving their doctoral degrees. Thabile completed a study on differentiation in municipal powers, Jennica on coalitions in local government, Melissa on constitutional transplantations in the field of devolution in Africa and Annette on the role of the Courts in shaping local government service delivery in South Africa.

In 2025, we continued supervision of PhD students in the Project focussing on African cities and climate change; the legacy of colonialism in multilevel government in Africa, and county assembly oversight in Kenya; and local government corruption in Zimbabwe.

We convened the LLM/Mphil programme, providing seminars and supervision of LLM and MPhil candidates. We had around 60 students registered for the Postgraduate Diploma Programme in Public Law, aimed at local government practitioners. Participants are drawn primarily from the public service, the legal profession, the private sector, consultancy, and civil society organisations working in the field of local government.

The African School on Decentralisation

The African School on Decentralisation is a two-week international post-graduate course on decentralisation in Africa for government officials, postgraduate students, members of local and international non-governmental organisations, practitioners as well as other participants with an interest in decentralisation in Africa. The 5th Edition of the African School on Decentralisation, themed ‘Decentralisation and Finances’, and co-hosted with the Centre of Federalism and Governance Studies at Addis Ababa University, brought together 24 participants from ten African countries for an unforgettable experience from 13–25 October. The Executive Mayor of Cape Town, Geordin Hill-Lewis, welcomed participants. His inspiring keynote address set the stage, reflecting on the power of decentralisation through Cape Town's story and challenging the participants to reimagine local governance across Africa. The 5th Edition of the School was a successful collaboration not only of the two universities, but also the Commonwealth Local Government Forum, Local Public Service Alliance, Auditor-General's Office and experts from local, regional and international universities.

The Civil Society Training Project

Good local governance depends on an active and informed community. While municipalities are responsible for creating an enabling environment for effective community participation in local government, civil society organisations and community-based organisations must be equipped to take the lead in mobilising the community to participate in local government and to ensure municipalities are held accountable for their performance. Many civil society organisations and community-based organisations struggle to effectively monitor municipal performance or challenge poor decision-making because of a lack of crucial information, resources, or knowledge about the local government system. This gap weakens service delivery and local democracy. The Multilevel Government Team partnered with the Africa Criminal Justice Reform project to produce factsheets to close that gap. The “Factsheets: Building capacity for civil society to participate in local government” are a training resource for civil society organisations and cover five core topics: Local Government Structures and Systems; Community participation in the IDP and Budget process; Service Delivery; Community Safety; and Anti-Corruption and Integrity. In December, we hosted a workshop in Saldanha Bay where we took community leaders and activists through the five courses. This project is supported by the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives, managed by the High Commission of Canada in South Africa.

Seminars and conferences

We organised and participated in a number of seminars, conferences and related events. Selected events are listed below:

- Hosted seminar on New Challenges for constitutionalism, fundamental rights, and risks to democracy in the first 100 days of the Trump administration with Prof Philippe. (University of the Western Cape, 16 April 2025)
- Co-hosted Panel Discussion with the Catholic Parliamentary Liaison Office (CPLO) on the upcoming local government elections. (Cape Town, 18 November 2025)
- Wright J, Co-convened the Ethiopian Exchange Seminar on Women in Leadership, with the Netherlands Institute for Multi-Party Democracy. (University of the Western Cape, 5 September 2025)
- De Visser J and Chigwata T, Presented on the governance of metropolitan regions in Africa at International Association of Centers for Federal Studies Annual Conference. (Mexico City, 25 September 2025)
- Stevens C, Presented on 'Overregulation of Local Government: Searching for Solutions' at the Wavemaker Summit, hosted by the West Coast District Municipality. (MSC Musica Cruise, 27-29 March 2025)
- Chigwata T, Presentations on 'The nature of LGIs in Africa: state of practice' and 'Expenditure assignments: practices in Africa' at the Programme on multilevel governance and Intergovernmental finance in Africa: Principles, practices, and applications to Somalia, Local Public Sector Alliance, Dullah Omar Institute and World Bank Somalia. (Nairobi, Kenya, 4-9 May 2025)
- De Visser J, Was a panellist at Department of Cooperative Governance's Launch of the Review of Local Government White Paper. (Johannesburg, 19 May 2025)

Local Government Bulletin

The Local Government Bulletin is a free online newsletter disseminated to scholars, practitioners and civil society. It contains accessible articles keeping the local government sector informed of new developments, case law, policy and laws affecting the sector. In 2015, we published 29 articles in four editions of the Bulletin, covering a variety of topics linked to service delivery and governance. The publication of the Bulletin is supported by the Hanns Seidel Foundation, National Research Foundation and the University of the Western Cape.

South African Human Rights Commission

The project contributed to two important processes of the South African Human Rights Commission. We assisted the Commission with its inquiry into systemic service delivery failures at local government level in the Northern Cape and also with a policy brief addressing the systemic sabotage of essential

water infrastructure associated with organised criminal networks, including so-called “water tanker mafias”.

Coalitions guidelines for municipalities in the Western Cape

Research, analysis and proposals on coalitions in local government focus mostly on how to make coalitions more stable, i.e. to minimise ‘turnover’ in key executive offices in the municipality. However, coalition uncertainty will remain a feature of local government. The key to improved coalition governance is not (only) to limit the scope for political decision-making with regard to building, sustaining and terminating coalitions, but also to make municipal governance and administration resilient to the inevitability of coalition uncertainty. With funding from the Hanns Seidel Foundation, we began developing guidelines for municipalities on how to ensure that municipal administrations continue to function during coalition uncertainty. The objective is to ensure administrative continuity during coalition turmoil. The Guidelines will be launched in 2026 ahead of the local government elections.

Regional and international engagements

International scholarly collaboration on the theme of multilevel government in Africa intensified with collaboration in Africa and beyond. The Chair serves as co-chair of the Africa Working Group of the Local Public Service Alliance, a network of scholars and practitioners that work on decentralisation in Africa. This connects the Chair to a wide global network of scholars and practitioners in decentralisation. The Chair co-convened a series of webinars as part of the Local Public Sector Alliance’s engagements on decentralisation in Africa. The African School on Decentralisation continues to strengthen UWC’s footprint on the continent. The Chair undertook a visiting scholarship at Utrecht University and hosted its former Rector and extraordinary professor at DOI, Prof Henk Kummeling who also taught at the African School on Decentralisation. Prof Chigwata was a visiting professor at the Institute of Legal Research of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. Prof Steytler undertook a research visit to EURAC Research in Italy.

Board appointments

Tinashe Chigwata was appointed as a member of the Scientific Committee of the World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and United Cities and Local Governments.

Assessing impact

In 2025, the Multilevel Government Project deepened its impact across research, teaching, and policy engagement, contributing to more informed and effective decentralisation discourse and practice in Africa.

A key area of impact was the development of a new generation of African scholars specialising in multilevel government. The graduation of four doctoral candidates and ongoing supervision of PhD students working on critical topics such as climate change, corruption, and legislative oversight strengthened the continent's research capacity in this field. This contributes to the long-term sustainability of African-led scholarship on decentralisation.

The Project's teaching and training initiatives also had significant practical reach. Through postgraduate programmes and the Postgraduate Diploma in Public Law, approximately 60 practitioners from government, the legal profession, and civil society enhanced their knowledge and skills in local governance. The African School on Decentralisation further expanded this impact by convening participants from ten African countries, fostering cross-country learning and strengthening regional networks of practitioners and policymakers.

At policy level, the Project contributed directly to governance reform processes. Its inputs into the review of the White Paper on Local Government, as well as its work with the South African Human Rights Commission on systemic service delivery failures and infrastructure-related crime, informed national debates on accountability and service delivery. The development of coalition governance guidelines for municipalities in the Western Cape addresses a critical and growing governance challenge, with the potential to enhance administrative stability in a context of increasing political fragmentation.

The Project also strengthened civil society participation in local governance through the development of practical training materials, equipping organisations to engage more effectively in budgeting, service delivery monitoring, and anti-corruption efforts.

Collectively, these interventions advanced evidence-based policymaking, strengthened institutional capacity, and contributed to more accountable and effective multilevel governance systems in South Africa and across the African continent.

Together with members of Multilevel Government Project, the Chair influenced policy and legislative reforms. For instance, we were asked to assist the South African Local Government Association with the preparation of its Submission on the Review of the 1998 White Paper. When the Office of the Deputy-President announced the adoption of a terms of reference for the clearing house mechanism

of the Government of National Unity, it specifically acknowledged the Chair's contribution to the drafting of the terms of reference.

Throughout the year, the Chair and members of the Multilevel Government Project have given numerous media interviews for news radio (CapeTalk), television (eNCA, Newzroom Afrika) and print (News24). The interviews were always aimed at elevating the discourse about multilevel governance matters.

The Chair's research was comprehensively cited in the following Constitutional Court judgment: *South African Municipal Workers Union v Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs and Another*.

Publications

Selected key publications include:

Books

Steytler N (ed) *Mont Fleur Conversations: Democracy and Development – Government by the People, for the People* (Dullah Omar Institute, 2025) pp. 84.

Steytler N and Fombad C (eds) *Constitutional Change and Constitutionalism in Africa* (Oxford University Press, 2025) pp. 496.

Chapters

De Visser J, Chigwata T and Steytler N (2025) 'Confronting territorial inequality among South African municipalities: Challenges to the fiscal equalisation system' in Erkoreka M (ed) *Fiscal Federalism and Equalisation Transfers: Balancing Regional Autonomy and Solidarity* (Brill) pp. 206-228.

Peer reviewed articles

Wright J, 'Improving Legislative Protection for Whistleblowers of Corruption in South African Municipalities' *South African Public Law* (2025) Vol. 40 (1) pp. 1-35.

Loose-leaf publication

Steytler N, De Visser J, Wright J and Stevens C, *Local Government Law of South Africa* Issue 17.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC RIGHTS PROJECT (SERP)

Context

In 2025, the Socio-Economic Rights Project (SERP) operated within a complex and evolving socio-legal landscape where the realisation of socio-economic rights remains uneven across South Africa and the African continent. Persistent structural inequalities, driven by poverty, weak service delivery, and limited access to justice, continue to disproportionately affect marginalised communities, shaping the programme's focus on rights-based interventions.

Key objectives

The objective mission of SERP is to advance socio-economic rights through research, strategic advocacy and capacity building. By integrating rigorous academic scholarship with grassroots advocacy, SERP aims to create a more equitable legal and social landscape across the continent. For 2025, the SERP three key objectives:

- To advance access to justice and strengthen socio-economic rights frameworks in Africa: By supporting the recognition and integration of community-based paralegals, promoting rights-based approaches to food security and health, and contributing to the development of African regional jurisprudence on socio-economic rights.
- To improve accountability and policy responses in health and social justice sectors: By addressing systemic failures in sexual and reproductive health, including obstetric violence, and advancing evidence-based policy reforms informed by regional human rights mechanisms and comparative research across African countries.
- To build capacity and generate high-impact knowledge for rights-based advocacy: By producing rigorous scholarship, training postgraduate students and practitioners, and equipping community leaders with the knowledge and tools to engage effectively in socio-economic rights advocacy and governance processes.:

Prominent activities

Community-based paralegals and access to justice

SERP advanced its multi-country research and advocacy on the role of community-based paralegals as critical actors in improving access to justice across Africa. A central focus of the year was consolidating empirical research across North African contexts, examining the role, effectiveness, and regulatory environment of community-based paralegals. This work responded to persistent justice gaps,

particularly for marginalised communities who face structural barriers in accessing formal legal systems.

A key milestone was the side event at the 85th Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (24 October, Banjul), which brought together over 50 stakeholders to share preliminary findings and strengthen continental engagement.

This work was further advanced through the Authors' Workshop held in Kigali Rwanda (21–22 November), which convened 21 researchers and practitioners to refine country studies, strengthen comparative analysis, and align contributions for a forthcoming edited volume. In parallel, research in Egypt and Morocco reached advanced stages, expanding the project's geographic scope and supporting a more inclusive, evidence-based understanding of community-based paralegals models, with validation workshops planned for 2026 to enhance policy relevance.

Food policy and diet-related non-communicable diseases

A cornerstone of the year's domestic engagement was SERP's participation in the Food Policy Programme South Africa Local Partners Strategic Planning Meeting, held from 11–13 March. Represented by Dr. Jennifer Omoruyi, Prof. Maria Assim, Gladys Mirugi-Mukundi, and doctoral researcher Arthur Madi, SERP joined a coalition of civil society organizations, advocacy groups, and academic institutions convened by the Healthy Living Alliance. The convening focused on the Food Justice Coalition's mandate to secure lifelong access to nutritious food and dignified social protection. Discussions addressed urgent policy priorities, including front-of-pack labelling, the regulation of unhealthy food marketing, and health promotion levies. SERP played a pivotal role by providing legal perspectives on strengthening evidence and refining advocacy messaging. The collective efforts of the Food Policy Programme South Africa Local Partners Strategic Planning Meeting, culminated in an action-oriented operational plan designed to leverage political opportunities under the South African Government of National Unity.

SERP was represented at the international stage by Prof. Maria Usang and Gladys Mirugi-Mukundi at the Bloomberg Philanthropies Global Food Policy Programme Meeting in New York (31 March – 4 April). This high-level gathering united international partners to review collective progress and align strategies to curb diet-related diseases by improving access to nutritious foods. The three-day global gathering served as a vital platform for cross-country learning, global advocacy and knowledge exchange where participants utilized comparative case studies to identify best practices and scalable lessons. By participating in this global exchange, SERP successfully integrated African socio-economic

rights perspectives into the international food policy discourse, ensuring that regional challenges and successes informed global health and human rights strategies.

Complementing its advocacy engagements, SERP prioritized knowledge production and dissemination to bridge the gap between academic research and actionable food policy. By translating complex data into accessible formats, the project strengthened the evidence base regarding food environments, regulatory loopholes, and the public health consequences of unhealthy diets.

SERP also produced targeted policy outputs to inform national discourse. Notably, the policy brief by Paula Knipe, 'Strengthening Public Food Procurement for Non-Communicable Disease Prevention in South Africa: A National Responsibility and Opportunity', positioned public procurement as a strategic tool to improve nutrition outcomes and prevent diet-related non-communicable diseases. The brief provided actionable recommendations for government and stakeholders, supporting ongoing policy discussions on leveraging procurement systems to advance public health objectives. These outputs were complemented by peer-reviewed publications that strengthened the legal and conceptual foundations of food policy reform. In the *Journal of Consumer Policy*, Omoruyi and Durojaye (2025) analysed misleading marketing of unhealthy foods to children, identifying regulatory gaps and enforcement challenges. In the *South African Journal on Human Rights*, Omoruyi, Knipe, and Durojaye (2025) advanced a rights-based approach to preventing diet-related Non-Communicable Diseases, highlighting the intersection of food systems, health, and socio-economic rights. Together, these publications contributed to knowledge, strengthened the evidence base, and reinforced the role of legal frameworks in addressing the commercial determinants of health. They further positioned SERP as a key actor in shaping rights-based legal standards for a healthier food environment.

