

Human Rights Measurement Initiative

Dear friend of HRMI,

Stephen here from the HRMI Economic and Social Rights team.

As we gear up for our annual **data release**, we as a team want to thank you for your support - whether you're a donor, data user, survey respondent, or just someone who cares about human rights - we thank you for being part of our community. We do this work for you, but we are so glad that we also get to do this work *with* you.

I have been working with HRMI since November of 2019, what seems like a lifetime ago. I am grateful to be part of the wonderful, industrious community that HRMI has built, and have enjoyed seeing it grow, and how our data have become more useful

as a result. As of this year, we will be providing data on rights for states that cover over half the world's population in total, thanks to the addition of **China** and **India** in our civil and political rights measurement for the first time.

As I mentioned, we are putting the finishing touches on all our work for the annual data release. If you're interested in attending our (virtual) launch events, we have split them up this year. You can register for the civil and political rights launch event here, the economic and social rights launch event here (details below), and stay tuned for a special event for Pacific partners in September.

We hope you're able to join us, we have more good news to share than we did last year!

With immense gratitude,

Stephen Bagwell

Data release

Our 2022 data are ready!

Each year we produce data on 8 civil and political rights, and 5 economic and social rights.

Join us at the end of June as we release our brand-new human rights scores!



Register here for the civil and political rights webinar on June 22 at this time.

Register here for the economic and social rights webinar on June 29/30 at this time.

Both events run for 90 minutes and we will be welcoming a panel of guests to discuss the findings and offer insight into the numbers.

Would you like to have a **press release** ready when HRMI's new data is in the news cycle? Register for our press briefings for **journalists** and **CSOs** on the 14th of June at <u>8am</u> UTC <u>here</u> (in French), <u>9:30pm</u> UTC <u>here</u> (in English), or on the 15th of June at <u>8am</u> UTC <u>here</u> (in English).



Pacific Internship

Following the success of our remote internship programme at the <u>University of the South Pacific</u> (USP) in Samoa last year, we are thrilled to include students from USP Samoa and the <u>University of Papua New Guinea</u> (UPNG) this year.

The students who joined us last year impressed us with their commitment and enthusiasm. Three of them have returned this year to further their involvement in HRMI projects and help guide the new interns. We are so glad to have you with us again, Faye, Otto, and Jennifer!

We are thrilled to partner with UPNG and USP Samoa, as part of our work in the Pacific. These scholarships are funded by the New Zealand Aid Programme of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. We are very grateful to Galumalemana Ronna

Lee, Ms Yanamlyn Yana, and Ms Dika Iru for their hard work overseeing the programme on the ground.

Child Rights Research

For several months, HRMI Child Rights Research Fellows Liz Kaletski and Annie Watson have been working to create preliminary measures of children's rights, including economic and social rights, physical integrity rights, and personhood rights.



These measures include composite measures incorporating all of the rights mentioned above and cover 190 countries from 2000 to 2018.

Liz and Annie are working to refine and improve these measures with input from children and other children's rights stakeholders.

As part of this process, they are building connections among child rights practitioners and seeking guidance with regards to best practices when it comes to incorporating children's active participation into research processes. Additionally, they are looking for partners to engage in mutually beneficial research collaborations, as well as grant funding and co-design workshops to ensure the research addresses the needs of key stakeholders.

Please get in touch with Annie and Liz if you are interested in the development of this Child Rights workstream: ekaletski@ithaca.edu and watson.k.anne@gmail.com.

Engaging the Private Sector in Human Rights

You may remember from previous newsletters that we have a work programme underway – supported by the <u>Ford Foundation</u> – to help engage the private sector more deeply in advancing country-level human rights around the world. Following the initial co-design Catalysts Workshop in February, we are now planning a larger on-line Summit in September, which will be spread over three 3-hour sessions.

HRMI co-founder Anne-Marie Brook is collaborating with <u>CoCreative</u> to shape the Summit programme, and we are very excited about what is emerging, including:

- Deeper exploration into the opportunities prioritised at the February event, as well as other emerging innovations. Have a look at our first event report here.
- Bringing together human rights defenders and advocates with leaders in banking, institutional investment, and corporate human rights due diligence. As Anne-Marie says "these two groups of people don't often get the opportunity to work together to design new systems and solutions".

Participation in the Summit will be by invitation only, but if you would like to suggest yourself or someone else as an invitee, please feel free to reach out to Anne-Marie by replying to this email.

One innovation that has emerged from this programme is a project to bring several new HRMI data series to market, that we believe will be particularly useful for ESG sovereign bond investors, as well as analysts conducting country-level human rights due diligence. If you'd like to learn more, or give feedback on some prototypes, Anne-Marie would love to hear from you!



HRMI in the news

HRMI's Stephen Bagwell and Meridith LaVelle wrote about the impact multinational companies have on countries' human rights performance for <u>The</u> Conversation.

Stephen also wrote about the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on human rights.

Taiwan Plus talked to HRMI's Thalia Kehoe Rowden about <u>Taiwan's continued use</u> of the death penalty and its impacts on the country's overall human rights performance.

Matthew Lynn wrote about <u>oil and gas politics</u> between Europe and Saudi Arabia, citing the country's low HRMI scores for The Telegraph UK.

Ed Smith also quoted Saudi Arabia's low scores in news about the country's investment in online gaming for PC Games.

Take a tour of the Rights Tracker

The simplest way to understand our human rights data is to have someone guide you through it.

Head to our <u>YouTube channel</u> and find the guided tour that suits you. Or follow these quick links to see:

- Rights Tracker guided tours in <u>English</u> (10 mins), <u>Japanese</u> (8 mins), <u>Spanish</u>
 (14 mins), <u>Hindi</u> (45 mins), <u>Arabic</u> (1h), or <u>Portuguese</u> (25 mins).
- Human rights of <u>LGBTQIA+ people</u> (7 mins)
- Human rights of <u>older people</u> (7 mins)
- Human rights data for the <u>UPR</u> (2h)

Expanding coverage to Palestine and Israel

HRMI is seeking funding to expand its civil and political rights coverage to Israel and Palestine.

Help us produce robust, useful human rights data for Palestine and Israel, and build bridges between the two neighbours.

You can be part of this project and contribute to lasting peace and the wellbeing and thriving of people throughout the region by donating to the project <u>here</u>.

Please keep in touch!

Thanks for your interest in HRMI. You are also most welcome to follow us on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>YouTube</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, and <u>Facebook</u> to keep up to date in between newsletters.

Please also feel free to <u>contact us directly</u> with feedback, ideas, and requests. We're here to help.

Donate

Human Rights Measurement Initiative (HRMI), PO Box 24390, Wellington, New Zealand

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