

# International Conference on Children's Rights

**10 and 11 September 2024**

**Ou Hoofgebou**  
Corner of Ryneveld and  
Victoria Street Stellenbosch

**Krotoa Building**  
52 Ryneveld St,  
Stellenbosch Central



*In partnership with*



## Our Collective Journey

In recent decades, remarkable strides have been made in advancing and safeguarding children's rights at both international and regional levels. Together, through instruments like the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC), we have come to recognize children as independent holders of rights, with the power to actively participate in decisions that shape their lives.

As we continue this journey, our shared responsibility is to ensure that these rights remain dynamic and responsive to emerging global challenges such as the digital age, human trafficking, conflict, and climate change. By walking this path together—courts, human rights bodies, governments, and communities—we commit to navigating these evolving landscapes and shaping a future where children's rights are fully realized.



## Thematic Focus

The conference centers on children's rights and welcomes papers with comparative perspectives across different countries.

### Topics include:

#### **Children's Rights and the Changing Family**

Explore how recognizing children as distinct rights holders is transforming the parent-child-state relationship, particularly in the digital age, where children often surpass their parents in digital literacy.

#### **The Environment, Climate Change, and Children's Rights**

Analyze the impact of climate change on children's rights, from displacement to activism, and consider the gendered effects of environmental harms.

#### **Children's Rights in the Digital Sphere**

Examine how digital technologies, AI, and the internet are reshaping children's rights, including privacy concerns, online exploitation, and the blurred lines between play and child labor.

#### **Business and Children's Rights**

Investigate the intersection of children's rights with business practices, focusing on regulation and compliance of industries such as technology, multinational companies, and extractive sectors.

#### **Poverty, Social Policies, and Socio-Economic Rights**

Discuss how governments are fulfilling obligations to provide public services for children, analyzing social policies, development plans, and judicial support for socio-economic rights.

#### **Child Protection**

Address legal developments in protecting children from harmful practices such as child marriage, trafficking, forced labor, and abduction.

#### **Child Justice System**

Consider the relationship between children's rights and the criminal justice system, particularly in relation to children in conflict with the law.

#### **Gender, Disability, and Vulnerable Children**

Explore the unique challenges faced by children in situations of vulnerability, including those related to gender and disability.

## Tuesday, 10 September 2024

08:00-08:30

Registration

Venue: Ou Hoofgebou

08:30-10:15

Welcoming and Keynote

Venue: Ou Hoofgebou, JC de Wet (Room 1023)

10:15-10:45

Tea Break

Venue: Tent

SESSION 1				
	Session 1(a)	Session 1(b)	Session 1(c)	Session 1(d)
	<b>The environment, climate change and children's rights</b>	<b>Children's rights and the changing family</b>	<b>Save the Children session</b>	<b>Poverty, child sensitive social policies and socio-economic rights</b>
	<b>Facilitator: Prof Sonia Human</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1031</i>	<b>Facilitator: Judge Belinda van Heerden</b> <i>Krotoa 1001</i>	<i>Ou Hoofgebou 2027</i>	<b>Facilitator: Stanley Malesatja</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1023</i>
	<b>Emerge Masiya &amp; Nancy Makuvis (online)</b>	<b>Dr Carmel Jacobs</b>	<b>Emmanuel Modikwane</b>	<b>Judith Machaka</b>
	<i>Great Zimbabwe University</i>	<i>University of the Western Cape</i>	<i>Save the Children</i>	<i>Zimbabwe Ezekiel Guti University</i>
10:45-12:00	Human Wildlife Conflict in Guluji: Assessing the effectiveness of the law in securing children's right to a safe and healthy environment	Re-configuring parental responsibilities and rights and the best interests of the child in cases of parental narcissistic abuse	Child rights reporting: Best practices	Analyzing the Right to Inclusive Education for Learners with Speech and Hearing Impairments in Zimbabwean Primary Schools
	<b>Samantha Getsos</b>	<b>Emilie Hermans</b>	<b>Margaret Zulu</b>	<b>Dr Annemarie Strohwald</b>
	<i>University of Pretoria</i>	<i>Hasselt University; Namur University</i>	<i>Save the Children</i>	<i>University of Pretoria</i>
	International Children's Rights; More Specifically, Child Activists within a Broader Framing of Strategic Climate Litigation	Towards a gender-inclusive Belgian parentage law?	The invisibility of unaccompanied and separated migrant children: Why should you care? Findings from a child migration trends analysis study	The value of African values: the incorporation of African values, traditions and morals in the interpretation of the child's right to education in South Africa