An opinion piece published in *The Conversation* (12 May) translated research findings into accessible public messaging, linking predatory marketing to rising obesity rates in South Africa and proposing regulatory solutions. This output supported broader public awareness and engagement on food justice and health rights.

A significant milestone was the webinar held on 10 June, titled "Unpacking Deception: How Misleading Food Marketing Targets Children and the Role of the Consumer Protection Act 2008." This session provided a critical analysis of how predatory marketing practices exploit children and examined the potential of existing consumer protection laws to curb these harms. By convening legal experts, researchers, and advocates, the event fostered a deeper understanding of regulatory enforcement gaps and mobilized support for more stringent marketing standards.

Advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights in Africa

SERP implemented an integrated sexual and reproductive health and rights project combining research, advocacy, and regional engagement to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights in Africa. The project combined evidence generation, knowledge dissemination, and coalition-building to strengthen accountability and promote rights-based approaches.

A central focus of the year was the production and dissemination of multi-country comprehensive research report on obstetric violence in Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, and Nigeria. The study documented systemic failures in maternal healthcare, documenting patterns of abuse, neglect, and discrimination experienced by women during pregnancy and childbirth. By framing obstetric violence as a violation of dignity, equality, and informed consent, the research contributed to positioning maternal health as a justiciable human rights issue. The outputs included a comprehensive research report, a webinar, an accessible advocacy booklet, and a policy brief, designed to support civil society engagement and broaden public understanding of the issue.

SERP also produced country-specific research on young people's sexual and reproductive health and rights in Seychelles, Eswatini, and Malawi, building on prior work across the region. These studies analysed national legal and policy frameworks, identifying gaps, contradictions, and structural barriers affecting adolescents' access to services. The findings were translated into policy briefs and simplified materials tailored to policymakers, practitioners, advocates, and young people, ensuring accessibility and supporting evidence-based advocacy.

Knowledge-sharing platforms complemented research outputs. The webinar *"Combating Obstetric Violence in Africa: Human Rights, Dignity and Accountability in Maternal Health Care"* (27 May) brought together legal practitioners, researchers, and civil society actors to examine accountability mechanisms and the role of strategic litigation. Discussions emphasised the need for stronger enforcement of legal protections, increased awareness of patient rights, and systemic reform in healthcare systems.

In collaboration with KELIN, African Population & Health Research Centre, and the Centre for Human Rights (University of Pretoria), SERP convened a regional webinar on *"Understanding the African Commission's Decision in Communication 564/2015"* (28 May). Held to mark the International Day of Action for Women's Health, the webinar critically examined the decision's implications for maternal healthcare and accountability. Participants identified gaps in the Commission's reasoning and reaffirmed that preventable maternal mortality constitutes violations of the rights to life, dignity,

health, and non-discrimination. The discussions highlighted opportunities for strategic litigation and coordinated advocacy.

SERP further addressed emerging sexual and reproductive health and rights challenges through the webinar on *“Impact of Public Health Emergencies on sexual and reproductive health and rights Services in Africa”* (30 October). The engagement examined how crises disrupt access to essential services, disproportionately affecting women and young people. Participants called for integrating sexual and reproductive health and rights into emergency preparedness frameworks and highlighted innovative service delivery models, including community-based and digital approaches.

In November, SERP hosted the webinar *“From Criminalisation to Care: A Rights-Based Approach to Self-Managed Abortion in Africa”*. The session examined the human rights implications of restrictive abortion laws and highlighted how criminalisation drives unsafe practices and undermines autonomy. It advanced self-managed abortion as an evidence-informed, rights-based approach and reinforced the need for legal reform and improved access to essential medicines.

A key convening was the *Regional Colloquium on the Role of Civil Society Organisations in Advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights in Africa* (1–3 September, Pretoria). The colloquium brought together legal scholars, practitioners, and civil society actors to engage on regional and domestic sexual and reproductive health and rights challenges. Discussions focused on barriers affecting adolescents, women, and marginalised groups, and emphasised the role of civil society in advancing rights-based approaches through advocacy, research, and strategic litigation. Key themes included adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights, comprehensive sexuality education, public health emergencies, and the use of regional mechanisms to strengthen accountability.

SERP also strengthened regional advocacy through engagement with the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights, through side events linked to key decisions affecting sexual and reproductive health and rights, contributing to policy briefs and media statements. These efforts reinforced linkages between research, advocacy, and regional human rights mechanisms.

Overall, the 2025 sexual and reproductive health and rights project reflect a coherent approach linking research, convening, and coalition engagement. It strengthened civil society capacity, informed policy debates, and advanced accountability in the realisation of sexual and reproductive health and rights across Africa.

Campaigns

SERP was actively involved in three major civil society campaigns, thereby enhancing coalition-building and fostering coordinated advocacy efforts within the sector. By participating in these initiatives, SERP contributed to the harmonisation of advocacy strategies, the preparation of evidence-based submissions, and the strengthening of the collective civil society voice on key socio-economic rights issues.

SERP continued to play a strategic role in coordinating the South African Civil Society Campaign on the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

SERP remained an active member of the Food Justice Coalition, convened by the Healthy Living Alliance, contributing to joint advocacy under the Food Policy Programme. The coalition prioritised key policy issues, including front-of-pack labelling, regulation of unhealthy food marketing, and the strengthening of health promotion levies. It also advanced advocacy on the risks associated with ultra-processed foods high in sugar, salt, and fat, calling for stronger regulatory measures to protect consumer health.

SERP continued its engagement as a member of the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors, a global alliance of over 100 NGOs and trade unions. The coalition campaigns for universal social security in accordance with International Labour Organisation Recommendation 202 and promotes social protection as a fundamental human right in the fight against poverty.

Postgraduate teaching and book publication

Gladys Mirugi-Mukundi, as convener with Prof Assim Maria serving as co-convener, organised the postgraduate LLM module on Socio-Economic Rights (SER811) during the first semester of 2025. Gladys Mirugi-Mukundi also led SERP in the production of a significant edited volume of 19 chapters titled *Conflict and Poverty in Africa: A Research Companion*, published by Routledge (Taylor & Francis Group).

Assessing impact

Normative and legal impact

SERP contributed multi-country sexual and reproductive health and rights research reports on obstetric violence (Ghana, Kenya, Malawi and Nigeria), which shaped regional legal standards by reframing maternal mortality and obstetric violence as violations of fundamental human rights.

Research on sexual and reproductive health and rights among young people in Eswatini, Malawi, and Seychelles identified legal and policy gaps and framed these issues as justiciable rights violations. Through a collaborative policy brief responding to the African Commission's decision in *Communication 564/2015*, the programme strengthened the legal basis for state accountability in maternal healthcare. Collectively, these outputs have informed advocacy, jurisprudential interpretation, and emerging litigation strategies across the African region.

Public discourse impact

SERP significantly influenced public and policy discourse on food justice and diet related non-communicable disease prevention health rights by reframing unhealthy food marketing as a consumer protection and children's rights issue. Peer-reviewed journal publications on *Misleading Marketing of Unhealthy Foods and Preventing Diet-Related Non-Communicable Diseases*, alongside a widely read opinion piece in *The Conversation* and targeted webinars, is supporting a shift in the narrative from individual lifestyle choices to structural and regulatory concerns. This supports public understanding and elevated the urgency of regulating harmful food environments.

Capacity-building impact

Through webinars, side events, and workshops, SERP strengthened the capacity of civil society, legal practitioners, and community-based actors to engage with human rights mechanisms. The production of accessible outputs - including policy briefs, research reports, and advocacy booklets - enhanced "accountability literacy" and supported evidence-based advocacy. Ongoing postgraduate teaching and supervision further embedded socio-economic rights scholarship in future practice.

Policy and institutional impact

SERP's participation in the Global Food Policy Programme and strategic engagements with Healthy Living Alliance and Bloomberg Philanthropies informed national and global advocacy priorities on diet-related non-communicable disease prevention and food regulation. Coalition-based work under the *Bridging the Gap* network enabled coordinated advocacy and joint engagement on advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights in Africa with regional bodies, ensuring that research findings translated into policy-relevant interventions and institutional influence.

Across these project areas, SERP demonstrated a coherent model of impact that integrates research, advocacy, and partnership-building. Its diverse outputs, including research reports, peer-reviewed publications, policy briefs, simplified booklets, webinars, and regional engagements, served as key tools for shaping legal and policy discourse. Collectively, this work has advanced rights-based

approaches to health, food systems, and access to justice, reinforcing SERP's role as a leading voice in socio-economic rights in Africa.

Publications

Selected key publications include:

Book

Durojaye E, Mirugi-Mukundi G, Iyi J and Assim U.M (eds) [Conflict and Poverty in Africa: A Research Companion](#) (Routledge, 2025) pp. 428.

Chapter

Durojaye E, Mirugi-Mukundi G, Iyi J and Assim U.M (2025) 'Exploring the link between conflict and poverty in Africa' in Durojaye E, Mirugi-Mukundi G, Iyi J and Assim U.M (eds) [Conflict and Poverty in Africa: A Research Companion](#) (Routledge) pp. 1-12.

Peer reviewed articles

Omoruyi A.J and Durojaye E, ['Misleading Marketing of Unhealthy Foods and Beverages to Children in South Africa as a Consumer Protection Issue'](#) Journal of Consumer Policy (2025) Vol. 48 pp. 105–131.

Omoruyi A.J, Knipe P and Durojaye, E, ['Preventing diet-related non-communicable diseases in South Africa: A rights-based approach to improving health outcomes through food and nutrition security'](#) South African Journal on Human Rights (2025) Vol. 40(3–4) pp. 245-267.

AFRICA CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM (ACJR)

Context

Following the Zondo Commission, progress has been slow in bringing those implicated to account, with few prosecutions and convictions to date. It is also increasingly evident that the structural factors that enabled state capture have not been comprehensively addressed. In this regard, the National Prosecuting Authority Act remains in urgent need of amendment to secure the institution's structural, administrative and financial independence. The culture of de facto impunity across the public service - particularly within the security services - has eroded trust in and legitimacy of the criminal justice system. Its performance leaves much to be desired, not only in relation to high-profile cases, but also in the daily experiences of South Africans who come into contact with it.

The Zondo Commission identified state-owned enterprises as key vehicles for state capture. Yet meaningful structural reform has not followed. The National State Enterprises Bill has stalled after an initial round of public comments in the National Assembly, and the Commission's comprehensive recommendations on the reform of state-owned enterprises remain unimplemented.

In South Africa and beyond, we observe a gradual hardening in policing and law enforcement. This reflects a broader shift toward security-first governance, in which social control often takes precedence over due process and proportionality. As a result, the tension between public safety and rights protection has sharpened rather than eased.

It is also increasingly clear that the criminal justice system is under significant threat from organised crime. While this is not unique to South Africa, the revelations emerging from the Madlanga Commission are particularly concerning, placing the integrity of senior police officials under intense scrutiny.

These are challenging times. The very notion of accountability, as required by the Constitution, is under strain. What is required is a focused and sustained response - one that drills down to the operational level, where the mechanisms of impunity are embedded.

Key objectives

Impunity and discrimination are core challenges across Africa and in South Africa. ACJR is working towards two broad outcomes:

- To support the revitalisation of the National Prosecuting Authority by strengthening its independence, capacity, and effectiveness in prosecuting corruption and serious crime. The National Prosecuting Authority stand central to the overall accountability architecture and an effective and independent prosecution is essential to a constitutional democracy.
- Reducing discriminatory law enforcement by advancing democratic policing through supporting policy and practice changes reducing discriminatory law enforcement (i.e., targeting the poor and other marginalised groups) by demonstrating the cost to the economy of excessive and avoidable arrest and detention, and presenting feasible alternatives, with reference to the declassification and decriminalisation of petty offences.

The target countries in 2025 were Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique and South Africa as well as regional engagements with existing networks and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. Key outputs are: fact sheets, peer reviewed articles, research reports, op-eds, webinars, expert inputs, workshops and workshop reports, website material and policy engagements.

Prominent activities

Advocacy and dissemination

ACJR's advocacy work over the period reflects a strategic, multi-level engagement with governance, criminal justice, and human rights systems, combining formal submissions, high-level convenings, and sustained participation in policy and reform processes.

At the national level, advocacy focused strongly on influencing legislative and institutional reform. This included formal submissions to Parliament on the National State Enterprises Bill, as well as targeted inputs into politically significant processes such as the appointment of the National Director of Public Prosecutions. Additional submission, such as to the parliamentary Ad Hoc Committee investigating allegations against senior police leadership, and correspondence with provincial executives on police resource allocation, demonstrate a willingness to intervene directly in contentious and high-stakes accountability issues. These engagements position ACJR as an active participant in shaping oversight, accountability, and governance frameworks in South Africa.

Progress was also made to address the underutilisation of debarment of service providers by the state as a tool to combat procurement-related corruption in South Africa, despite its clear potential to exclude dishonest suppliers and protect public funds. The research, presented in a widely disseminated factsheet, demonstrated significant gaps in the legal framework and implementation, including low and inconsistent referrals to the national database and weak enforcement. By providing

an accessible, evidence-based analysis, the project has supported more informed engagement on procurement reform and accountability, and has informed ongoing dialogue with stakeholders in government, oversight bodies, and civil society on strengthening the use of debarment as a practical anti-corruption mechanism.

At the regional and international levels, the project extended its advocacy through engagement with continental and global platforms. A written statement was submitted to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights at its 85th Ordinary Session in October, recommending the reform of colonial-era penal laws, alignment of national laws with international human rights standards, and greater participation of affected groups in policy-making. During the session, ACJR Researcher Janelle Mangwanda was a panellist at a side event on community-based paralegals and access to justice in Africa, contributing to regional discussions on strengthening justice systems for marginalised communities. This work was particularly focused on criminalisation, access to justice, and the impact of exceptional laws, with the project both contributing to and convening dialogues in Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire and Mozambique.

ACJR continues to play an active role in the Campaign to Decriminalise Poverty and Status. In January, ACJR Researcher Janelle Mangwanda participated in the South Asia Convening in Colombo, Sri Lanka, which marked the launch of the regional campaign and brought together researchers, activists, and civil society organisations working on the criminalisation of poverty, informality, and status offences. The convening is expected to strengthen regional collaboration and support expanded advocacy and research in the region.

ACJR hosted an online webinar to launch the report 'Comparative study and findings on the impact of criminal, security and other exceptional laws and policies in select Francophone and Lusophone countries (Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire and Mozambique)'. The webinar was well attended with participants from civil society, academia, and the criminal justice sector, and provided a platform to present the study's findings, strengthen regional dialogue, and promote discussions on legal and policy reform.

In December, ACJR Researcher Janelle Mangwanda was a panellist at the 2025 European Union NGO Human Rights Forum on Non-Discrimination in Brussels, Belgium, where she presented research on the impact of criminal and security laws in select African countries and contributed to international human rights discussions on criminalisation and non-discrimination.

ACJR continues to maintain partnerships with international organisations in several African countries including Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, and Mozambique. These partnerships support joint research,

knowledge exchange, and regional advocacy on criminal justice reform, strengthening the Institute's relevance and credibility across Africa.

