

EXPERIENCE

Columbia Law School, New York, United States September 2018 – present
Lecturer in Law

Development and teaching of the weekly seminar “The Defence of Freedom of Expression around the World: the Role of the Advocate”, which examines high-profile freedom of expression cases litigated in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas, placing them in a broader context of substantive law and scholarship.

Digital Freedom Fund, Berlin, Germany October 2017 – present
Director

Founded the Digital Freedom Fund, an organisation that supports strategic litigation to advance digital rights in Europe. Responsible for daily operations, including managing the community strategy process, development of the grantmaking programme, as well as fundraising and all other aspects of the Fund.

Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University, September 2016 – present
Cambridge, MA, United States
Affiliate, previously Fellow

Created the Catalysts for Collaboration website (<http://catalystsforcollaboration.org>), offering a set of best practices combined with case studies to encourage better cross-disciplinary collaboration in strategic digital rights litigation.

Cyberlaw Clinic Advisor

Supervising students on research and litigation projects concerning human rights and technology.

Doughty Street Chambers, London, United Kingdom June 2016 – present
Associate Tenant

Human rights litigation and advice on international human rights, privacy and freedom of expression rights, European human rights, public international law, and teaching and training.

Media Legal Defence Initiative, London, United Kingdom November 2011 – June 2016
Legal Director since July 2014, previously: Legal Counsel and Senior Legal Counsel

Responsible for MLDI’s litigation in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America helping journalists, bloggers and independent media outlets defend their rights. Represented clients or advised on cases in over 50 national jurisdictions as well as international courts and human rights tribunals, including the European Court of Human Rights, Inter-American Court of Human Rights, UN Human Rights Committee, African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights, ECOWAS Court of Justice, UNESCO and the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention. Obtained the first freedom of expression judgment from the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights (*Konaté v. Burkina Faso*) and the East African Court of Justice (*Burundi Journalists’ Union v. Burundi*).

Developed and delivered trainings on freedom of expression and national and international litigation strategy for lawyers in Europe, Central Asia, Southeast Asia, East and Southern Africa.

Dutch Section of the International Commission of Jurists, Amsterdam, The Netherlands July 2011 – May 2012
Working Group on International Protection of Human Rights

Monitored legislation and policy in the Netherlands to assess its impact on human rights. Drafted the joint stakeholders’ report for the Universal Periodic Review of the Netherlands before the UN Human Rights Council.

De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek, Amsterdam, The Netherlands and New York, United States July 2007 – October 2011
Associate and Senior Associate

Litigated on various matters before national courts and international arbitration tribunals. Litigated before the Dutch Supreme Court on national recognition of foreign arbitral awards. Advised on European privacy regulations, outsourcing contracts and e-commerce.

SELECTED PROJECTS

Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights. Assisted in preparing the Recommendation “Unboxing Artificial Intelligence: 10 steps to protect Human Rights.” 2019

Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights. Trained lawyers from Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan on strategic litigation on freedom of expression; providing subsequent case support.	2018
Social Media Exchange. Legal adviser on developing a dataset on digital rights legislation in all Arab League countries, including co-development of data collection methodology and research supervision.	2016–2017
Hong Kong University. Trained lawyers and journalists from Hong Kong, Philippines, Thailand, Cambodia, Mongolia, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Myanmar and Nepal on freedom of expression, defamation, and strategic litigation in Hong Kong.	October 2016
ARTICLE 19. Drafted an analysis and recommendations for improvement of the privacy and data protection bill of an East African country and the multimedia law of a South Asian country.	2016
Albany Associates. Trained lawyers on freedom of expression, defamation, protection of sources, national security, terrorism and hate speech in South Sudan. Drafted freedom of expression handbook for South Sudan.	June – August 2016
Council of Europe. Trained staff of Moldova's Equality Council and Ombudsman's Office on ECHR and comparative law standards on hate speech and free expression in Chisinau, Moldova.	May 2016
Central European University. Co-developed and taught a web-based professional certificate course in media law fundamentals for journalists, civil society activists and lawyers in Central and Southeastern Europe.	March 2016–present
Internews. Consultation with Paradigm Initiative Nigeria as an expert of the Internews Internet Freedom Expert Register. Delivered a keynote speech at PIN's Internet Freedom Forum.	March 2016
International Media Support. Drafted a baseline report, including specific recommendations on IMS' potential role in supporting lawyers and judges intervening in media cases in Tunisia, based on a desk study and country visit to interview various stakeholders.	January – February 2016
Thomson Foundation. Delivered a series of trainings in Pristina, Kosovo for lawyers, judges and prosecutors on ECtHR standards on defamation, protection of sources, whistle-blowers and privacy.	2015 – 2016