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	<b>Dr Douglas Nyathi, Joram Ndlovu &amp; Victor H Mlambo</b>	<b>Gadiël Robbertze</b>	<b>Marumo Segkobela</b>	<b>Dr Nurina Ally &amp; Kyla Damonse</b>
10:45-12:00	<i>School of Public Management, Governance and Public, University of Johannesburg; School of Social Sciences, University of KwaZulu Natal; School of Public Management, Governance and Public, University of Johannesburg</i>  Climate change impact on children's rights in Sub Saharan Africa: Issues and options revisited	<i>University of the Witwatersrand; Boston City Campus</i>  Compassion and Controversy: Exploring Euthanasia for Children	<i>Save the Children</i>  Children's right to health – what works? Knows No Borders Project	<i>University of Cape Town</i>  The play gap - the right to access inclusive playgrounds in South Africa
	<b>Liesl Muller</b>	<b>Prof Muneer Abduroaf</b>	<b>Dr Liz-Marie Basson</b>	<b>Dr Promise Hlungwani</b>
	<i>University College Cork; External expert to the Working Group on children's rights and climate change for the African Committee on the Rights of the Child.</i>  What emerges from South African climate change cases involving youth which develops international child rights law?	<i>University of the Western Cape</i>  A critical analysis of the position of a minor child in relation to Islamic Wills: A South African case study	<i>Save the Children</i>  Child rights and the digital sphere.	<i>University of Johannesburg</i>  Towards the realization of socio-economic rights of children in Zimbabwe; A Child sensitive policy Framework

12:00-13:00 LUNCH ( <i>Tent</i> )				
SESSION 2				
	Session 2(a)	Session 2(b)	Session 2(c)	Session 2(d)
	<b>Children's rights in the digital sphere</b>	<b>Child protection</b>	<b>Institutional mechanisms for the realisation of children's rights</b>	<b>Business and children's rights</b>
	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Debbie Horsten</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1031</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Prof Brigitte Clarke</b> <i>Krotoa 1001</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Prof Willene Holness</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 2027</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Elvis Fokala</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1023</i>
	<b>Protiva Sharmeen (online)</b>	<b>Prinslean Mahery &amp; Gino Frantz</b>	<b>Dr Ferdinand Kehrhahn</b>	<b>Prof Julia Sloth-Nielsen</b>
13:00-14:15	<i>Senior Program Officer, Democracy International Inc., Bangladesh</i>  Physical, Mental and Behavioural Impact on Children of Using Excessive Smartphones in Bangladesh: Urgency for Appropriate Policy	<i>University of the Witwatersrand</i>  The proposed prohibition on child marriage in South Africa: does the rights of the child create an urgency to end child marriage retroactively	<i>University of Pretoria</i>  The Judiciary and State Organs Paying Lip Service to the Best Interest and Voice of the Child-Civil-Litigant – The Protection and Promotion of Child-Rights-Euphoria Falling by the Wayside - What are the Quick Fixes?	<i>University of Huddersfield</i>  Business and children's rights in Africa
	<b>Dr Nomalanga Mashinini</b>	<b>Caiphus Mahumani</b>	<b>Dr Bamisaye Olutola &amp; Dr Itunu Kolade-Faseyi (online)</b>	<b>Dr Felistas Zimano; Lin Manyika &amp; Faith Ndlovu (online)</b>
	<i>University of the Witwatersrand</i>  Kidfluencers, where art thou Image Rights?	<i>Gender equality and disability rights activist in one of the national government departments in South Africa</i>  Exploration of Legal Developments on Marriage in South Africa: A Move Towards Ending Child Marriages	<i>Caleb University</i>  Transvaluation of the Protection of the Rights of Children in African Constitutions: A Comparative Analysis	<i>Great Zimbabwe University</i>  We love them but cannot love them' – Unpacking the diminished decent work's effect on children's rights in Zimbabwe.