A central feature of the advocacy approach was the use of research-driven dissemination. The Institute actively translated research into policy-relevant formats through workshops, validation processes, and public webinars. The comparative study on the impact of criminal and security laws served as a key advocacy vehicle, underpinning multiple engagements across Africa and internationally. Similarly, policy-oriented discussions on the National Prosecuting Authority, specialised commercial crime courts, and anti-corruption capacity ensured that research findings were directly inserted into ongoing reform debates.

Convening and networks

The project also played an important convening role, hosting a series of webinars and in-person forums that brought together academics, practitioners, and policymakers. Notably, the "Forum on the Future of the South African National Prosecuting Authority" and thematic webinars on the National Director of Public Prosecutions appointment and prosecutorial ethics created spaces for critical reflection on institutional performance and reform trajectories.

The ACJR brought together academics from around the country to discuss the need for reform of the legislation for the National Prosecuting Authority in line with section 179(4) of the Constitution, which requires that national legislation ensure that the prosecuting authority is able to act without fear, favour or prejudice. ACJR developed a draft Bill for discussion purposes and this formed the basis of discussion. This academic group agreed on the need for reform and committed to working towards building academic and public pressure on the Minister and government toward drafting amendments to be tabled in Parliament, to enhance the National Prosecuting Authority. Members of this group continue to respond to current affairs relating to the National Prosecuting Authority and at every opportunity call for reform of the legislation. The group agreed that broader civil society be brought in to the campaign.

In late 2025, after ACJR and civil society had been calling for an urgent transparent process to select a new National Director of Public Prosecutions, the President announced a ministerial panel to undertake the task at the last possible moment. ACJR made a submission to the panel and also wrote opinion-editorials and took press interviews. In these it was pointed out that the advertisement for the National Director of Public Prosecutions position inserted requirements not in law, which had the effect of excluding advocates in private practice from the short list. It was further submitted that the candidate rumoured to be government's favourite, did not meet the requirement in law that the

National Director of Public Prosecutions have right of appearance in all courts of the Republic. Ultimately, the panel did not recommend *any* of the candidates interviewed. The submission may have influenced this decision. The President proceeded to appoint Jan Lekgoa (Andy) Mothibi, former head of the Special Investigating Unit, as National Director of Public Prosecutions in early 2026 and in his first public appearance new National Director of Public Prosecutions Mothibi called for legislative reform of the National Prosecuting Authority Act.

ACJR has petitioned for the National Prosecuting Authority to take on outside expertise in important matters. This is only possible via ministerial approval in terms of section 38 of the National Prosecuting Authority Act. In the *Morodai Cholota* matter in the Constitutional Court on the matter of extradition, the National Prosecuting Authority hired five Senior Counsel who successfully argued the matter. This was a crucial matter as it sets precedent and will have an impact on all extraditions.

Finally, advocacy was supported by strategic participation in professional and editorial networks, including continued representation on the editorial board of *South African Crime Quarterly* (Prof Muntingh) and Dr Redpath serves on the Civilian Oversight Committee for the City of Cape Town as well as the Provincial Oversight Committee advising the Premier. These roles contribute to shaping the discourse and sustaining influence within key knowledge and policy communities.

Overall, the advocacy outputs demonstrate a coherent and layered strategy by combining formal submissions, research dissemination, international engagement, and convening power to influence policy, strengthen accountability, and advance justice sector reform.

Litigation

ACJR's provision of expertise over the period reflects a deep and sustained engagement with both strategic litigation and policy-facing advisory work, particularly in relation to policing, criminal justice reform, and constitutional rights.

A key strand of this work was participation in litigation, where the Institute (representing UWC) entered as *amicus curiae* in a matter concerning the decriminalisation of sex work. Its admission in proceedings before the Cape High Court underscores its role in contributing independent, research-based legal arguments to cases with far-reaching human rights implications. This involvement positions the Institute at the centre of evolving constitutional debates on equality, dignity, and criminalisation.

ACJR also played a significant role in the implementation and oversight dimensions of litigation, particularly in the *Social Justice Coalition* case on policing. A remedial hearing in the Social Justice

Coalition matter (*SJC & Others vs Minister of Police and others*, Equality Court Case Number EC 3/2016) was held in May 2025 following the order of court that the respondents consult on their resource allocation method (Theoretical Human Resource Requirement) and adjust it appropriately. Pursuant to that hearing, the SAPS provided to the applicants new data on the distribution of police resources in the Western Cape. ACJR, which has provided the expert evidence in the matter throughout, analysed the data in order to determine whether there has been significant change since the finding of the court in 2018 that there was inequality in the distribution of police resources and the Theoretical Human Resource Requirement must be adjusted (which finding was based on ACJR analysis of SAPS data). While analysis of the data revealed some adjustment by the SAPS in favour of high murder rate areas on the Cape Flats, unfortunately the overall finding that per capita allocations are in general *lower* in high murder rate areas than in low murder rate areas, continues to persist. ACJR provided this analysis for the applicants' minute for the remedial hearing. Judge Erasmus, who is responsible for case management of the matter, opened the hearing by expressing concern over how long it has been since the 2018 judgment and the 2023 order without any real progress. The applicants informed the judge that although the parties have met on a number of occasions, two fundamental issues remained. Firstly, that the applicants were of the view that discrimination persists whereas the respondents are of the view that the revised Theoretical Human Resource Requirement addressed this. Secondly, the applicants were not satisfied that the respondents have engaged with interested parties or the public and that, therefore, do not agree that the respondents were complying with the original court order.

Judge Erasmus indicated that it is possible for the Equality Court to make a further order to outline the steps going forward, including public participation. A further meeting during which the parties will present what they think are the outstanding issues is needed. Subsequently, the applicants have tried to secure such a directions meeting, but no date was obtained. In late 2025 the respondents requested an extension until mid-2026 to complete the necessary public participation process. No such process appears to have commenced as at the time of writing.

Expertise

ACJR worked on a detailed report covering the mandates and financing of anti-corruption entities, for the National Council Against Corruption in support of the latter's brief to make recommendations to the President. This report pointed out anomalies in funding and mandate. This may have influenced the increased resourcing provided to the Investigating Directorate Against Corruption within the National Prosecuting Authority during 2025.

In August, ACJR released an extensive three-country research study report authored by Janelle Mangwanda in collaboration with in-country partner organisations ACAT Côte d'Ivoire, Burundi Bridges to Justice, and REFORMAR in Mozambique. The report titled *Comparative Study and Findings on the Impact of Criminal, Security and other Exceptional Laws and Policies in Select Francophone and Lusophone Countries (Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire and Mozambique)*, provides a comparative analysis and policy recommendations aimed at supporting criminal justice reform in the African region. The report contributes to policy and law reform debates, strengthens engagement between civil society and government stakeholders, and serves as a resource for researchers, policymakers, and advocacy organisations working on criminal justice and human rights in Africa.

Overall, the activities reflect a multidimensional expertise function: combining strategic litigation support, empirical analysis, and policy advisory engagement. The Institute operates at the intersection of law, data, and institutional reform, contributing not only to judicial outcomes but also to broader debates on policing, accountability, and the governance of public safety in South Africa.

Media

The project maintained a highly visible and sustained media presence over the reporting period, with extensive engagement across print, online, radio, television, and podcast platforms.

Media work was dominated by expert commentary on the National Prosecuting Authority, including the appointment of the National Director of Public Prosecutions, prosecutorial performance, and high-profile cases and inquiries. Staff were repeatedly called upon to interpret developments relating to the Madlanga Commission, the suspension and scrutiny of senior prosecutorial figures, and broader questions of accountability within the justice system. This consistent presence positioned the Institute as a key public authority on prosecutorial governance.

A second major theme was policing and public safety, including police resource allocation, crime trends, vigilante violence, and the functioning of specialised units such as the Political Killings Task Team. Commentary also extended to emerging and contested policy issues, such as the role of crime wardens, bail laws, and the devolution of policing powers, demonstrating the Institute's ability to engage with both structural and immediate dimensions of crime and security.

The Institute also contributed to public debate on criminal justice reform and legal processes, including alternative dispute resolution mechanisms within the National Prosecuting Authority, parole administration, and responses to high-profile criminal cases. These engagements often involved translating complex legal and institutional issues into accessible analysis for a broad audience.

Importantly, the volume and frequency of appearance - particularly on major national platforms such as eNCA, Newzroom Afrika, SABC, and leading print outlets - indicate a responsive media strategy, with the Institute providing timely commentary on unfolding events. This was complemented by more reflective contributions, including opinion pieces and in-depth interviews.

Overall, the media outputs reflect a strong public-facing role, with the project shaping national discourse on criminal justice, policing, and governance. Its contributions enhanced public understanding of complex issues while reinforcing its position as a trusted and regularly consulted expert voice in the media landscape.

REFORMAR in Mozambique

REFORMAR (Research for Mozambique) further consolidated its role as a specialised civil society organisation focused on criminal justice reform, human rights, and legal policy development in Mozambique. During the year, the organisation undertook targeted research, institutional training, and public advocacy initiatives addressing key challenges within the justice sector, including criminal law reform, prison monitoring, juvenile justice, and access to justice for vulnerable populations. Particular attention was given to the rights of women deprived of liberty, children in conflict with the law, and young people affected by criminal justice interventions.

A central area of collaboration with ACJR was a joint research project examining the impact of criminal, security, and exceptional laws and policies in Mozambique (2000–2024). The study analysed the practical effects of legal instrument - such as anti-terrorism legislation, public security measures, and exceptional legal provision - on civic freedoms, political participation, freedom of expression, and the protection of fundamental rights. It paid particular attention to contexts involving social protest, political dissent, and vulnerable communities, and assessed how these legal frameworks have shaped the functioning of democratic institutions and access to justice.

In addition, REFORMAR remained actively engaged in national legal reform processes by providing technical input into legislative debates, supporting professional training for magistrates, lawyers, prison officials, and other justice sector actors, and promoting evidence-based advocacy to strengthen accountability within the criminal justice system. Through these interventions, the organisation continued to advance a rights-based approach to justice reform, with an emphasis on institutional transparency, legal safeguards, and the protection of constitutional freedoms.

Assessing impact

ACJR's impact over the reporting period is evident in both tangible policy shifts and recognition of its research in high-level decision-making processes, as well as its contribution to longer-term reform trajectories in the region.

A key example is the project's sustained involvement in the Social Justice Coalition litigation on police resource allocation. While progress in implementation has been slow, the case itself rests on research evidence produced by ACJR, which formed the basis of the original court finding and continues to shape the remedial process. The ongoing reliance on this evidence underscores the direct link between the project's research, litigation support, and efforts to secure more equitable service delivery in high-crime areas.

At the national policy level, the project's influence is reflected in the uptake of its research by the National Anti-Corruption Advisory Council, where a full Institute report informed recommendations submitted to the Presidency. This inclusion signals a high degree of credibility and demonstrates the Institute's role in shaping anti-corruption strategy and governance reform. It also appears to have contributed to subsequent attention to the resourcing and mandate of key anti-corruption bodies.

It was our submission that the National State Enterprises Bill, as tabled in Parliament, would contradict what the Zondo Commission recommended; being centralisation instead of decentralisation. ACJR and others argued against this and it appears that at least for the time being that the Bill is on ice.

ACJR has also played a visible role in shaping governance processes related to the National Prosecuting Authority. Its submissions, public commentary, and media engagement during the appointment process for the National Director of Public Prosecutions raised concerns about procedural and legal compliance, contributing to wider scrutiny of the process and reinforcing the importance of transparency and adherence to statutory requirements.

At a broader, regional level, the Institute's contribution to long-term criminal justice reform is reflected in its sustained partnerships and the public commemoration of the 10th anniversary of REFORMAR in Mozambique. This milestone highlights a decade of engagement in advancing human rights and justice sector reform, positioning the Institute as a key actor within regional reform networks.

Finally, the Institute's consistent media presence has amplified its impact by shaping public discourse on criminal justice, policing, and governance. Regular engagement across major platforms has ensured that its research and policy positions inform both public understanding and policy debate.

Overall, these examples demonstrate a clear pathway from research and expertise to real-world change, encompassing immediate policy influence, contributions to national governance processes, and enduring regional impact.

Publications

Selected key publications include:

Book

Lorizzo T, 'Uma Década de Justiça Criminal e Direitos Humanos: A Trajetória da REFORMAR (2015–2025)'.

Chapter

Mangwanda J and Mangwanda M (2025) 'Conflict and poverty in the Eastern region of the Democratic Republic of Congo and the socio-economic challenges faced by Congolese women' in Durojaye E, Mirugi-Mukundi G, Iyi J and Assim U.M (eds) *Conflict and Poverty in Africa: A Research Companion* (Routledge) pp. 103-125.

Reports

Mangwanda J et al., 'Comparative study and findings on the impact of criminal, security and other exceptional laws and policies in select Francophone and Lusophone countries (Burundi, Cote d'Ivoire and Mozambique)'. (2025)

Muntingh L and Redpath J, 'The National Prosecuting Authority Directives for Corporate Alternative Dispute Resolution (CADRe)'. (2025)

Redpath J, 'Critique of the NACAC Mid-Term Report' for National anti-corruption advisory council (NACAC). (2025)

Redpath J, 'Options for Reform: Appointing the National Director of Public Prosecutions in South Africa'. (2025)

Redpath J, 'Policy Brief on Plea and Sentence Agreement in Corruption'. (2025)

Redpath J, 'The record thus far: The Specialised Commercial Crime Courts' ACJR Research Report. (October 2025)

Fact sheets

Muntingh L, 'The debarment (or blacklisting) of individuals and companies in South Africa', Fact sheet 30 (2025).

Redpath J, 'Local Government and Crime Prevention', Fact sheet 4. (2025)

Op-eds

Redpath J, 'A broken system: Why the NPA's reform is urgent' News24. (8 April 2025)

Muntingh L, 'We need to go back to the drawing board on NPA Act' News24. (23 April 2025)

Muntingh L, 'Impunity is eating away at Constitution' News24. (22 May 2025)

Muntingh L, 'Establishing an advisory panel to pick NPA head would raise the bar' BusinessDay. (26 June 2025)

Redpath J, 'State capture accountability - progress under a changing NPA' News24. (2 July 2025)

Redpath J, 'Lack of transparency in police budget risks SA's fight against corruption' News24. (2 July 2025)

Redpath J, 'Cracks in the shield: Is this the SAPS' turning point?' News24. (11 July 2025)

Redpath, J 'SA's state capture legacy: The Hawks are fighting corruption with one hand tied' News24. (5 September 2025)

Muntingh L, 'Deliberate neglect or political design? Govt's evasion of SOE reform' News24. (9 September 2025)

Redpath J, 'How the Political Killings Task Team burned millions while KZN murder rate exploded' News24. (13 October 2025)

Redpath J, 'The danger of he said, she said evidence at the Madlanga Commission' News24. (6 November 2025)

Muntingh L, Commissioned by ACJR: David Capel - 'When giving evidence in court could cost you your life' GroundUp. (14 November 2025)

Muntingh L, Commissioned by ACJR: David Capel - 'Why magistrates are protesting', GroundUp. (17 November 2025)

Redpath J, 'Fielding the same candidate in multiple wards is a kind of fraud' Daily Maverick. (18 November 2025)

Muntingh L, 'At the NPA the sign reads: 'Do Not Disturb'' News24. (18 November 2025)

Redpath J, 'Executive experience over litigation? How the NDPP job advert got it wrong' News24. (3 December 2025)

Muntingh L, 'The NDPP that we want' News24. (8 December 2025)

Redpath J, 'How keeping the lights on relates to the murder rate' Business Day. (12 December 2025)

AGM FINANCIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

(For the year ended December 2025)

Overview

The financial performance of the DOI for the year ended December 2025 reflects a stable position. Total income amounted to R21,316,601, while total expenditure was R19,610,336, resulting in a net surplus of R1,706,265.