EDUCATION

European University Institute, Florence, Italy <i>Summer course in law and logic</i>	July 2016
European University Institute, Florence, Italy <i>Summer course in human rights</i>	June 2009
Columbia University School of Law, New York, United States <i>LL.M.</i>	May 2006
Honours: Harlan Fiske Stone scholar; Amsterdam-Leiden-Columbia Program scholarship Focus: Human rights, humanitarian law, law and development	
University of Amsterdam School of Law, Amsterdam, The Netherlands <i>Meester in de rechten</i> (J.D./LL.B. equivalent) International & European law	March 2005
<i>Meester in de rechten</i> (J.D./LL.B. equivalent) Dutch civil law	January 2005

SELECTED ADVISORY COMMITTEES & BOARDS

Board Member Media Development Investment Fund	2017 – present
Board Member of Prince Claus Fund	2017 – present
Strategic Advisor to GQUAL, a global campaign promoting gender parity in international bodies	2015 – present

PRIZES & AWARDS

Oxford Internet Institute Internet & Society Award , recognising extraordinary contributions towards the development, use or study of the Internet for the public good	2018
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Shortlisted for the Law Society's Excellence Award for Human Rights Lawyer of the Year 2015

Columbia University Global Freedom of Expression Prize for Excellence in Legal Services, recognising a legal brief, amicus brief, academic or other publication anywhere in the world that has advanced or strengthened global understanding of international norms of freedom of expression and information 2015

LANGUAGES

Dutch (mother tongue), English (fluent), French and Italian (working knowledge), German and Spanish (basic)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Academic and professional publications

with Jonathan McCully, The Protection of Political Speech, chapter in *Regardless of Frontiers? Freedom of Expression and Information in the 21st Century*, Columbia University Press, publication pending 2019

with Merris Amos and Maribel Canto-Lopez, European Court of Human Rights: *Ruusunen v. Finland*, chapter in *Feminist Judgments: Rewriting International Law*, Hart Publishing, publication pending 2019

with Rosa Curling, [The Unique Jurisdiction of the African Court on Human and People's Rights: Protection of Human Rights Beyond the African Charter](#), 33 *Emory International Law Review*, 203 (2019)

with Sègnonna Horace Adjolohoun, [Will Konaté set African journalists free? Interrogating the promises of an emerging press freedom jurisprudence in African regional courts](#), *African Human Rights Yearbook*, Volume 2, 2018

with Rosa Curling, State Obligations in the African System: The Obligation to Investigate, Prosecute and Punish Violations of African Charter Rights, chapter in [Judging International Human Rights, Courts of General Jurisdiction as Human Rights Courts](#), Springer, 2019

[Denying Genocide or Denying Free Speech? A Case Study of the Application of Rwanda's Genocide Denial Laws](#), 12 *Northwestern Journal of International Human Rights*, No. 2 (2014)

with Ambassador Andrew Jacovides (editor), *International Law and Diplomacy, Selected Writings by Andrew Jacovides*, Martinus Nijhoff, 2011

with Lokke Moerel and Jeroen Koëter, [U.S. Subpoenas and European Data Protection Legislation](#), *Privacy & Data Security Law Journal* (July 2009)

[Muslim Brides and the Ghost of the Shari'a: Have the Recent Law Reforms in Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco Improved Women's Position in Marriage and Divorce, and Can Religious Moderates Bring Reform and Make It Stick?](#), 5 *Northwestern Journal of International Human Rights*, 181 (2007)

Recent online publications

[Imagining a Universal Declaration of Digital Rights](#), DING Magazine, December 2018

[Internet Freedom Without Imperialism](#), Knight First Amendment Institute "Emerging Threats" series, June 2018

[It Might Be Clogging Up Your Inbox, But GDPR Is One Of The Most Significant Data Laws In History](#), RightsInfo, May 2018

with David Kaye, [Digital Rights Are Human Rights](#), Slate Future Tense, December 2017

[The right to 'offend, shock or disturb,' or the importance of protecting unpleasant speech](#), [Perspectives on Harmful Speech Online](#), Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University, August 2017

with Maria Leoni, [Time to change the picture: UN must urgently address lack of women in human rights bodies](#), IntLawGrrls, June 2017

with Jonathan McCully, [Where Speech Goes, Repression Follows: The Global Trend of Criminalizing Online Speech](#), Council on Foreign Relations Net Politics Blog, April 2017

[A French court case against Google could threaten global speech rights](#), Washington Post, December 2016

[Press Freedom and Africa's Regional Courts: A Positive Model for Transparency and Accountability](#), Just Security, December 2016

[The European Court of Human Rights and Access to Information: Clarifying the Status, with Room for Improvement](#), Harvard Law School's Cyberlaw Clinic blog, November 2016

[Police Shootings, Helicopter Crashes, and Bystanders with Cameras: Weighing the Rights of "Accidental Journalists"](#), Global Voices Online, June 2015

[The Power of International Law](#), World Policy Journal blog, February 2015