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	<b>Harriet Harding</b>	<b>Nozipho Ndebele</b>	<b>Dr Linda Mushoriwa &amp; Dr Windell Nortje</b>	<b>Precious Eriamiatoe (online)</b>
	<i>Stellenbosch University</i>	<i>Great Zimbabwe University</i>	<i>University of the Western Cape</i>	<i>International Committee of the Red Cross</i>
13:00-14:15	To what extent does the child's right to appropriate direction and guidance in light of their evolving capacities, as iterated in Article 5 of the CRC, answer the conundrum of child-centred content on social media.	An analysis of developments in enactment and enforcement of laws protecting children from child marriages in Zimbabwe.	A Failure by African States or a Gap in the Law? An evaluation of the African and international legal framework for the protection of child soldiers	Business and Children: An examination of the effectiveness of the CRC in protecting children from all forms of exploitation in the context of business activities.
	<b>Dr Esther Gumbob &amp; Nasubila Ng'ambi (online)</b>	<b>Dr Ntandokayise Ndlovu &amp; Kennedy Kariseb</b>	<b>Prof Aoife Daly (online)</b>	<b>Sandile Tshabalala</b>
	<i>Nelson Mandela University</i>	<i>University of Fort Hare &amp; the University Namibia</i>	<i>University College Cork</i>	<i>Huruma Bantfu</i>
	The protection and regulation of child social media influencers	Harmful Practices of Child Marriage and the attainment of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals and the AU Agenda 2063 in Africa: Taking Stock, plugging gaps, Leveraging Emerging Opportunities	Climate action and the UNCRC: a 'post-paternalist' world where children claim their own rights	'I do it for my children' impact stories from Huruma Bantfu's co-execution of 'Strengthening the Township Economy Ecosystem' in partnership with the Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs [Southern Africa]

SESSION 3				
	Session 3(a)	Session 3(b)	Session 3(c)	Session 3(d)
	<b>The child justice system and children's rights</b>	<b>Practical session</b>	<b>The environment, climate change and children's rights</b>	<b>Institutional mechanisms for the realisation of children's rights</b>
	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Carmel Jacobs</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1031</i>	<i>Krotoa 1001</i>	<b>Facilitator: Prof Anel Du Plessis</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 2027</i>	<b>Facilitator: Prof Arthur van Coller</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1023</i>
	<b>Terry Ombati (online)</b>	<b>Anzio Jacobs</b>	<b>Sithandweyinkosi Nkomo &amp; Dr Chantelle Moyo (online)</b>	<b>Simone Gray</b>
14:15-15:30	<i>Kabarak University</i>  Analysing pre-trial detention as a measure of last resort for children in conflict with the law in Kenya: A case for the incorporation of the best interests of the child	<i>Nelson Mandela Children's Fund</i>	<i>National University of Science and Technology and Terre des hommes Germany &amp; Programme Manager Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Regional Programme Energy Security and Climate Change in Sub-Saharan Africa.</i>  Environmental Degradation and Child Rights: The impact of mineral extraction on children's rights to a clean and healthy environment in Zimbabwe	<i>University of KwaZulu-Natal</i>  An Examination of Judicial Oversight in the Protection and Promotion of Socio-Economic Rights for Children
	<b>Stanley Malematja</b>	<b>Karl Muller</b>	<b>Dr Bryony Fox</b>	<b>Opal Sibanda (online)</b>
	<i>University of Pretoria</i>  The Basic Rights of Children in Places of Detention in South Africa	<i>Nelson Mandela Children's Fund</i>	<i>Stellenbosch University</i>  Soft Law and the Rights of Climate Change Displaced Children: Analysis in the African Regional Context	<i>Legal Researcher-Secretariat of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child</i>  Assessing the African Union's Human Rights Mechanisms' Approaches to Protecting Children's Rights in the Context of Business: Progress, Challenges and Opportunities