This surplus contributes to an accumulated fund balance of R22,258,170, indicating a strong and sustainable financial position.

Income

Total income increased to R21.3 million in 2025, driven by a combination of existing and new funding streams. Key contributors include:

- A new two-year Mott Foundation grant valued at approximately R4.2 million
- New donor funding from the Millennium Trust (R1.9 million)
- African Children Charter Project (ACCP) (R1.9 million)
- Funding from the Canadian Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI) (R700,000)
- Additional smaller contributions, including consultancy work through SALGA and income from the PGDIP programme

In addition, the DOI received a significant contribution from the Law Faculty amounting to **R4,977,561**.

It is important to note that:

- These Law Faculty contributions do not flow through the DOI ledgers
- They are disclosed for completeness and transparency
- They represent direct support towards DOI salary costs

The DOI would like to formally acknowledge and express its sincere gratitude to the Dean for this generous contribution, which plays a vital role in supporting the sustainability of the programme.

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year amounted to R19.6 million, reflecting the operational costs required to deliver on programme objectives.

Variance (2025 vs 2024)

Several line items reflected notable increases due to project activity and funding cycles:

- Salaries: Increased by 1%, with no new appointments during the year
- Stationery: Increased by 62%, mainly due to workshop-related materials
- Travel & Accommodation: Increased by 200%, driven by:
 - Close-out activities for four projects
 - Attendance at African Commission -The Gambia
 - Participation of delegates -Rwanda for author's workshop
 - Hosting of the African School on Decentralisation (ASD) Conference (SARChI)
- Printing & Publications: Increased by 81%, due to finalisation and publication of project reports
- Subscriptions & Books: Increased by 86%, largely due to website upgrades
- Workshops & Meetings: Increased by 325%, reflecting:
 - Increased funding activity
 - Partner close-out meetings
 - Monitoring and outcome harvesting workshops
- Catering for Meetings: Increased by 260%, due to:
 - Increased on-campus engagements
 - DOI Memorial Lecture
 - Community leader workshops

These increases are aligned with programme activity and project completion requirements during the year.

Surplus and Financial Position

The net surplus of R1.7 million reflects prudent financial management and controlled expenditure.

The accumulated surplus remains strong at R22.2 million, demonstrating the organisation's ability to sustain its operations and meet its strategic commitments.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

DULLAH OMAR INSTITUTE - UWC			
Income and Expenditure Statements			
	<u>2025</u>		<u>2024</u>
INCOME	R		R
Funders	R	21 316 601	R 14 163 920
University of the Western Cape -Law Faculty			
2 x Professorial posts - R 2 254 000			
Law Faculty-SARChI- R1 452 500			
Law Faculty- Administrator's Salaries -R661 381			
Law Faculty -Director & Deputy Savings-R609 680			
Law Faculty -Total Contribution-R4 977 561			
Premises, Utilities & IT			
TOTAL INCOME	R	21 316 601	R 14 163 920
EXPENDITURE			
Salaries	R	9 418 238	R 9 317 962
Stationery	R	41 908	R 25 746
Photocopying	R	10 667	R 14 424
Postage & Distribution	R	15 434	R 24 608
Telephone	R	16 834	R 18 810
Travel & Accommodation	R	3 829 556	R 1 185 541
Printing & Publications	R	166 312	R 91 831
Subscriptions & Books	R	155 035	R 82 953
Audit Fees	R	-	R -
Workshops / Meetings	R	295 783	R 69 571
Consultation Fees	R	1 555 780	R 1 641 311
Sundry Expense	R	46 731	R 10 398
Post-Graduate Bursaries	R	1 865 239	R 1 425 836
Conferences & Seminars	R	1 124 934	R 712 813
Research	R	136 000	R 67 327
Website & Social Media	R	92 949	R 38 543
Catering for Meetings & Socials	R	319 198	R 86 995
Computer Equipment (incl Maintenance)	R	278 953	R 139 732
Funders returned to donors	R	-	R -
Bank Charges	R	3 913	R 6 371
UWC Overheads	R	236 872	R 161 723
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	R	19 610 336	R 15 122 495
CLOSING BALANCE FOR YEAR	R	1 706 265	-R 958 575
Surplus carried forward from previous year	R	17 285 524	R 15 911 155
Contributions towards Salaries & Admin Cost	R	3 264 515	R 2 332 011
NET CLOSING BALANCE 31-12-2025	R	22 256 304	R 17 284 591

Approved by: L Tukwayo

Coordinator: Grants & Contracts



THE INSTITUTE'S OUTPUTS

Publications

Books

1. Durojaye E, Mirugi-Mukundi G, Iyi J and Assim U.M (eds) [*Conflict and Poverty in Africa: A Research Companion*](#) (Routledge, 2025) pp. 428.
2. Lorizzo T, 'Uma Década de Justiça Criminal e Direitos Humanos: A Trajetória da REFORMAR (2015–2025)'.
3. Steytler N (ed) [*Mont Fleur Conversations: Democracy and Development – Government by the People, for the People*](#) (Dullah Omar Institute, 2025) pp. 84.
4. Steytler N and Fombad C (eds) [*Constitutional Change and Constitutionalism in Africa*](#) (Oxford University Press, 2025) pp. 496.
5. Steytler N, De Visser J, Wright J and Stevens C, *Local Government Law of South Africa* Issue 17.

Chapters in books

1. De Visser J and Steytler N (2025) 'The public administrations of provinces and municipalities in South Africa: The trends towards centralisation' in Faerber G (ed) *Unity and Diversity of Civil Service in Federal and Unitary/Decentralized Countries* (Nomos) pp. 190-204.
2. De Visser J, Chigwata T and Steytler N (2025) '[Confronting territorial inequality among South African municipalities: Challenges to the fiscal equalisation system](#)' in Erkoreka M (ed) *Fiscal Federalism and Equalisation Transfers: Balancing Regional Autonomy and Solidarity* (Brill) pp. 206-228.
3. Durojaye E, Mirugi-Mukundi G, Iyi J and Assim U.M (2025) 'Exploring the link between conflict and poverty in Africa' in Durojaye E, Mirugi-Mukundi G, Iyi J and Assim U.M (eds) [*Conflict and Poverty in Africa: A Research Companion*](#) (Routledge) pp. 1-12.
4. Mangwanda J and Mangwanda M (2025) 'Conflict and poverty in the Eastern region of the Democratic Republic of Congo and the socio-economic challenges faced by Congolese women' in Durojaye E, Mirugi-Mukundi G, Iyi J and Assim U.M (eds) [*Conflict and Poverty in Africa: A Research Companion*](#) (Routledge) pp. 103-125.
5. Steytler N, Ayele Z.A, and Gichana H.P (2025) '[Making and Amending Federal Constitutions in Africa](#)' in Fombad C.M and Steytler N (eds) *Constitutional Change and Constitutionalism in Africa* (Oxford University Press) pp. 117–152.

6. Steytler N and Fombad C.M (2025) [‘General Introduction: Constitutional Change and Constitutionalism in Africa’](#) in Fombad C.M and Steytler N (eds) *Constitutional Change and Constitutionalism in Africa* (Oxford University Press) pp. 9–24.

Peer reviewed articles

1. Assim U.M and Adeyemo D.D, [‘Autocratic legalism through anti-corruption strategies and agencies: A case study of Nigeria’](#) *Journal of Anti-Corruption Law* (2025) Vol. 9(1) pp. 27-42.
2. Lorizzo T, Nhantumbo I.S and Sigaúque L, [‘Desafios e perspectivas do encarceramento feminino em Moçambique: Uma abordagem Jurídico-Social’](#) [Challenges and Perspectives of Female incarceration in Mozambique: A Socio-Legal Approach] *Sortuz: Oñati Journal of Emergent Socio-legal Studies* (2025) Vol. 15(2) pp. 577–602.
3. Nanima R.D and Mezmur B.D, [‘The normative dilemma\(s\) in the African human rights system and its effects on the development of human rights jurisprudence: A focus on the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights and the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child’](#) *Stellenbosch Law Review* (2025) Vol 36(2) pp. 235-268.
4. Nkrumah B, Durojaye E, Assim U.M, [‘Earthjustice: The role of the African regional human rights system in containing climate change’](#) *The Journal of African Policy Studies* (2025) Vol. 31(1) pp. 133-166.
5. Omoruyi A.J and Durojaye E, [‘Misleading Marketing of Unhealthy Foods and Beverages to Children in South Africa as a Consumer Protection Issue’](#) *Journal of Consumer Policy* (2025) Vol. 48 pp. 105–131.
6. Omoruyi A.J, Knipe P and Durojaye, E, [‘Preventing diet-related non-communicable diseases in South Africa: A rights-based approach to improving health outcomes through food and nutrition security’](#) *South African Journal on Human Rights* (2025) Vol. 40(3–4) pp. 245-267.
7. Wright J, [‘Improving Legislative Protection for Whistleblowers of Corruption in South African Municipalities’](#) *South African Public Law* (2025) Vol. 40 (1) pp. 1-35.
8. Wright J, *Juta's Quarterly Review of South African Law: Local Government Law*, 2025(1).
9. Wright J, *Juta's Quarterly Review of South African Law: Local Government Law*, 2025(2).
10. Wright J, *Juta's Quarterly Review of South African Law: Local Government Law*, 2025(3).
11. Wright J, *Juta's Quarterly Review of South African Law: Local Government Law*, 2025(4).

Newsletters

1. [ESR Review, Volume 26, Issue 1, 2025](#) (Special issue on Food Justice and diet-related non-communicable diseases)

2. ESR Review, Volume 26, Issue 2, 2025 (Special issue on Food Justice and diet-related non-communicable diseases)
3. ESR Review, Volume 26, Issue 3, 2025 (Special issue on Food Justice and diet-related non-communicable diseases)
4. ESR Review, Volume 26, Issue 4, 2025 (Special issues on gender-based poverty, women and housing)
5. [Local Government Bulletin, Volume 20, Issue 1, March 2025.](#)
6. [Local Government Bulletin, Volume 20, Issue 2, June 2025.](#)
7. [Local Government Bulletin, Volume 20, Issue 3, September 2025](#)
8. [Local Government Bulletin, Volume 20, Issue 4, November/December 2025](#)

Research reports

Africa Criminal Justice Reform (ACJR)

1. Mangwanda J et al., '[Comparative study and findings on the impact of criminal, security and other exceptional laws and policies in select Francophone and Lusophone countries \(Burundi, Cote d'Ivoire and Mozambique\)](#)'. (2025)
2. Muntingh L and Redpath J, '[The National Prosecuting Authority Directives for Corporate Alternative Dispute Resolution \(CADRe\)](#)'. (2025)
3. Redpath J, 'Critique of the NACAC Mid-Term Report' for National Anti-Corruption Advisory Council. (2025)
4. Redpath J and O'Donovan M, Interactive diagram on prioritisation of cases within criminal justice system.
5. Redpath J, '[Options for Reform: Appointing the National Director of Public Prosecutions in South Africa](#)'. (2025)
6. Redpath J, 'Policy Brief on Plea and Sentence Agreement in Corruption'. (2025)
7. Redpath J, 'Strengthening Law Enforcement Agencies in Combating Corruption: Mandates and Resourcing' Interim Report for National Anti-Corruption Advisory Council (NACAC). (24 April 2025)
8. Redpath J, 'Strengthening Law Enforcement Agencies in Combating Corruption: Mandates and Resourcing' Final Report for National Anti-Corruption Advisory Council. (28 May 2025)
9. Redpath J, 'The record thus far: The Specialised Commercial Crime Courts' ACJR Research Report. (October 2025)

SARChI and Multilevel Government Project (MLG)

10. Stevens C, Chigwata T.C, De Visser J, Steytler N, Ziswa M and Wright J, 'SALGA Proposals on the review of the White Paper on local government' Prepared for the South African Local Government Association. (30 June 2025)
11. Wright J, Muntingh L, Redpath J and Mhodi P, The South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) ['Policy Brief: How to address systemic sabotage of essential water infrastructure'](#).

Socio-Economic Rights Project (SERP)

12. Akanbi F, 'Policy Brief: Obstetric Violence in Africa: Human Rights and Accountability in Maternal Health Care', Commissioned by SERP. (2025)
13. Kangaude G, 'Laws and policies relating to the sexual and reproductive health and rights of young people in Eswatini and Malawi', Commissioned by SERP. (2025)
14. Kangaude G, 'Policy Brief: Breaking Barriers: Advancing Young People's Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Eswatini', Commissioned by SERP. (2025)
15. Kangaude G, 'Policy Brief: Unlocking Youth Potential in Malawi by Strengthening Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights', Commissioned by SERP. (2025)
16. Knipe P, ['Policy Brief: Strengthening Public Food Procurement for Non-Communicable Disease Prevention in South Africa: A National Responsibility and Opportunity'](#). (2025)
17. Nkomo S, 'Laws and policies relating to the sexual and reproductive health and rights of young people in Seychelles', Commissioned by SERP. (2025)
18. Nkomo S, 'Policy Brief: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights: Laws and Policies for Young People in Seychelles', Commissioned by SERP. (2025)
19. Omoruyi A.J, 'Combating Obstetric Violence in Africa: Human Rights, Dignity and Accountability in Maternal Health Care' Research report on Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, and Nigeria. (2025)
20. SERP, (with KELIN, African Population and Health Research Center and Center for Human Rights) ['In-Depth Case Analysis on the Decision of The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in Community Law Centre and Others \(On Behalf of The Five Victims\) v Federal Republic of Nigeria \(Communication 564 of 2015\)'](#). (2025)

Advocacy materials

1. Kangaude G, 'Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights: Laws and Policies for Young People in Malawi', Commissioned by SERP. (2025)

2. Kangaude G, 'Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights: Laws and Policies for Young People in Eswatini', Commissioned by SERP. (2025)
3. Nduku J, 'Combating Obstetric Violence in Africa: Human Rights and Accountability in Maternal Health Care (Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria)', Commissioned by SERP. (2025)
4. Nkomo S, 'Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights: Laws and Policies for Young People in Seychelles', Commissioned by SERP. (2025)

Submissions

1. Assim U.M, Annual review and planning meeting. HRDA Council of Directors Meeting (with DL Gordon, for DOI). (8 December 2025)
2. Assim U.M, Submission made at the 46th Ordinary Session of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. (26-30 November 2025)
3. Chigwata T.C, Contributed to a joint civil society submission coordinated by Kagiso Trust to COGTA on the review of the White Paper on Local Government.
4. Mangwanda J, Submission on behalf of the Dullah Omar Institute to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights at the 85th Ordinary Session.
5. Mezmur B.D, Submission made to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on children with disabilities and climate change to the UN Call for Input for the report on best practices, challenges and lessons learned concerning integrated approaches to the promotion and protection of human rights and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the global level. (Online, 30 June 2025)
6. Muntingh L and Redpath J, Submission made to the panel appointed by the President to select the National Director of Public Prosecutions. (4 December 2025)
7. Muntingh L and Wandrag R, Submission by the Dullah Omar Institute to the National Assembly Portfolio Committee on Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation on the National State Enterprises Bill [B1 – 2024].
8. Redpath J, Submission to Premier Winde and Alderman Smith regarding discussions with Minister Cachalia on allocation of police resources and lack of compliance by the Minister with Equality Court judgement. (4 December 2025)
9. Redpath J, Submission to the Ad Hoc Committee of Parliament to investigate allegations made by Lt. Gen. Mkhwanazi. (17 October 2025)
10. MLG project: Proposals on the review of the White Paper on Local Government - Prepared for the South African Local Government Association (30 June 2025).

