

YAKARÉ-OULÉ (NANI) JANSEN REVENTLOW

E: hello@nanijansen.org • W: nanijansen.org

EXPERIENCE

---

**Systemic Justice**, Amsterdam, the Netherlands (remote) June 2021 – present

*Founder and Director*

Systemic Justice works to radically transform how the law works for communities in Europe fighting for racial, social, and economic justice. As the first Black-led, majority BPOC organisation in Europe working on community-driven litigation from an intersectional perspective, Systemic Justice works with community partners to resist injustices in the areas of climate justice and social protection.

Leading the strategic direction of the organisation and its values-aligned development, including day-to-day responsibility for fundraising, partnerships, team oversight, and governance. Overall responsible for all aspects of the organisation's litigation development, legal projects, research, and operations.

---

**Blavatnik School of Government, Oxford University**, Oxford, United Kingdom April 2020 – present

*Adjunct Professor*

Exploring different aspects of the right to freedom of expression in the offline and digital context from a legal and policy perspective through the options course "Freedom of Expression in the Digital Age".

---

**Symposium on Strength and Solidarity for Human Right**, New York, United States February 2019 – present

*Founding Moderator*

The Symposium on Strength and Solidarity for Human Rights is a multi-year, international project to provoke new efforts and energy across the field of human rights to build organisational strength and increase mutual solidarity.

---

**Columbia Law School**, New York, United States September 2018 – 2021

*Lecturer in Law*

Developed and taught the 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 March 2017 – December 2021

*Founder and Director*

Founded and led the Digital Freedom Fund, an organisation that supports strategic litigation in Europe to advance human rights in the digital context. Overall responsible for all aspects of strategic development, operations and activities. Developed the organisation into a widely recognised expert organisation which funds strategic litigation and builds the capacity of the European digital rights field.

Led a continuous, inclusive, and innovative field building strategy development process to enable digital rights litigators to better collaborate. Initiated a decolonising process for the digital rights field and developed a programme to address the intersection of technology and racial, social, and economic justice.

---

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

*Affiliate, previously Fellow.* Created [Catalysts for Collaboration](#), a set of best practices and case studies that encourage better cross-disciplinary collaboration in strategic digital rights litigation.

*Cyberlaw Clinic Advisor.* Supervising students on research and litigation projects on 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, public international law.

---

YAKARÉ-OULÉ (NANI) JANSEN REVENTLOW

E: hello@nanijansen.org • W: nanijansen.org

**Media Legal Defence Initiative (now: Media Defence)**, London, United Kingdom November 2011 – June 2016

*Legal Director from 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 defend their rights. Represented clients or advised on cases in over 50 national jurisdictions and 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 and the East African Court of Justice. 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.

---

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

*Associate and Senior Associate*

Litigated 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 the Commissioner's office in preparing "Human rights by design: future-proofing human rights protection in the era of AI" 2023
- Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights.** Assisted the Commissioner's office in preparing the Recommendation "Unboxing Artificial Intelligence: 10 steps to protect Human Rights" 2019
- Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.** Trained lawyers from Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan on strategic litigation on freedom of expression; provided subsequent case support. 2018
- 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. 2016
- Council of Europe.** Trained staff of Moldova's Equality Council and Ombudsman's Office on the ECHR and comparative law standards on hate speech and free expression in Chisinau, Moldova. 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 South-eastern Europe. 2016 – 2018
- 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 July 2016  
*Summer course in law and logic*
- European University Institute**, Florence, Italy June 2009  
*Summer course in human rights*
- 
- Columbia University School of Law**, New York, United States May 2006  
*LL.M.*
- Honours: Harlan Fiske Stone scholar; Amsterdam-Leiden-Columbia Program scholarship  
Focus: Human rights, humanitarian law, law and development
-

YAKARÉ-OULÉ (NANI) JANSEN REVENTLOW

E: [hello@nanijansen.org](mailto:hello@nanijansen.org) • W: [nanijansen.org](http://nanijansen.org)

---

**University of Amsterdam School of Law**, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

*Meester in de rechten* (J.D./LL.B. equivalent) International & European law

March 2005

*Meester in de rechten* (J.D./LL.B. equivalent) Dutch civil law

January 2005

---

SELECTED ADVISORY COMMITTEES & BOARDS

---

**World Economic Forum**, Expert Advisor technology and social justice

2020 – present

**Human Rights Watch**, Policy Committee Member

2019 – present

**Prince Claus Fund for Culture and Development**, Board Member

2017 – present

---

HONOURS AND AWARDS

---

**Felipe Rodriguez Award**, which honours individuals who have done something remarkable for the right to privacy

2021

**Black Achievement Award**, shortlisted in the category science and education

2021

**Stefan A. Riesenfeld Memorial Award**, which honours a distinguished scholar or practitioner every year for their outstanding contribution to the field of international law

2021

**Harvard Law School's "Women Inspiring Change" honouree**

2020

**Oxford Internet Institute Internet & Society Award**, recognising extraordinary contributions towards the development, use or study of the Internet for the public good

2018

**Law Society's Excellence Award for Human Rights Lawyer of the Year**, shortlisted

2015

**Columbia University Global Freedom of Expression Prize for Excellence in Legal Services**, recognising legal work that has strengthened global understanding of international norms on freedom of expression

2015

---

LANGUAGES

---

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

---

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

---

**Academic and professional publications**

[Intersectional Rewrites: European Court of Human Rights Judgments Reimagined](#), publication pending 2024

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, 2021

[Can the GDPR and Freedom of Expression Coexist?](#), 114 *American Journal of International Law Unbound*, 31 (2020)

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

YAKARÉ-OULÉ (NANI) JANSEN REVENTLOW

E: [hello@nanijansen.org](mailto:hello@nanijansen.org) • W: [nanijansen.org](http://nanijansen.org)

**Online publications**

[Righting imperialism's wrongs, past and present](#), Project Syndicate, July 2023

['Eco-ableism', the EU, and climate disaster](#), EU Observer, April 2023

[The climate movement's racial blind spots](#), Project Syndicate and Tagesspiegel, November 2022

[Government algorithms are out of control and ruin lives](#), openDemocracy, July 2021

[Why tech needs to focus on the needs of marginalized groups](#), World Economic Forum, July 2021

[Data collection is not the solution for Europe's racism problem](#), Al Jazeera, July 2020

[How Amazon's Moratorium on Facial Recognition Tech Is Different From IBM's and Microsoft's](#), Slate Future Tense, June 2020

[Rebuilding the master's house instead of repairing the cracks: why "diversity and inclusion" in the digital rights field is not enough](#), Digital Freedom Fund blog and Medium, September 2019

[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

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