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	<b>Dr Esther Gumboh &amp; Fostino Maele (online)</b>	<b>Sithandweyinkosi Nkomo</b>	<b>Emerge Masiya</b>	<b>Ntokozi Sibanyoni (online)</b>
	<i>Nelson Mandela University &amp; Malawian legal practitioner with specialisation in criminal justice</i>	<i>Terre des Hommes</i>	<i>Great Zimbabwe University.</i>	<i>Professional Assistant - African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child</i>
14:15-15:30	Child imprisonment: Perspectives from Malawi and South Africa		Re-assessing Climate Justice: Children as casualties of adult environmental law infringement.	The impact of the CRC and ACRWC on access to quality education in South Africa
	<b>Anshiit Baxi</b>	<b>Faith Chirinda</b>	<b>Tanaka Dhumbura</b>	<b>Prof Meda Couzens &amp; Prof Willene Holness</b>
	<i>College of Social Work Nirmala Niketan</i>	<i>Terre des Hommes</i>	<i>University of KwaZulu-Natal</i>	<i>Western Sydney University &amp; University of KwaZulu-Natal</i>
	Parents' Awareness and Experience on functioning of Stakeholders in Juvenile Justice System with reference to Boys in Conflict with Law		Honouring the overlooked generation by the Convention on the Rights of the Child: A critical analysis on integrating intergenerational equity into environmental decision-making to protect the environmental rights of children and future generations.	An early appraisal of the Western Cape Commissioner for Children as a sub-national children's rights institution

15:30-16:00 BREAK FOR TEA (*Tent*)

## SESSION 4

	Session 4(a)	Session 4(b)	Session 4(c)	Session 4(d)
	<b>Children's rights and the changing family</b>	<b>Child protection</b>	<b>Poverty, child sensitive social policies and socio-economic rights</b>	<b>Children's rights in the digital sphere</b>
	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Admark Moyo</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1031</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Bronwyn Batchelor</b> <i>Krotoa 1001</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Nurina Ally</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 2027</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Prof Sonia Human</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1023</i>
	<b>Douglas Musebenzi &amp; Emerge Masiya (online)</b>	<b>Kudzai Mhepo</b>	<b>Nobukhosi Zulu</b>	<b>Emerentia Morape</b>
16:00-17:15	<i>Great Zimbabwe University</i>  Paper Tigers! A critical analysis of the implementation of the child marriages law in Zimbabwe	<i>University of Western Cape; University of Zimbabwe</i>  Protecting Children's Rights: Analysing the Impact of the Termination of Zimbabwe Exemption Permits	<i>Ilafa Labantwana</i>  Towards Equitable Development: Integrating Human Rights and Developmental Perspectives in Early Childhood Standards and Norms	<i>University of Cape Town</i>  Navigating the Digital Frontier: Protecting Children's Rights in South Africa's Digital Environment
	<b>Dr Refilwe Raseroka &amp; Tebogo Jobeta</b>	<b>Dr Ntandokayise Ndlovu</b>	<b>Taydren van Vuren</b>	<b>Dr Liz-Marie Basson</b>
	<i>University of Botswana</i>  Wiping The Orphans Tears: Protecting the Inheritance Rights of Orphans through Affirmative Action. The Case of Botswana	<i>Nelson R Mandela School of Law (University of Fort Hare)</i>  The Role of international human rights law in protecting child rights in South Sudan Post-conflict	<i>Stellenbosch University</i>  Reclaiming Childhoods: Reintegrating child soldiers through education using a child rights-based approach	<i>Save the Children</i>  Children rights and the digital sphere