Capacity building

1. Ande M, Participated in the African Children's Charter Project Monitoring and Evaluation Training (with Assim U.M) for the Children's Rights Project. (Addis Ababa, 17-20 November 2025)
2. Ande M, Participated in the Symposium on Litigating Children's Rights before the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. (6-7 October 2025)
3. Ande M, Respondent and session chair at the Faculty of Law, University of the Western Cape, 29th Doctoral Colloquium. (Online, 24-25 July 2025)
4. Ande M, Session Chair at the Faculty of Law, University of the Western Cape, 30th Doctoral Colloquium. (Online, 23-24 October 2025)
5. Assim U.M, Global Classroom 2025 on Business, The Environment and Human Rights (Global Campus of Human Rights). (Bangkok, 27 October - 1 November 2025)
6. Assim U.M, International hybrid conference of the 34th Christof Heyns African Human Rights Moot Court Competition; Session Moderator: 'Theme 1: Statelessness and the exploration of the durability of citizenship and migrants' right to political participation and protests'. (Pretoria, 30 June 2025)
7. Assim U.M, Monitoring and Evaluation of DOI within the framework of the African Children's Charter Project (with CRP/DOI Staff). (13-14 October 2025)
8. Assim U.M, Panellist LLD Proposal Defence (University of Pretoria) 'Law and Policy Interventions towards ending sexual exploitation of boys in South Africa'. (Online, 31 July 2025)
9. Assim U.M, Respondent and session chair at the Faculty of Law, University of the Western Cape, 29th Doctoral Colloquium. (Online, 24-25 July 2025)
10. Assim U.M, Respondent at the Faculty of Law, University of the Western Cape, 30th Doctoral Colloquium. (Online, 23 October 2025)
11. Assim U.M, SERP Book Project Authors' Workshop, 'Guidance on writing (abstract, plagiarism, referencing, etc.). (21-22 November 2025)
12. Beukes J, Participated in the Postgraduate Research Supervision Workshop and received certificate of attendance. (University of the Western Cape, 14 - 17 July 2025)
13. Wright J, Respondent at the Faculty of Law, University of the Western Cape, 29th Doctoral Colloquium. (Online, 25 July 2025)

Conference hosted

1. Dullah Omar Institute, 15th Dullah Omar Memorial Lecture. (University of the Western Cape, 21 October 2025)

Workshops, seminars and webinars hosted

1. CRP, Co-hosted (with the Center for International Law and Policy in Africa, Human Rights Program at Harvard Law School, the Global Environmental Law Centre at the University of the Western Cape and the Centre for International Law at the National University of Singapore) the 2nd Symposium on African Perspectives on International Climate Change Law. (University of the Western Cape, 7-8 April 2025)
2. SARChI, Hosted (with Prof Philippe) Seminar on 'New Challenges for constitutionalism, fundamental rights, and risks to democracy in the first 100 days of the Trump, Vance, and Musk administration in the United States'. (University of the Western Cape, 16 April 2025)
3. SERP, Hosted the webinar on Combating obstetric violence in Africa: human rights, dignity and accountability in maternal health care. (Online, 27 May 2025)
4. SERP, Co-hosted (with KELIN, Centre for Human Rights and African Population and Health Research Center) a webinar on 'Understanding the decision of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in Communication 564 of 2015: Community Law Centre & Others (on behalf of five victims) v. Federal Republic of Nigeria'. (Online, 28 May 2025)
5. SERP, Hosted the webinar Unpacking deception: How misleading food marketing targets children and the role of the Consumer Protection Act 2008. (Online, 10 June 2025)
6. Steytler N, Conceived and co-organised a workshop, Eurac Research Democracy Dialogues: 'Conversations on post-conflict federalism, depolarization, and democracy', Institute of Comparative Federalism, Eurac Research, Bolzano, (Bolzano, 24 June 2025)
7. ACJR, Hosted the Africa Law Enforcement and Public Health Network (ALEPHN) meeting on Law Enforcement and Public Health in Southern Africa: Cape Town workshop. (University of the Western Cape, 27 June 2025)
8. CRP, Hosted the webinar Climate Change and Children's Rights: Leveraging a Child-Rights-Based Approach. (Online, 1 July 2025)
9. CRP, Hosted a SADC regional webinar on the Children's Rights and Climate Change - under the focus on Championing Collective Child-Responsive Climate Action. (Online, 2-4 July 2025)
10. CRP, Hosted a webinar series on 'Children's Rights and Business in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities'. (Online, 17 July 2025)

11. CRP, Hosted a Community Leaders Training Workshop on Children's Rights and Climate Change: 'Championing Child-Responsive Climate Action Through Local Leadership'. (University of the Western Cape, 11 August 2025)
12. CRP, Hosted a Community Leaders Training Workshop on Children's Rights and Business: 'Centering Children's Rights and Business Principles in Community-led Business Initiatives'. (University of the Western Cape, 12 August 2025)
13. ACJR, Hosted a webinar on 'The appointment of the NDPP'. (Online, 14 August 2025)
14. ACJR, Hosted a webinar on 'Promises and Pitfalls - The NPA's Office for Ethics and Accountability under the Spotlight'. (Online, 22 August 2025)
15. ACJR, Hosted a webinar to launch the research report 'Comparative study and findings on the impact of criminal, security and other exceptional laws and policies in select Francophone and Lusophone countries (Burundi, Cote d'Ivoire and Mozambique)'. (Online, 26 August 2025)
16. SERP, Hosted the Regional Colloquium on the Role of Civil Society Organisations in Advancing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Africa. (Pretoria, 1–3 September 2025)
17. CRP, Hosted a webinar on 'Climate Change and Children's Rights: Integrating Children's Rights in the Delivery of Climate Action in Africa - Aspirations for the Africa Climate Summit'. (Online, 5 September 2025)
18. SERP, Hosted a webinar on 'Laws and Policies on Young People's Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Africa'. (Online, 11 September 2025)
19. SARChI, Hosted a seminar for the Ethiopian delegation on 'Women in Leadership: What to Expect?' (University of the Western Cape, 15 September 2025)
20. CRP, Hosted a Conversation Session on 'Disability and climate change' with Prof Jodin of McGill University for postgraduate students. (Online, 17 September 2025)
21. CRP, Hosted a Conversation Session with Mr Gehad Madi the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Migrants. (Online, 9 October 2025)
22. MLG, Co-Convened African School on Decentralisation. (Cape Town, 13 - 25 October 2025)
23. ACJR, Hosted a webinar 'The record thus far: The Specialised Commercial Crime Courts: Launch of a Policy Brief'. (Online, 16 October 2025)
24. CRP, Hosted a webinar series on Children's Rights and Business – 'Mining and the Extractive Industry in Africa: Implications for Children's Rights'. (Online, 16 October 2025)
25. SERP, Hosted a side event 'Strengthening the Role of Community-Based Paralegals in Access to Justice in Africa' at the 85th Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights ACHPR. (Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara International Conference Center, Banjul, The Gambia, 24 October 2025)

26. SERP, Hosted a webinar on 'Impact of Public Health Emergencies (PHEs) on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Services in Africa'. (Online, 30 October 2025)
27. SARChI, Hosted the Ethiopian Exchange Seminar on Women in Leadership. (University of the Western Cape, 3 November 2025)
28. CRP, Hosted a Conversation session with Dr Japhet Biegon, Advocacy Officer for Amnesty International (Online, 4 November 2025)
29. CRP, Hosted a Stakeholders' Engagement Forum on Children's Rights and Business, co-hosted with the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, African Child Policy Forum, and Plan International. (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 6-7 November 2025)
30. SERP, Hosted a webinar 'From Criminalisation to Care: Self-Managed Abortion in Africa. (Online, 11 November 2025)
31. SERP, Hosted an Authors' Workshop on Community-Based Paralegals and Access to Justice in Africa. (Kigali, Rwanda, 21–22 November 2025)
32. ACJR, Hosted a two-day meeting 'Forum on the Future of the South African NPA'. (Wynberg, 27-28 November 2025)
33. CRP, Hosted a webinar on Climate Change and Children's Rights - Are Global Climate Convenings Delivering for Children? Reflecting on the 2nd Africa Climate Summit and COP30. (Online, 2 December 2025)
34. MLG and ACJR, Hosted a workshop aimed at capacitating CSOs to participate in local government. (Saldanha Bay, 8-10 December 2025)
35. CRP, Hosted a webinar 'Toiling for Survival: Children in the Urban Informal Sector in Africa'. (Online, 9 December 2025)

Conference papers presented

1. Steytler N, 'Federalism and Democratic Backsliding: Current Perspectives' Conference Proceedings, IFF Working Paper Online No 49. (Together with Fisseha A, McCulloch A, Keil S and Oleschak-Pillai R). (Fribourg, July 2025)
2. Steytler N and Kössler K, 'The dialogical city: New notions of metropolitan governance' Presented at IACF Conference, Institute of Judicial Research, National, University of Mexico, Mexico City. (Mexico, 25 September 2025)
3. Wright J, 'Improving local governance: emerging best practices and recent developments' Presented at Wavemaker Summit 2025. (Cape Town, 27-29 March 2025)

4. Wright J, 'Judicial oversight of wastewater treatment and sewage spills: An environmental crime perspective' Presented at CSIR 12th Annual Environmental Crimes Conference, Pretoria. (Online, 24 July 2025)

Campaigns

1. Assim U.M, Attended CSO Forum and side events at the 85th Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. (Banjul, 16-21 October 2025)
2. Mirugi-Mukundi G, Participated in a Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights project monthly coalition meetings. (Online, 31 January and 26 February 2025)
3. Mirugi-Mukundi G, Participated in a Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights project monitoring and evaluation meeting. (Online, 11 February 2025)
4. Mirugi-Mukundi G, Participated in a Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights project strategic meeting with partners Initiative for Strategic Litigation in Africa, KELIN, and Dullah Omar Institute as part of the Bridging the Gap Coalition. (Cape Town, 24 - 26 March 2025)
5. Mirugi-Mukundi G, Participated in the African Children's Charter Project Management Committee project partners meeting. (Online, 20 February; 20 March 2025)
6. Mirugi-Mukundi G, Participated in the annual 2025 Global Food Policy Programme meeting organised by Bloomberg Philanthropies. (New York, 31 March - 4 April 2025)
7. Mirugi-Mukundi G, Participated in the South Africa Food Policy Partners Strategic Planning Meeting hosted by HEALA. (Johannesburg, 10 - 14 March 2025)
8. Mirugi-Mukundi G, SERP participated in the monthly coalition partners' project meeting with Initiative for Strategic Litigation in Africa and KELIN to review progress on the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Africa project. (Online, 1 October 2025)

Court cases

1. Muntingh L, Dullah Omar Institute (ACJR) admitted as amicus in the Cape High Court in S.H & SWEAT v Minister of Justice and S.H. & Another / The Minister of Justice and Correctional Services & Others (CASE NO: 9229/24).
2. Redpath J, Meeting with South African Police Service (SAPS) members in Remedial Hearing on the 'Social Justice Coalition & Others vs Minister of Police & Others' case. (Cape Town, 14 May 2025)
3. Redpath J, Preparation of applicant's notes in Remedial Hearing on the 'Social Justice Coalition & Others vs Minister of Police & Others'. (21 May 2025)

Legal opinions

1. De Visser J, Legal advice to Andries Vermeulen (Obs Civics) on Ward Committees. (3 February 2025)
2. De Visser J, Legal advice to City of Tshwane on Municipal Demarcation Bill. (30 April 2025)
3. De Visser J, Legal opinion on National Treasury/COGTA's draft Circular on the Implementation of Section 139 of the Constitution. (Cape Town, 11 December 2025)
4. De Visser J, Legal Opinion to Presidency's Operation Vulindlela on way forward with trading services reform. (Saldanha Bay, 11 December 2025)
5. Redpath J, Analysed new data on South African Police Service (SAPS) resources in Western Cape
6. Redpath J, Discussion with Western Cape Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety on allocation of policing powers to the province. (21 November 2025)
7. Redpath J, 'Note on Devolution of Policing for the Provincial Safety Advisory Committee'. (2025)

Degree awarded PhD/LLD

1. Annette May, Title: "The role of the courts in shaping local government service delivery towards achieving 'developmental local government' in South Africa", Supervisor: Prof Nico Steytler.
2. Bhavna Mahadew, Title: "Can the right to health provide for normative guidance to combat global pandemics? Insights from the COVID-19 pandemic in Mauritius and South Africa", Supervisor: Prof Usang Maria Assim.
3. Curtly Stevens, Title: "Towards a suitable regulatory framework for the effective performance of municipalities in South Africa", Supervisor: Prof Nico Steytler.
4. Jennica Beukes, Title: "Coalition governance in South Africa's local government: Law and practice", Supervisor: Prof Jaap de Visser, Co-supervisor: Prof Henk Kummeling.
5. Melissa Ziswa, Title: "The influence of South Africa's model of devolution in Kenya, Zimbabwe and Zambia: Why and how did the model, concepts and texts migrate?", Supervisor: Prof Nico Steytler, Co-supervisor: Prof Tinashe Chigwata.
6. Robert Omita, Title: "The right to education as a rehabilitative measure in prison in Uganda", Supervisor: Prof Jamil Mujuzi, Co-supervisor: Prof Lukas Muntingh.
7. Thabile Chonco-Spambo, Title: "One size does not fit all: An examination of the legal and policy framework for differentiated powers and functions of municipalities in South Africa", Supervisor: Prof Jaap de Visser, Co-supervisor: Prof Henk Kummeling.

