7,358: Empirical Analysis of International Human Rights Law

Fall 2019

**Instructor:** Professor Tilmann Altwicker
**Time:** M 14:15 – 18:00
**Email:** tilmann.altwicker@rwi.uzh.ch
**Place:** Seminarraum 01-113

Course Page: [http://tiny.cc/dsj9bz](http://tiny.cc/dsj9bz)

**Office Hours:** On Mondays, before class by appointment.

**Main References:**

**Schedule:** Note that the schedule is provisional and subject to change. In particular, not necessarily all texts will be covered during the seminar. Complexity is roughly indicated by * (low) to *** (high).

**September 23, 2019** Course Overview / Introduction: Empirical Turn in International Legal Scholarship

- **Required Readings:** MSS Chapters 4, 6; EM Chapter 1

**October 10, 2019** Commitment to International Human Rights Law / Exploring Data about Human Rights

- **Required Readings:** MSS Chapter 24; EM Chapter 2
- **Recommended Readings:** FIE Chapter 2.1.-2.4.; Chapter 4; Chapter 6
- **Student-Assigned Texts:**
  - *German Federal Constitutional Court, Judgment of the First Senate of 15 February 2006 - 1 BvR 357/05: Authorisation to shoot down aircraft*
  - *R. Cichowski, The European Court of Human Rights, Amicus Curiae, and Violence against Women, Law Society Review 50 (2016) 890*
October 21, 2019 The Rights to Non-Discrimination and Freedom of Religion in Practice / Hypothesis

- **Required Readings:** MSS Chapter 8; EM Chapter 6-7
- **Recommended Readings:** FIE Chapter 1.7.5.; Chapter 9
- **Student-Assigned Texts:**
  - *ECtHR,* Case of DH and others v. Czech Republic, no. 57325/00, 13 November 2007
  - *ECtHR,* S.A.S. v. France, no. 43835/11, 1 July 2014

November 18, 2019 Does International Human Rights Law Matter? / Correlation, Regression, Logistic Regression

- **Required Readings:** EM Chapter 8-9
- **Recommended Readings:** FIE Chapters 6-8
- **Student-Assigned Texts:**

December 2, 2019 International Human Rights Law in Special Contexts (terrorism; social rights) / Prediction, text mining, machine learning

- **Required Readings:** MSS Chapter 7; 29; 30
- **Recommended Readings:** https://www.datacamp.com/community/tutorials/machine-learning-in-r
- **Student-Assigned Texts:**
  - *ECtHR,* El-Masri v. the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, no. 39630/09, 13 December 2012
  - *ECtHR,* Konstantin Markin v. Russia, no. 30078/06, 22 March 2012

December 16, 2019 Presentation of Student Projects