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	<b>Dr Yeukai Mahleza &amp; Dr Martha Radebe (online)</b>	<b>Dr Gertrude Mafoa Quan</b>	<b>Dr William Muchono &amp; Dr Ernest Mando (online)</b>	<b>Adv Naomi Gichuki (online)</b>
	<i>University of Pretoria</i>	<i>University of the Witwatersrand</i>	<i>Zimbabwe Ezekiel Guti University &amp; University of South Africa</i>	<i>Advocate of the High Court of Kenya</i>
16:00-17:15	School violence: Assessing the responsibilities of parents and the community towards disciplining of children: Seeking alternative options	The principle of non-refoulement and the rights of children in international human rights law: An analysis of the jurisprudence of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.	Implementation of the national school health policy for protection of children's rights in rural Zimbabwe	The institutional framework around the prevention, investigation and prosecution of cybercrime involving child victims, with a specific focus on sexual exploitation in digital spaces
	<b>Dr Rosemary Farayi Masaire &amp; Dr Joseph Mesuwini</b>	<b>Dr Promise Hlungwani &amp; Tafadzwa Chiwanza</b>	<b>Anél Odendaal</b>	<b>Komborerai Manenji</b>
	<i>University of Zimbabwe &amp; University of South Africa</i>	<i>University of Johannesburg &amp; Marondera University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology</i>	<i>University of Fort Hare</i>	<i>Postal and Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe</i>
	Single male parenting: Initial birth registration challenges in Zimbabwe	Culture and Tradition as impediments to Children's rights in Zimbabwe: A Case of Manicaland Province.	Defining the Right to Basic Education and the Need for a Minimum Core of the Right in South Africa	The SADC Model Law on Data Protection of Children's Personal Information in SADC Countries

Wednesday, 11 September 2024

SESSION 1				
	Session 1(a)	Session 1(b)	Session 1(c)	Session 1(d)
	<b>Child protection</b>	<b>Institutional mechanisms for the realisation of children's rights</b>	<b>World Vision session</b>	<b>Children's rights and the changing family</b>
	<b>Facilitator: Prof Juanita Easthorpe</b> <i>Krotoa 1001</i>	<b>Facilitator: Dr Windell Nortje</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 2027</i>	<i>Ou Hoofgebou 1023</i>	<b>Facilitator: Prof Julia Sloth-Nielsen</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1031</i>
	<b>Dr Veronica Buchumi</b>	<b>Dr Nfor Nyambi (online)</b>	<b>Margaret Maidei Phiri</b>	<b>Dr Vivian Nyaata (online)</b>
	<i>University of Dar es Salaam (School of Law)</i>  A Reflection on the Intersection between the Role of the State and Non-State Actors in Providing Alternative Care for Children in Tanzania	<i>Institut d'Enseignement Supérieur de Ruhengeri, Rwanda</i>  The 'Ambazonia' plight: Toward greater accountability for crimes committed against children in Cameroon	<i>World Vision</i>	<i>Director of the African Network for the Voice of the Child</i>  An Analysis of the Legal Framework of Child Participation in Custody Mediation Matters in Kenya
08:30-09:45	<b>Dr Charissa Fawole</b>	<b>Prof Robert Nanima (online)</b>	<b>Avile Macingwane</b>	<b>Katherine Watson</b>
	<i>University of Johannesburg</i>  Beyond the paper: An assessment of the implementation of rights of internally displaced children in Kenya	<i>Assoc Professor and Head of Department, Criminal Justice and Procedure, Faculty of Law, University of the Western Cape; Member of ACERWC and Special Rapporteur, Children in Conflict Situations</i>  The normative dilemma(s) in the African Human Rights System; and its effects on the development of the jurisprudence: A focus on the African Court on Human and People's Rights and the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child	<i>World Vision</i>	<i>Leiden University</i>  The implications of adolescents' evolving capacities for laws related to sexual consent and age of marriage

