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FOR THE STUDY OF
HUMAN RIGHTS



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Spotlighting student scholarship in Human Rights Studies to provide a diverse, interdisciplinary view of the most prevalent and pervasive human rights issues facing us today while bringing together students from all academic fields and disciplines.

 **SJSHR**
Student Journal for the Study of Human Rights



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A LETTER FROM THE EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

Anna Pan & Denis Mihai-Hortea

Dear Readers,

It is with great pride and gratitude that we present Volume III of the Columbia University Student Journal for the Study of Human Rights.

This journal engages with human rights at a high level and is uniquely positioned to question, challenge, and expand the frameworks through which human rights are understood. The pieces in this volume reflect both the breadth and depth. They move across borders and disciplines, engaging with questions of migration, criminal justice, technology, public health, and structural inequality. At the core, each contribution shares a common thread: a willingness to interrogate not only what human rights are, but how they are applied, who they serve, and where they fall short.

Importantly, this volume does not seek to present human rights as a settled or static field. Instead, it embraces tension between theory and practice, between law and lived experience, and between global ideals and local realities. Many of the works included here grapple with these tensions directly—offering critiques that are as thoughtful as they are necessary. In doing so, they reflect what I believe is one of the most important roles of student scholarship: not simply to participate in existing conversations, but to push them forward.

This journal is, above all, a collective effort. We are deeply grateful to our editorial board for their precision, dedication, and care in shaping each piece, and to our authors for their intellectual courage and trust in this platform. We would also like to thank our broader community, faculty, mentors, and readers, whose support continues to make this work possible. As this journal grows, so too does its purpose. It is not only a publication, but a space for dialogue, for critical engagement, and for building a community grounded in a shared commitment to justice. It is our hope that this volume contributes meaningfully to that mission.

Best regards,

Anna Pan and Denis Hortea

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is for Anna Pan, and the signature on the right is for Denis Hortea. Both are stylized and cursive.

Editors-in-Chief

Columbia University Student Journal for the Study of Human Rights

ABOUT US

The Student Journal for the Study of Human Rights (SJSHR) is an open-access peer-reviewed journal that showcases students' research and academic studies in the field of human rights. An interdisciplinary journal, SJSHR is a publishing platform for Columbia undergraduate and graduate students that creates more space and visibility for student work and serves as an educational tool that deepens critical thinking in the field of human rights studies.

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