Degree awarded LLM/MPhil

1. Awonke Baba, Title: "Analysis of the law regulating the declaration and publication of financial interests by senior managers in municipalities", Supervisor: Thabile Chonco-Spambo, Co-supervisor: Prof Jaap de Visser.
2. Chelesile Ndlovu-Nachamba, Title: "Does South Africa's law, policy and practice, including the Public Procurement Act 28 of 2024, enhance transparency in public procurement at municipal level?", Supervisor: Dr Curtly Stevens, Co-supervisor: Prof Jaap de Visser.
3. Francesca Visagé, Title: "An analysis of the City of Cape Town's response to street homelessness", Supervisor: Prof Tinashe Chigwata.
4. Joshua Nduku, Title: "Understanding remedies for violations of the right to development in domestic courts in Africa", Co-supervisor: Prof Usang Maria Assim.
5. Le-Ann Cupido, Title: "COVID-19 and the right to social security for self-employed and informal workers in South Africa", Supervisor: Prof Usang Maria Assim.
6. Palesa Pitso, Title: "Recidivism in South Africa: Is the South African correctional service corrective?", Supervisor: Gladys Mirugi-Mukundi.
7. Sanele Macekiswa, Title: "An analysis of South Africa's efforts to realise the right to basic education in light of COVID-19", Supervisor: Prof Usang Maria Assim, Co-supervisor: Gladys Mirugi-Mukundi.
8. Tesfamhret Haile, Title: "Means of addressing selected ultra vires actions by policy organs within the African Union", Co-supervisor: Prof Usang Maria Assim.

Diploma awarded Postgraduate Diploma in Public Law

1. Aaron Bhekuyise Bheki Shelembe
2. Andile Mbali
3. Carlo Afthon Loff
4. Damaris Kiewiets
5. Dichikane Rachel Mashego
6. Gcina Mgwali
7. Lerato Phylcia Sanny Maeko
8. Raymond Le Grange
9. Sello Alphoncinus Ntatsane
10. Thapelo Vincent Jacobs
11. Themba Andrew Makamu
12. Vuyiswa Nonhlanhla Nontando Mathaba

13. Xolani Goodman Mbali
14. Zolile Mjandana

Fact sheets, briefs and barometers

1. Chigwata T.C, Coordinated/edited the drafting of the Factsheets: *Building capacity for civil society actors to participate in local government*.
2. Chonco-Spambo T, Stevens C, 'Factsheet 3: The delivery of services' in MLG & ACJR 'Building capacity for civil society to participate in local government' session of the DOI & CFLI CSO training project.
3. Muntingh L, 'The debarment (or blacklisting) of individuals and companies in South Africa', Fact sheet 30 (2025).
4. Redpath J, 'Fact sheet 4: Local Government and Crime Prevention'. (2025)
5. Wright J, Chigwata T.C and Muntingh L, 'Factsheet 5: Anti-corruption and integrity'.

Presentations

1. Ande M, Assim U.M and Najaar S, 'DOI's activities to date and plans for 2026' Presented at the ACCP Review and Planning Meeting. (Senegal, 16-18 September 2025)
2. Assim U.M, 'Community-based paralegals and access to justice for children' Presented at the Book Project Authors' Workshop hosted by SERP. (Rwanda, 21-22 November 2025)
3. Assim U.M, Day 1 Panel/Session Moderator ('Advancing abortion rights in law and practice in Africa') - Regional Colloquium on the Role of Civil Society Organisations in Advancing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Africa. (Centurion, Pretoria, 1-3 September 2025)
4. Assim U.M, 'Impact of Climate Change on Childhood Statelessness in Africa' Presented at the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child side event on Childhood Statelessness, co-hosted by the Centre for Human Rights, Lawyers for Human Rights, and Equality Now. (Maseru, 26 November 2025)
5. Assim U.M, Panellist (Parallel Session 8) at the 27th Annual Conference of the International Education Association of South Africa on the topic - 'Democracy, Academic Freedom and Internationalisation: How Africa is providing a model for the world'. (Protea Hotel and Conference Centre, Stellenbosch, 26-29 August 2025)
6. Assim U.M, 'Strategies to address Religious and cultural opposition to Sexuality Education in Nigeria' Presented at the Regional Colloquium on the Role of Civil Society Organisations in Advancing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Africa (1-3 September 2025). (Irene Farm Lodge, Centurion, Pretoria, 2 September 2025)

7. Chigwata T.C and de Visser J, 'The governance of metropolitan regions in Africa' Presented at the International Association of Centers for Federal Studies Conference. (Mexico City, 25 September 2025)
8. Chigwata T.C, 'The nature of Local Government Institutions in Africa: state of practice' and 'Expenditure assignments: practices in Africa' Presented at the Programme on multilevel governance and Intergovernmental finance in Africa: Principles, practices, and applications to Somalia, organised by the Local Public Sector Alliance in partnership with the Dullah Omar Institute, World Bank Somalia, Nairobi (Nairobi, Kenya, 4-9 May 2025)
9. De Visser J, 'Academic Collaboration between South Africa and the Netherlands' Presented at SA Heritage Day. (Utrecht University, 4 September 2025)
10. De Visser J, Chaired webinar on 'Constituency Development Funds and Decentralization: Experiences from Kenya, Malawi, and Zambia', Local Public Sector Alliance. (Online, 17 September 2025)
11. De Visser J, 'Coalition governments: where to from here?' Presented at West Coast Wavemakers Summit. (MSC, 29 March 2025)
12. De Visser J, Panel Discussion 'Legislative Review' at SALGA National Members Assembly. (Durban, 26 November 2025)
13. De Visser J, Panel Discussion 'Structures of Government' at CASAC Conference on Constitutional Review. (Johannesburg, 3 December 2025)
14. De Visser J, Panel Discussion 'The 2026 Municipal Elections & the State of Local Government' hosted by DOI/Catholic Parliamentary Liaison Office. (Cape Town, 18 November 2025)
15. De Visser J, Panel Discussion at Department of Cooperative Governance's Launch of Review of Local Government White Paper. (Johannesburg, 19 May 2025)
16. De Visser J, 'Postgraduate Programmes at Dullah Omar Institute' Presentation at SALGA Municipal Practitioners Forum. (Online, 28 March 2025)
17. De Visser J, Steytler N, Wright J and Stevens C, Panel Discussion at Launch of the 17th Issue of the Local Government Law of South Africa. (Cape Town, 19 November 2025)
18. De Visser J, 'The Government of National Unity One Year On' Presented at the webinar on 'The Government of National Unity One year On' hosted by the Catholic Parliamentary Liaison Office and the Dullah Omar Institute. (Online, 26 June 2025)
19. Fambasayi R, 'Age of consent laws and policies in East and Southern Africa' Presented at the African Union 4th Girls Summit in Addis Ababa. (Ethiopia, 8-10 December 2025)

20. Fambasayi R, 'Climate-ECD nexus and the landscape in Africa from a regional perspective'
Presented at the East Africa Community Early Childhood Development Forum. (Online, 6-8 May 2025)
21. Fambasayi R, 'Impacts of climate change in Early Childhood Development' Presented at the session on 'Children in Crisis' at the Africa Childcare Conference at the African Union Commission Headquarters. (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 18-20 June 2025)
22. Fambasayi R, Participated and moderated in the Consultative Conference on 'Youth-led Social Accountability: Enhancing Human, Social and Youth Development for Harnessing Demographic Dividends in Southern Africa'. (Johannesburg, 23-25 July 2025)
23. Fambasayi R, 'Protecting Early Childhood Development and Education/ Early Childhood Care and Education in Emergencies' Presented at the Southern African Development Community Regional Webinar Focusing on the climate-Induced impacts to education hosted by Early Childhood Development Networks. (Online, 27 May 2025)
24. Fambasayi R, 'Research Spotlights: Evidence Speaks. Evidence-based Insights on the Structural and Cultural Dimensions of Youth Inclusion' Presented on the first day of the Alumni Conference on Youth Inclusion in Local Governance, organised by the Swedish International Centre for Local Democracy and the Centre for Urban Research and Planning, University of Zambia. (Lusaka, 7-9 October 2025)
25. Fambasayi R, 'Our Childhood: A toolbox for local governments fostering child/youth inclusion' Presented at the second day of the Alumni Conference on Youth Inclusion in Local Governance, organised by the Swedish International Centre for Local Democracy and the Centre for Urban Research and Planning, University of Zambia. (Lusaka, 7-9 October 2025)
26. Mangwanda J, 'Comparative Study and Findings on the Impact of Criminal, Security and Other Exceptional Laws and Policies in Select Francophone and Lusophone Countries (Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire and Mozambique)' Presented at the side event hosted by the Dullah Omar Institute at the 85th Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. (Banjul, Gambia, 24 October 2025)
27. Mangwanda J, 'Comparative Study and Findings on the Impact of Criminal, Security and Other Exceptional Laws and Policies in Select Francophone and Lusophone Countries (Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire and Mozambique)' Presented at the 2025 European Union NGO Human Rights Forum 'Non-Discrimination in Brussels'. (Belgium, 9-10 December 2025)
28. Mangwanda J, Facilitated Validation Workshop on Comparative study and findings on the impact of criminal, security and other exceptional laws and policies in select Francophone and

- Lusophone countries (Burundi, Cote d'Ivoire, Mozambique) hosted by Dullah Omar Institute and Burundi Bridges to Justice. (Bujumbura, Burundi, 30 May 2025)
29. Mangwanda J, Facilitated Validation Workshop on Comparative study and findings on the impact of criminal, security and other exceptional laws and policies in select Francophone and Lusophone countries (Burundi, Cote d'Ivoire, Mozambique) hosted by Dullah Omar Institute and Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture in Côte d'Ivoire. (Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, 12 June 2025)
 30. Mangwanda J, Panel speaker at Ethiopian Exchange dialogue, hosted by the SARChI Chair in Multilevel Government, Law and Development with Ethiopian women political leaders and local government officials. (University of the Western Cape, 15 September 2025)
 31. Mangwanda J, 'Stories from the Margins: Paralegals Confronting Poverty-Based Criminalisation' Presented for a book project focusing on community paralegals and participated in 'Author's workshop on the role of community-based paralegals in realising access to justice in Africa' hosted by the Social Economic Rights Project, Dullah Omar Institute. (Kigali, 21-22 November 2025)
 32. Mezmur B.D, 'Accountability for children in the context of violence' Presented at the side event of the 58th session of the Human Rights Council titled 'Ensuring accountability and action: Sustaining momentum on violence against children'. (Online, 13 March 2025)
 33. Mezmur B.D, 'Children and war' Presented at the side event of the Human Rights Council hosted by Arigatou International. (Online, 22 September 2025)
 34. Mezmur B.D, 'Children's rights and climate change in Africa' Presented at the 'Right here right now: Global Climate Summit on climate change and human rights'. (Online, 4 June 2025)
 35. Mezmur B.D, 'Combating crime against children in the digital environment' Presented at the 'Child rights and digital environment, including AI: Challenges and opportunities for children' conference hosted in Tbilisi. (Online, 11 March 2025)
 36. Mezmur B.D, 'Deep dive into the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child' Presented at a webinar on the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and joined the ESAR's Child Rights Taskforce. (Online, 25 March 2025)
 37. Mezmur B.D, Participated at the Africa Climate Pre-summit. (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 5-7 September 2025)
 38. Mezmur B.D, 'Right to Education' Presented at the Human Rights Council negotiations for the 4th Optional Protocol. (Geneva, 2-3 September 2025)

39. Mezmur B.D, 'The best interests of the child in the context of the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment' Presented at the Save the Children event on 'How to child rights'. (Online, 9 September 2025)
40. Mezmur B.D, 'The rights of children in vulnerable situations in Africa in the context of climate change' Presented at the 2nd Symposium on African Perspectives on International Climate Change Law. (University of the Western Cape, 7 April 2025)
41. Mezmur B.D, 'Equity and inclusion for children' Presented at the roundtable on "Discussions on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, what does this mean across contexts, in a practical sense?" hosted by the Toronto Metropolitan University (Online, 30 May 2025)
42. Mirugi-Mukundi G, 'A brief overview of the background and history of ACHPR Communication 564 of 2015' Presented at webinar on 'Understanding the decision of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in Communication 564 of 2015: Community Law Centre & Others (on behalf of five victims) v. Federal Republic of Nigeria'. (Online, 28 May 2025)
43. Mirugi -Mukundi G, 'Closing remarks' Presented at webinar on Combating obstetric violence in Africa: Human rights, dignity and accountability in maternal health care. (Online, 27 May 2025)
44. Mirugi -Mukundi G, 'Closing remarks' Presented at webinar on Unpacking deception: How misleading food marketing targets children – and the role of the Consumer Protection Act 2008. (Online, 10 June 2025)
45. Mirugi-Mukundi G, 'Social Protection Floors and Human Rights: The AU Social Protection Protocol' Presented at the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors Annual Meeting. (Islamabad, Pakistan, 1–4 December 2025)
46. Muntingh L, 'Draft model law for SADC on prison oversight' Presented to SADC Parliamentary Forum. (23-25 April 2025)
47. Muntingh L, 'The prevention and investigation of torture' Presented at training programme for Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services investigators. (Goodwood Correctional Centre, 13 May 2025)
48. Omoruyi A.J, 'Combating obstetric violence in Africa: human rights, dignity and accountability in maternal health care' Presented at webinar on Combating obstetric violence in Africa: human rights, dignity and accountability in maternal health care. (Online, 27 May 2025)
49. Omoruyi A.J, 'Contextualizing the Problem: Manifestations of Obstetric Violence in Africa' Presented at the Initiative for Strategic Litigation in Africa Expert Advisory meeting - Litigating obstetric violence in Africa: prospects and challenges. (Johannesburg, 8-9 May 2025)

50. Omoruyi A.J, 'Misleading child-directed marketing of unhealthy foods in South Africa as a consumer protection issue' Presented at the PRICELESS SA Journal Club meeting. (Hybrid, 26 June 2025)
51. Omoruyi A.J, 'The work of the Dullah Omar Institute on the non-communicable diseases project that aligns with the food policy programme priorities for 2024' Presented at the Food Policy Programme strategic planning meeting organised by HEALA (Radisson Red Hotel, Rosebank, Johannesburg, 11-13 March 2025)
52. Omoruyi A.J, 'Unpacking deception: How misleading food marketing targets children – and the role of the Consumer Protection Act 2008' Presented webinar on Unpacking deception: How misleading food marketing targets children – and the role of the Consumer Protection Act 2008. (Online, 10 June 2025)
53. Redpath J, Analysis of law enforcement mandates to assess anti-corruption capacity, Presented at National Anti-Corruption Advisory Council stakeholder workshop. (Johannesburg, 26 May 2025)
54. Redpath J, 'Local Government and Crime Prevention' Presented at the Building Capacity for Civil Society to Participate in Local Government Training Programme. (Saldanha Bay, 9 December 2025)
55. Redpath J, 'Rethinking the structure and resources of South Africa's large police stations' Presented at the National Police Summit. (Johannesburg, 9 April 2025)
56. Redpath J, 'Set up to fail? Prosecution by the NPA' Presented at the Forum on the Future of the South African NPA. (Cape Town, 27-28 November 2025)
57. Redpath J, 'Support anti-corruption bodies and prosecuting authorities in Southern Africa' Presented at the Inaugural United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Senior Executive Leadership Programme. (Mont Fleur, Stellenbosch, 12–15 January 2025)
58. Redpath J, 'The appointment of the NDPP' Presented at a webinar on The appointment of the NDPP. (Online, 14 August 2025)
59. Redpath J, 'The performance of the Specialised Commercial Crime Courts' Presented to regional court magistrates at the Symposium on Adjudicating Complex Corruption, Money Laundering, and Asset Recovery in South Africa, 22-25 September 2025. (Krystal Beach Hotel, Gordons Bay, 25 September 2025)
60. Redpath J, 'The record thus far: The Specialised Commercial Crime Courts: Launch of a Policy Brief' Presented at the webinar on The record thus far: The Specialised Commercial Crime Courts: Launch of a Policy Brief. (Online, 16 October 2025)