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	<b>Chikodza Englebrecht</b>	<b>Bernard Bushe &amp; Dr Admark Moyo</b>	<b>Sakhile Dlamini</b>	<b>Dorothy Tiroyaone</b>
08:30-09:45	<i>Stellenbosch University</i>  To what degree has the realisation of providing healthy housing to children under Section 28(1) of the South African Constitution been achieved?	<i>University of Pretoria &amp; Stellenbosch University</i>  Assessing the Effectiveness of Legal and Policy Frameworks for Combating the Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Girls in South African Schools	<i>World Vision</i>	<i>University of Cape Town</i>  The right of children born out of wedlock to know and be raised by their biological parents in Botswana
	<b>Dr Chiedzo Simbo &amp; Benni Avhatakali Mudau</b>	<b>Lori Lake</b>		<b>Brook Kebede Abebe</b>
	<i>University of Venda</i>  Unspoken hardships: the realisation of the right to health for children with albinism in South Africa	<i>Children's Institute, University of Cape Town</i>  Using children's rights to health to hold government accountable and bring children's rights down to earth		<i>Addis Ababa University</i>  A comparative analysis on child custody under Customary, Muslim and Federal Family Laws in Ethiopia

SESSION 2				
	Session 2(a)	Session 2(b)	Session 2(c)	Session 2(d)
	<b>Changing family</b>	<b>The environment, climate change and children's rights</b>	<b>Poverty, child sensitive social policies and socio-economic rights</b>	<b>The child justice system and children's rights</b>
	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Annemarie Strohwald</b> <i>Krotoa 1001</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Bryony Fox</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 2027</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Chantelle Feldhaus</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1023</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Prof Meda Couzens</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1031</i>
	<b>Dr Gerald Ramsden</b>	<b>Dr Tracey Kanhanga</b>	<b>Dr Ntandokayise Ndlovu &amp; Dr Adeebola Olaborede</b>	<b>Dr Belayneh Nega (online)</b>
09:45-11:00	<i>IIE Varsity College</i>  The legal dilemma posed by combat sports to the parental duty to act in the best interests of a child: A South African law perspective	<i>South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law (SAIFAC)</i>  The Environment as the Heirloom: An Examination of Children's Rights to a Safe Climate and Intergenerational Equity in International Law	<i>University of Fort Hare</i>  An Assessment of the Right to Education and the Grave Violations Against Child Rights in Situations of Armed Conflict in Africa	<i>Arba Minch University</i>  The Rights of Children in Conflict with the Law (CICWL) in the Ethiopian Child Justice System
	<b>Caitlyn Lattimer</b>	<b>Gift Mauluka</b>	<b>Dr Swikani Ncube &amp; Felicity Mthombeni</b>	<b>Delecia Beyers (online)</b>
	<i>Stellenbosch University</i>  Evolving Capacities as Intersectional Method in the Modern Parent-Child Relationship	<i>University of Bayreuth</i>  Contextualising obligations in addressing climate change-induced child labour: an investigation of child labour legal frameworks enforcement in Malawi	<i>University of Johannesburg</i>  Situating and reframing the social protection of unaccompanied and separated child migrants in Southern Africa	<i>University of the Western Cape</i>  Child-friendly justice in South Africa: Strengthening the protections for child witnesses