61. Stevens C, 'Local Government Law in South Africa, update on Self-review, and the appointment of Senior Managers' Presented at the Local Government Law of South Africa, Issue 19, held at Herold Gie Attorneys. (Cape Town, 19 November 2025)
62. Stevens C, 'Overregulation of Local Government: Searching for Solutions' Presented at the Wavemaker Summit, hosted by the West Coast District Municipality. (MSC Musica Cruise, 27-29 March 2025)
63. Stevens C, 'Public Procurement Act 28 of 2024: Implications for Local Governments and Municipal Autonomy' Presented at Chartered Institute of Government Finance Audit and Risk Officers Western Cape Branch, Inaugural seminar. (Online, 5 August 2025)
64. Steytler N, 'Regional and International Experiences of Local Governance and Devolution – Lessons for South Sudan's Devolution / Federal Transition' Presented at Workshop on Local Governance and Devolution in South Sudan, Permanent Constitution-Making Process, Juba. (Online, 12-13 November 2025)
65. Steytler N, 'The legacy of Dullah Omar, the human rights lawyer' Presented at the 15th Dullah Omar Memorial Lecture. (University of the Western Cape, 21 October 2025)
66. Wright J and Kaywood L, 'Recent developments in case law on municipal revenue management' Presented at Chartered Institute of Government Finance Audit and Risk Officers, Revenue Management Masterclass. (Caledon, 6 November 2025)
67. Wright J, 'How to address systemic sabotage of essential water infrastructure: specific statutory crimes' Presented at South African Human Rights Commission webinar on Sabotage of essential water infrastructure and water mafias: What can be done to address the scourge? (Online, 29 July 2025)
68. Wright J, 'Improving Local Governance: Emerging best practices and recent developments' Presented at DOIs Brown Bag lunch seminar. (University of the Western Cape, 12 May 2025)
69. Wright J, Judge for the South African rounds for the International Jessup Moot Court Competition. (University of the Western Cape, 13-14 February 2025)

Opinion pieces, newsletter articles and blogs

Opinion pieces

1. Lorizzo T, ['Encarceramento Feminino em Moçambique: Por que o nosso sistema jurídico ainda falha com as mulheres'](#) analyses the limitations of the criminal justice system in incorporating a gender-sensitive approach. (21 November 2025)
2. Muntingh L, ['At the NPA the sign reads: 'Do Not Disturb''](#) News24. (18 November 2025)

3. Muntingh L, Commissioned by ACJR: David Capel - ['When giving evidence in court could cost you your life'](#) *GroundUp*. (14 November 2025)
4. Muntingh L, Commissioned by ACJR: David Capel - ['Why magistrates are protesting'](#), *GroundUp*. (17 November 2025)
5. Muntingh L, ['Deliberate neglect or political design? Govt's evasion of SOE reform'](#) *News24*. (9 September 2025)
6. Muntingh L, ['Establishing an advisory panel to pick NPA head would raise the bar'](#) *BusinessDay*. (26 June 2025)
7. Muntingh L, ['Impunity is eating away at the Constitution'](#) *News24*. (22 May 2025)
8. Muntingh L, ['The NDPP that we want'](#) *News24*. (8 December 2025)
9. Muntingh L, ['We need to go back to the drawing board on NPA Act'](#) *News24*. (23 April 2025)
10. Omoruyi A.J, ['Marketing unhealthy food as good for kids is fuelling obesity in South Africa: how to curb it'](#) *The Conversation* (12 May 2025)
11. Redpath J, ['A broken system: Why the NPA's reform is urgent'](#) *News24*. (8 April 2025)
12. Redpath J, ['Cracks in the shield: Is this the SAPS' turning point?'](#) *News24*. (11 July 2025)
13. Redpath J, 'Executive experience over litigation? How the NDPP job advert got it wrong' *News24*. (3 December 2025)
14. Redpath J, ['Fielding the same candidate in multiple wards is a kind of fraud'](#) *Daily Maverick*. (18 November 2025)
15. Redpath J, 'How keeping the lights on relates to the murder rate' *Business Day*. (12 December 2025)
16. Redpath J, 'How the Political Killings Task Team burned millions while KZN murder rate exploded' *News24*. (13 October 2025)
17. Redpath J, ['Lack of transparency in police budget risks SA's fight against corruption'](#) *News24*. (2 July 2025)
18. Redpath J, ['State capture accountability - progress under a changing NPA'](#) *News24*. (2 July 2025)
19. Redpath J, 'The danger of he said, she said evidence at the Madlanga Commission' *News24*. (6 November 2025)
20. Redpath, J ['SA's state capture legacy: The Hawks are fighting corruption with one hand tied'](#) *News24*. (5 September 2025)
21. Redpath J, ['At a crossroads: Who will head NPA, and how will they be chosen?'](#) *News24*. (28 February 2025)

Newsletter articles

1. Beukes J [‘Provincial Interventions into Municipalities: Are they Working?’](#) *Local Government Bulletin*, Vol. 20(3)(2025).
2. Beukes J, [‘Delays in Finalising Disciplinary Hearings of Senior Managers will Cost Municipalities’](#) *Local Government Bulletin*, Vol. 20(3)(2025).
3. Chigwata T.C, [‘The local government election season is back: What does it mean for voters, service delivery, councillors, municipal officials and political parties?’](#) *Local Government Bulletin*, Vol. 20(3)(2025).
4. Chonco-Spambo T, [‘Righting wrongs: Western Cape Province seeks to formalise the assignment of the library services function to municipalities’](#) *Local Government Bulletin*, Vol. 20(4)(2025).
5. Stevens C, [‘High Court finds NERSA's approval of municipal electricity tariffs unconstitutional’](#) *Local Government Bulletin*, Vol. 20(4)(2025).
6. Stevens C, [‘Reviewing the White Paper on Local Government: The need for greater coordination and cooperation’](#) *Local Government Bulletin*, Vol. 20(3)(2025)
7. Wright J and Coetzee R, [‘Pharmaceutical waste: A hidden threat in municipal waste management’](#) *Local Government Bulletin*, Vol. 20(4)(2025).
8. Wright J and Mhodi P, [‘How to address systemic sabotage of essential water infrastructure?’](#) *Local Government Bulletin*, Vol. 20(3)(2025).
9. Wright J, [‘Fixing the gaps in whistleblower protection: Developments from 2023-2024’](#) *Local Government Bulletin*, Vol. 20(1)(2025).
10. Wright J, [‘Justice delayed for a whistleblower: Lessons from the Bloem case’](#) *Local Government Bulletin*, Vol. 20(3)(2025).
11. Wright J, [‘The Auditor-General's new teeth in action : R4,6 million certificate of debt issued to a municipal manager’](#) *Local Government Bulletin*, Vol. 20(4)(2025).

Media-press release

1. Akanbi F, Press Release: [‘From Criminalisation to Care Self-Managed Abortion in Africa’](#) (Commissioned by SERP). (12 November 2025)
2. Akanbi F, Press Release: [‘Impact of Public Health Emergencies on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Services in Africa’](#) (Commissioned by SERP). (31 October 2025)
3. Akanbi F, Press Release: [‘Laws and Policies on Young People's Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Africa’](#) (Commissioned by SERP). (12 September 2025)

4. Akanbi F, Press Release: '[Webinar on Combating Obstetric Violence in Africa: Human Rights, Dignity and Accountability in Maternal Health Care](#)' (Commissioned by SERP). (28 May 2025)
5. Wright J, *UWC Press Release* '[Protecting SA's Water Infrastructure](#)'. (10 July 2025)

Media – print and online

1. Chigwata T.C, Interview with *News24* on interventions into municipalities, in terms of section 139 of the Constitution, and the stopping of financial transfers under section 216 of the Constitution.
2. De Visser J, Interview with *News24* on Government of National Unity (GNU). (27 January 2025)
3. Muntingh L, Quoted on NPA alternative dispute resolution mechanism, *Sunday Times*. (6 July 2025)
4. Muntingh L, Quoted on proposal from Minister Groenewald regarding the reintroduction of corporal punishment, *Sunday Times*. (6 July 2025)
5. Redpath J, Interview with *Sunday Times*, Hendrik Hancke, on Crime Wardens. (24 October 2025)
6. Redpath J, Interview with *The Daily Voice*, Kim Swartz, on crime in the Cape. (28 November 2025)
7. Redpath J, Interview with *Victoria O'Regan* on appointment of the NDPP. (11 December 2025)
8. Redpath J, Media query on Afriforum's private prosecution of an assault case from Arisa Schamrel, *News24*. (4 March 2025)
9. Wright J and Moyo B, '[The push for real municipal accountability](#)' *Voice of Local Government*, Issue 49. (20 Nov 2025)
10. Wright J, Cited by Muhammed Hussain *News24* '[Looming axing of Tshwane City Manager exposes wider municipal rot before elections](#)'. (22 July 2025)
11. Wright J, Cited by Sheree Bega *Mail & Guardian* '[Invoke terrorism laws to deal with water mafias, says Human Rights Commission](#)'. (1 August 2025)
12. Wright J, Policy brief cited in several news articles: *IOL* 'How South Africa can combat water mafias and sabotage', Pretoria News 'Broken pipes, broken trust: How corruption and vandalism drain SA's water system', East Coast Radio 'SAHRC warns of water mafia sabotaging infrastructure', Mail & Guardian 'Water mafias: It's like working in a war zone, say municipal workers'.

Media-social networks

1. Mezmur B.D, Joined a panel at a media press conference at the Vatican on child sexual abuse cases within the Catholic church. (16 October 2025)

Media – radio/TV

1. De Visser J, Interview with *Cape Talk* on local government referendum . (24 July 2025)
2. De Visser J, Interview with *eNCA* on Elections Dispute Johannesburg. (18 February 2025)
3. De Visser J, Interview with *eNCA* on Government of National Unity and appointment of Ambassador. (26 March 2025)
4. De Visser J, Interview with *eNCA* on Government of National Unity budget impasse. (8 April 2025)
5. De Visser J, Interview with *Newzroom Africa* on Government of National Unity. (4 November 2025)
6. De Visser J, *LGIU Future Local Lab* interview on 'Local Government in General'. (1 September 2025)
7. Muntingh L, Radio interview with *RSG* on Parole administration. (7 July 2025)
8. Redpath J, [Interview on CapeTalk with John Maytham on the National Prosecuting Authority.](#) (9 April 2025)
9. Redpath J, [Interview on SABC News with Thulasizwe Simelane 'Week in Review' on the National Prosecuting Authority.](#) (21 June 2025)
10. Redpath J, [Interview with Biznews on 'spending on the Political Killings Task Team and Mkhwanazi allegations'.](#) (17 October 2025)
11. Redpath J, Interview with *Cape Talk* (John Maytham) on policing, gangs and devolution. (20 February 2025)
12. Redpath J, Interview with *Cape Talk* Morning show about police resourcing in Khayelitsha. (30 September 2025)
13. Redpath J, Interview with *Cape Talk* on the Political Killings Task Team expenditure. (13 October 2025)
14. Redpath J, Interview with *Cape Talk* on Vigilante attacks in Khayelitsha. (29 September 2025)
15. Redpath J, Interview with Debrief Network on the Political Killings Task Team. (15 October 2025)
16. Redpath J, Interview with *eNCA* on bail laws in context of Madlanga Commission, Last Word. (25 October 2025)

17. Redpath J, [Interview with eNCA on 'South Africa Tonight' on the National Prosecuting Authority and the Omotoso Rape trial](#). (7 April 2025)
18. Redpath J, Interview with *eNCA TV* on prosecution delays regarding July 2021 riots. (20 March 2025)
19. Redpath J, Interview with *eNCA*, answering questions regarding Gauteng Traffic Wardens. (4 November 2025)
20. Redpath J, Interview with *News24* on Political Killings Task Team expenditure The Lead podcast. (13 October 2025)
21. Redpath J, Interview with *Newzroom Africa* on Community Courts. (28 January 2025)
22. Redpath J, Interview with *Newzroom Africa* about Madlanga Commission. (16 September 2025)
23. Redpath J, Interview with *Newzroom Africa* about the Madlanga Commission. (28 September 2025)
24. Redpath J, Interview with *Newzroom Africa* on Appointing NDPP. (12 November 2025)
25. Redpath J, Interview with *Newzroom Africa* on the Madlanga Commission. (16 October 2025)
26. Redpath J, Interview with *Newzroom Africa* on the Political Killings Task Team spending. (13 October 2025)
27. Redpath J, [Interview with Newzroom Africa on the shortlisting process of the NDPP candidates](#). (29 November 2025)
28. Redpath J, Interview with *Newzroom Afrika* on Appointment of the NDPP. (8 October 2025)
29. Redpath J, Interview with *Newzroom Afrika* on Crime in KwaZulu-Natal. (9 November 2025)
30. Redpath J, Interview with *Newzroom Afrika* on Enquiry into DPP Chauke fitness to hold office. (19 November 2025)
31. Redpath J, Interview with *Newzroom Afrika* on Minister's power over police and Madlanga Commission. (28 September 2025)
32. Redpath J, Interview with *Newzroom Afrika* on NDPP. (7 October 2025)
33. Redpath J, Interview with *Newzroom Afrika* on Public Protector's Report on Gauteng Crime Wardens. (23 October 2025)
34. Redpath J, Interview with *Radio 702* on Madlanga Commission. (17 September 2025)
35. Redpath J, Interview with *Radio 702* on Political Killings Task Team. (13 October 2025)
36. Redpath J, Interview with *Radio 786* on Inspector General of Intelligence suspension. (16 October 2025)
37. Redpath J, Interview with *Radio 786* on Nkabinde Inquiry. (17 November 2025)
38. Redpath J, Interview with *Radio 786* on the Nkabinde Enquiry. (25 November 2025)

39. Redpath J, Interview with *Radio Islam* on Political Killings Task Team expenditure. (13 October 2025)
40. Redpath J, Interview with *SABC News* 'Week in Review' on the National Prosecuting Authority. (7 June 2025)
41. Redpath J, [Interview with eNCA on the candidates for NPA head](#). (28 November 2025)
42. Redpath J, Interview with *Voice of the Cape* on the release of crime data. (1 December 2025)
43. Redpath J, Pre-recorded interview with *eNCA* on Gauteng Crime Wardens. (5 November 2025)
44. Redpath J, Pre-recorded Interview with *Smile FM* on Local Government Election reform. (19 November 2025)
45. Redpath, J, Interview with *Newzroom Africa* on the suspension of Andrew Chauke as DPP Gauteng. (22 July 2025)
46. Redpath, J, Interview with *Phalaphala FM* on the suspension of Andrew Chauke as DPP Gauteng. (22 July 2025)
47. Wright J, Interview with *Newzroom Afrika* on Whistle-blower Protection. (23 August 2025)
48. Wright J, Interview with *Radio 786* on Whistle-blower Protection. (9 December 2025)
49. Wright J, Interview with *RSG Naweek Aktueel* on Water Mafias. (12 July 2025)
50. Wright J, *Radio 919FM* Interview with Sam Marshall on Whistle-blower Protection. (24 April 2025)
51. Wright J, Interview with *Newzroom Afrika* on Whistle-blower Protection. (9 December 2025)

Interview (not media)

1. Redpath J, Series of interviews with *Business Against Crime*, Graham Wright and Lisa Klein, on providing advice on tourism-related crime.