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	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Annemarie Strohwald</b> <i>Krotoa 1001</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Bryony Fox</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 2027</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Chantelle Feldhaus</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1023</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Prof Meda Couzens</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1031</i>
	<b>Nina Breytenbach</b>	<b>Opeyemi Gbadegesin (online)</b>	<b>Adv Thandeka Khoza</b>	
09:45-11:00	<i>Stellenbosch University</i>  The impact of the evolving capacities principle on the legislative framework regulating sex and gender classification of children with non-heteronormative SOGIE in South Africa	<i>University of Ibadan Addressing</i>  Climate-Induced Displacement: Safeguarding the Rights of Children in Vulnerable Communities in Nigeria	<i>South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law (SAIFAC) - University of Johannesburg</i>  "Get with the Program": Harnessing the Power of Artificial Intelligence for the Right to Education in South Africa	
	<b>Prof Brigitte Clark &amp; Juanita Easthorpe</b>	<b>Prinslean Mahery</b>	<b>Dr Bridget Machaka</b>	<b>Delecia Beyers (online)</b>
	<i>University of KwaZulu-Natal</i>  Post-separation contact between non-resident parents and their children in high conflict circumstances: interpreting animosity and parental alienation between separated parents in the best interests of the child	<i>University of the Witwatersrand</i>  Advancing children's rights within disaster management structures: Lessons from South Africa	<i>Stellenbosch University</i>  Securing basic education for all: legal developments and anticipated challenges for undocumented migrant children in South Africa	<i>University of the Western Cape</i>  Child-friendly justice in South Africa: Strengthening the protections for child witnesses

11:00-11:30 BREAK FOR TEA ( <i>Tent</i> )				
SESSION 3				
	Session 3(a)	Session 3(b)	Session 3(c)	Session 3(d)
	<b>Child protection</b>	<b>Children's rights in the digital sphere</b>	<b>Practical session</b>	<b>Gender, disability and children in situations of vulnerability</b>
	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Bridget Machaka</b> <i>Krotoa 1001</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Debbie Horsten</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 2027</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1023</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Charissa Fawole</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1031</i>
	<b>Sharna-Lee Clarke &amp; Lelethu Nogwavu</b>	<b>Hadiza Okunrobo (online)</b>	<b>WCC (TBC)</b>	<b>Tin Htwe (online)</b>
11:30-12:45	<i>IIE Varsity College; University of Cape Town</i>  Navigating a Brighter Future: An Evaluation of Legal Frameworks on Climate Change and the Rights of Children with Albinism in South Africa	<i>University of Benin</i>  <i>Addressing the Escalation of Child Pornography: Strengthening Child Protection Measures in Sub-Saharan Africa</i>	<i>Ilafa Labantwana</i>  Towards Equitable Development: Integrating Human Rights and Developmental Perspectives in Early Childhood Standards and Norms	<i>Chiang Mai University</i>  Progressing Transformative Paradigms in the Rights and Welfare of Myanmar Migrant Children in Thailand Following the 2021 Coup
	<b>Tafadzwa Chiwanza</b>	<b>Angellah Munjanga &amp; Prof Nelson Mlambo</b>	<b>Save the Children (TBC)</b>	<b>Nyaradzo Shumba; Wayne Moyo; Nyasha Ndemo &amp; Kwashirai Zvokumba</b>
	<i>Marondera University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology</i>  An Analysis of the Legal and Policy Framework which Protects Children from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation in Zimbabwe.	<i>Zimbabwe Ezekiel Guti University &amp; University of Namibia</i>  Unpacking children's hidden scars and the cancerously toxic narratives of social media through paternity shows: Some provocations on children's rights abuses in The Closure DNA Show		<i>Zimbabwe Ezekiel Guti University</i>  'The right to justice': Plugging gaps in access to justice for children with disabilities in Zimbabwe.



SESSION 3				
	Session 3(a)	Session 3(b)	Session 3(c)	Session 3(d)
	<b>Child protection</b>	<b>Children's rights in the digital sphere</b>	<b>Practical session</b>	<b>Gender, disability and children in situations of vulnerability</b>
	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Bridget Machaka</b> <i>Krotoa 1001</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Debbie Horsten</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 2027</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1023</i>	<b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Charissa Fawole</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1031</i>
	<b>Megha Nkem</b>	<b>Prof Mildred Bekink (online)</b>	<b>Dr Elvis Fokala</b>	<b>Adv Barbara Lamara (online)</b>
11:30-12:45	<i>University of the Free State</i>  Trafficking In Women and Children: A Comparison between Cameroon and South Africa	<i>University of South Africa</i>  Evaluating possible threats to the privacy rights of children due to the emergence of artificial intelligence: a South African perspective	<i>Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria</i>	<i>Mental Health Uganda</i>  Assessing the Right to Education for Children with Intellectual Disabilities in Uganda
	<b>Prof Ann Strode</b>	<b>Linda Omondi</b>	<b>Prof Robert Nanima</b>	<b>Dr Arthur van Collier &amp; Dr Bronwyn Batchelor</b>
	<i>University of KwaZulu-Natal</i>  Promoting a child's right to access quality health care services through research: A critical review of the ethical-legal framework 1994 - 2024	<i>Kenya School of Law</i>  Between Pixels and Playgrounds: Sharenting's Dual Challenge of Privacy and Child Labour	<i>African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child</i>	<i>University of Fort Hare &amp; The Independent Institute of Education</i>  The Abduction of Ukrainian Children during the Russo-Ukrainian War

12:45-13:45 LUNCH (*Tent*)**SESSION 4**

	<b>Session 4(b)</b>	<b>Session 4(c)</b>
	<b>Institutional mechanisms for the realisation of children's rights</b>	<b>The child justice system and children's rights</b>
	<b>Facilitator: Sithandweyinkosi Nkomo</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 2027</i>	<b>Facilitator: Dr Elvis Fokala</b> <i>Ou Hoofgebou 1023</i>
	<b>Alaba Kekere &amp; Oluwadara Ajidasile (online)</b>	<b>Dr Maryna Human; Prof Theophilus Lazarus &amp; Dr Leandre Geoffrey</b>
	<i>Adekunle Ajasin University</i>	<i>Member of the East African Law Society's Rule of Law Committee</i>
	Governmental Failure: The Bane of Child Rights Protection in Nigeria	Integrating Child Rights into Uganda's Traditional Justice Systems: Challenges and Opportunities
13:45-15:00	<b>Prof Leah Ndimurwimo &amp; Esther Wanjala</b>	<b>Ronald Serwanga (online)</b>
	<i>Nelson Mandela University</i>	<i>Caleb University</i>
	A Critical Analysis of the State Obligation to Protect Children's Rights During Armed Conflicts: The Street Children in Kenya	Transvaluation of the Protection of the Rights of Children in African Constitutions: A Comparative Analysis
	<b>Sibabalwe Nongwana (online)</b>	<b>Prof Marelize Schoeman (online)</b>
	<i>University of Pretoria</i>	<i>University of South Africa</i>
	Operationalizing the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: Challenges and Opportunities for Child Health and Well-being	Is Decriminalising Cannabis Use for Children a Case of Seeing the Forest for the Trees?

15:00-15:30 BREAK FOR TEA (*Tent*)15:30-17:00 Reflections panel and closing (*Ou Hoofgebou 2027*)

## Message of thanks

As we conclude this important gathering, we reflect on the incredible progress made in advancing children's rights, both internationally and regionally. Our journey, however, is far from over. We extend our deepest gratitude to all who have walked this path with us—courts, human rights bodies, governments, and communities alike. Your commitment to safeguarding children's rights, particularly in the face of emerging global challenges such as the digital age, human trafficking, conflict, and climate change, is invaluable. Together, we continue to build a future where these rights are not only upheld but thrive in a changing world.

Thank you for your dedication to this vital cause.





**Stellenbosch**  
UNIVERSITY  
IYUNIVESITHI  
UNIVERSITEIT

Law  
eyoMthetho  
Regsgeleerdheid



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