Appointments and memberships

Assim U.M

- Member of the Faculty Higher Degrees Committee (LAWHD).
- Member of the Moot Court Committee.

Chigwata T.C

- Appointed as member of the Scientific Committee of the World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG).

Chonco-Spambo T

- Alternative member of the Faculty Assessment Committee.
- Student Advisor for Undergraduate Promotions and Registrations.
- Member of the Timetable Committee.
- Member of the Faculty Library Committee.
- Alternative member of the Moot Committee.

de Visser J

- Alternative member of the Faculty Higher Degrees Committee (LAWHD).
- Member of the Faculty Academic Planning Committee.

Gordon D

- Administrator to the Doctoral Colloquia Committee.
- Member of the POPIA Compliance Committee.
- Member of the Law Health and Safety Committee (LAWHSC).

Mezmur B.D

- Appointed to the Editorial Board of the South African Public Law Journal.

Muntingh L

- Member of the Faculty Research Committee (secunda: Jean Redpath).
- Member (2025-2027) of the University of the Western Cape Human and Social Sciences Research Ethics Executive Committee.
- Vice-Chairperson (2025) of the University of the Western Cape Human and Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee (HSSREC).
- Reappointed to the editorial board of South African Crime Quarterly
- Member of the University of the Western Cape Institutional Forum.

Lorizzo T

- Appointed as Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Law, December 2025

Steytler N

- Appointed to the Editorial Board, University of the Western Cape Press.

Teaching, examination, moderation and supervision

Teaching

Formal teaching

Course	Module name	Module nr.	Convenor	Assisted by	Guest lectures
PG Dip in Public Law	Administrative Law	ADL711	Chigwata T.C	Stevens C Wright J	Alexander, C Beresford, S Quinot, G
	Constitutional Law	CLL713	De Visser J	Stevens, C Wright J,	
	Local Government	LGL712	De Visser J	Beukes, J Stevens, C Wright, J	
	Multi-level Governance	MLG714	Chigwata T.C	Stevens, C Steytler, N Wright, J	
LLB	Constitutional Law 202	CON 202	Fick, S	Chonco-Spambo, T	
LLM	International Protection of Human Rights Law	IHR814	Mezmur B.D		Muntingh, L
	Global Human Rights Issues	IHR816	Mezmur B.D		
	Multi-level Governance	CLL814	Chigwata T.C	Stevens, C Steytler, N Wright, J	
	Children's Rights	CLL817	Mezmur B.D	Assim U.M	
	Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	SER811	Mirugi - Mukundi G	Assim U.M	
	Local Government	LGL812	De Visser, J	Stevens, C Wright, J	

Other teaching/training (Internal, external and guest lectures)

Assim U.M

- Co-facilitated, Advanced Human Rights Course, Topic: 'Children's Rights in Africa', University of Pretoria. (Pretoria, 23-27 June 2025)

- Lecture, Advanced Human Rights Course, Topic: “Children's Rights in Africa - 'Normative frameworks on children’s rights: Regional, Regional Economic Communities and National instruments’”, University of Pretoria. (Pretoria, 23-27 June 2025)

Beukes J

- Lecture, PG Dip in Public Law, Topic: ‘Local Government and Chapter Nine Institutions’, University of the Western Cape. (Online, 25 July 2025)
- Lecture, PG Dip in Public Law, Topic: ‘Judiciary and Local Government’, University of the Western Cape. (Online, 11 July 2025)

Chigwata T.C

- Lecture, African School on Decentralisation, Topic: ‘Supervision: Monitoring, support and intervention’, University of the Western Cape. (Cape Town, 13-25 October 2025)
- Workshop, LLM/ MPhil Research and Referencing Workshop, University of the Western Cape. (Cape Town, 5 June 2025)

De Visser J

- Guest lecture, Comparative Constitutional Law, Topic: ‘South Africa's Presidential System’, University College Utrecht. (Online, 7 April 2025)
- Training, Auwal Socio-Economic Research Institute Fellows, Topic: ‘Structure of the State’, Auwal Socio-Economic Research Institute. (Online, 15 April 2025)
- Lecture, Training Course: Building Capacity for Civil Society to Participate in Local Government, Topic: ‘Introduction to Local Government Capacity for Civil Society to Participate in Local Government’, Dullah Omar Institute. (University of the Western Cape, 3 November 2025)

Mezmur B.D

- Lecture, International Woman Human Rights postgraduate Course, Topic: ‘Conflict and the rights of the child’, Penn Carey Law School, University of Pennsylvania. (Online, 25 February 2025)
- Lecture, The Wellbeing of the Child: Protection, Promotion and Rights, Topic: ‘UN Convention on the Rights of the Child’, University of Erfurt, Germany. (Online, 6 April 2025)

- Lecture, Summer School: Children at the Heart of Human Rights, Topic: 'Children's rights in Africa' and 'The role of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child', University of Geneva. (Geneva, 14 and 16 May 2025)
- Lecture, Human Rights and the Business Sector Annual Training, Topic: 'Children's rights and the business sector', Geneva Academy. (Geneva, 21 May 2025)
- Guest lecture, Professional Training on Child Protection, Topic: 'Monitoring the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child', Harvard School of Public Health. (United States, 4-5 June 2025)
- Lecture, Summer School 'Human Rights and Persons Deprived of Liberty', Topic: 'Prison conditions in Africa', University of Ghent Summer School on Deprivation of liberty. (Online, 19 June 2025)
- Lecture, Summer School: Children at the Heart of Human Rights, Topic: 'Children's rights in Africa' and 'Monitoring mechanisms for children's rights in Africa', University of Geneva Summer School. (Geneva, 1 September 2025)
- Lecture, Statelessness course, Topic: 'Childhood statelessness', Institute for Statelessness and Inclusion. (Online, 7 October 2025)
- Training, Training for diplomats, Topic: 'Climate change, digital media and treaty bodies', Ethiopia Foreign Policy Institute (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 17 October 2025)
- Lecture, The Wellbeing of the Child: Protection, Promotion and Rights, Topic: 'Child marriage', University of Erfurt. (Online, 22 October 2025)
- Lecture, Transitional Justice and Human Rights, Topic: 'Transitional justice and children', NOVA School of Law, Portugal. (Online, 10 November 2025)
- Training, Training diplomats, Topic: 'Human rights at the Ethiopia Foreign Policy Institute', Ethiopia Foreign Policy Institute. (Online, 16 December 2025)

Muntingh L

- Guest lecture, LLM, Topic: 'International protection of human rights', University of the Western Cape. (Online, 12 May 2025)
- Guest lecture, Missouri students, Topic: 'Arrest, pre-trial detention and sentencing', University of the Western Cape. (Cape Town, 4 July 2025)

Stevens C

- Lecture, African School of Decentralisation, Topic: 'Financial Management', University of the Western Cape. (Cape Town, 13-25 October 2025)

Steytler N

- Lecture, Annual Federalism Lecture, Topic: 'The formation and amendment of federal constitutions: Ex Africa semper aliquid novi?', Institute of Comparative Federalism, EURAC Research and School of International Studies, University of Trento, Trento. (Trento, Italy, 12 June 2025)
- Lecture, African School of Decentralisation, Topic: 'National Constitutions and Local Government Financial Autonomy', University of the Western Cape. (Cape Town, 13-25 October 2025)

Wright J

- Guest lecture, LLM, Topic: 'Role of Cities in Climate Governance', University Pretoria. (Online, 25 April 2025)
- Guest lecture, LLM, Topic: 'Urban Law City good governance and ethics', University Stellenbosch. (Stellenbosch, 14 May 2025)
- Lecture, African School on Decentralisation, Topic 1: 'Financial Distress' and Topic 2: 'Finances and Decentralisation' (co-presented with Curtly Stevens), University of the Western Cape. (Cape Town, 13-25 October 2025)

External and internal examination

— Examination LLM/MPhil (external)

Assim U.M

- LLM, Mini-thesis (University of Pretoria)
- LLM, Mini-thesis (Walter Sisulu University)

Chigwata T.C

- LLM, Mini-thesis (University of the Western Cape)
- LLM, Mini-thesis (University of Cape Town)
- MPhil, Mini-thesis (University of the Western Cape)
- LLM, Mini-thesis (Northwest University)

Mangwanda J

- MPhil, Mini-dissertation (University of Pretoria)

Mirugi-Mukundi G

- LLM, Thesis (University of Pretoria)

Redpath J

- LLM, Thesis (University of Cape Town)

Wright J

- LLM, Proposal (University of the Witwatersrand)
- LLM, Mini-thesis (North-West University)

— **Examination LLM/MPhil (internal)**

Assim U.M

- LLM, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 811 (University of the Western Cape)
- LLM, Mini-thesis (University of the Western Cape)

Mirugi -Mukundi G

- LLM, Mini-theses (2) (University of Western Cape)

Stevens C

- LLM, Mini-thesis (University of Western Cape)

Wright J

- LLM, Thesis, University of the Western Cape

— **Examination PhD/LLD**

Assim U.M

- PhD, Full thesis (University of the Free State)

Chigwata T.C

- LLD, Thesis (Northwest University)
- LLD, Doctoral research proposal defence (Northwest University)

De Visser J

- LLD, Examination (Utrecht University)
- PhD, Oral defence (University of Pretoria)
- PhD, Admission Examination (Stellenbosch University)

— **Examination undergrad (internal)**

Chonco-Spambo T

- LLB, Senate Discretionary Assessment (SDA) exam. (University of the Western Cape)
- LLB, Final exam. (University of the Western Cape)
- LLB, Supplementary exam. (University of the Western Cape)

Moderation (external)

Assim U.M

- LLM, International Children's Human Rights (North-West University)
- LLB, Public International Law (Walter Sisulu University)
- LLD, Proposal Defence (University of the Free State)

Muntingh L

- B.Soc.Sc (Honours), The Criminal Justice Ecosystem (University of Cape Town)

Wright J

- LLB, Administrative Law (North-West University)

Supervision

— LLB Research Paper supervision

Muntingh L

- Students: Manasse, Petersen, Voloki and Mpithanisi

Redpath J

- Student: Thabethe

— LLM/MPhil (Full thesis) Primary supervisor

Muntingh L

- Student: Tshingana

— LLM/MPhil (Full thesis) Secondary supervisor

Chonco-Spambo T

- Student: Onderi

— LLM/MPhil (Mini-thesis) Primary supervisor

Chigwata T.C

- Students: Zamxaka, Sithole

Chonco-Spambo T

- Students: Mabopa, van der Westhuizen, Gaoraelwe

Mirugi-Mukundi G

- Student: Hermans

Muntingh L

- Students: Molo, Ndaba

Stevens C

- Students: Tlali, Sambo, Mbalo, Maseko, Ndlovu-Nachamba, Maake

Steytler N

- Students: Ntuku, Prins

Wright J

- Students: Denyssen, Mazibuko

— **LLM/MPhil (Mini-thesis) Secondary supervisor**

Assim U.M

- Students: Nduku, Haile (Co-supervision with University of Pretoria).

Beukes J

- Student: Floris

Chigwata T.C

- Students: Sambo, Gaoraelwe

Stevens C

- Students: Bulabula, Ntuku

Wright J

- Student: Mbalo

— **PhD/LLD Primary supervisor**

Chigwata T.C

- Students: Moranga, Munyama

De Visser J

- Student: Oduma

Mezmur B.D

- Student: Lugulu

Assim U.M

- Students: Kayango, Mngxekeza

— **PhD/LLD Co-supervisor**

Chigwata T.C

- Student: Mukaindo

Mirugi-Mukundi G

- Students: Mngxekeza, Kayango

Muntingh L

- Student: Oduma

Peer reviews conducted

Assim U.M

- Peer reviewed a manuscript for *African Student Law Journal*.
- Peer reviewed a manuscript for the *Journal of African Law*.
- Peer reviewed a manuscript for the *Journal of Climate Law and Justice*.
- Peer reviewed two manuscripts for the *Global Campus of Human Rights Journal*.

Chigwata T.C

- Peer reviewed a manuscript for the *African Journal of Conflict Resolution*.

De Visser J

- Peer reviewed a manuscript for *Law Democracy and Development*.
- Peer reviewed a *Staff Promotion, Addis Ababa University*.
- Reviewed a manuscript for the *African Human Rights Law Journal*.

Fambasayi R

- Peer reviewed a manuscript for an edited volume celebrating the scholarship of Professor Charles Fombad.
- Peer review as a special editor on *Child Justice for the East African Law Journal*, University of Nairobi.
- Peer reviewed a manuscript for the *African Journal of Climate Law and Justice*.

Mangwanda J

- Peer reviewed a manuscript for the *Africa Insight Journal*, Agenda 2063 Special Issue.

Mezmur B.D

- Peer reviewed a manuscript for the *African Human Mobility Review*.
- Peer reviewed a manuscript for the *African Human Rights Law Journal*.
- Peer reviewed a manuscript for the *Journal on African Law*.

Mirugi-Mukundi G

- Peer reviewed a manuscript for the *South African Journal on Human Rights*.

Muntingh L

- Peer reviewed a manuscript for *African Identities*.
- Peer reviewed a manuscript for *Acta Criminologica: African Journal of Criminology and Victimology*.
- Peer reviewed a manuscript for *Discover Social Science and Health*.
- Peer reviewed a manuscript for *Journal of Crime and Punishment*.

- Peer reviewed a manuscript for *Punishment & Society*.

Wright J

- Peer reviewed a manuscript for the *Journal of Comparative Law in Africa*.
- Peer reviewed a manuscript for *De Jure*.
- Peer reviewed a manuscript for *Journal of Corporate and Commercial Law and Practice*.
- Peer reviewed a manuscript for the *Potchefstroom Electronic Law Journal*.

Video clip/podcast/infographic

1. De Visser J, [The Logic of Democratic Local Government Legislation Podcast for Local Government Matters Podcast](#). (1 July 2025)
2. De Visser J, The Over Regulation of Local Government Podcast for Local Government Matters. (16 July 2025)
3. Stevens C and de Visser J, Podcast: Chapter 7: 'The Legislative Slew' (with Johann Mettler). (Online, 16 July 2025)
4. Stevens C, ['Postgraduate Awards video'](#) for the Faculty of Law. (28 November 2025)

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- University of the Western Cape

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