



Dear Catherine,

Great news x2! I am very happy to share with you two new exciting developments.

First up, we have now confirmed our plans to **expand the HRMI expert survey to both China and India** in early 2022. This expansion will take our expert survey coverage to *more than half the world's population*.

We are rapidly approaching the end-September deadline for confirming which new countries will be included in next year's survey. In particular, we would love to add more countries in Asia, to complete our Asia-Pacific coverage, before filling in the rest of the gaps around the world. If you have ideas for who might help to fund additional country expansion, please let me know.

Second, and equally exciting, the Ford Foundation is partnering with us to focus on **helping the private sector use HRMI data**. The private sector wields a lot of power - so imagine a world where investors, companies, and private sector consultants all prioritise human rights!

I'm also very pleased to have an opportunity to bring my economics background back into my HRMI work and also to partner again with [Russ Gaskin at CoCreative](#), who has facilitated three of HRMI's co-design workshops so far. CoCreative are incredibly gifted at bringing people together around a shared purpose, for impact, and I have no doubt that our success to date stems in part from their valuable input. Together, we will bring together a network of private sector change-makers to explore how HRMI-collated evidence can be used in practical and meaningful ways to help make private sector organisations more conscious of, and more accountable for, their impact on government respect for human rights.

If any of these new plans resonate with your interests or work, I'd love to hear from you. Or if you have a friend or colleague who you think might be interested, please feel free to forward this newsletter on, and encourage them to sign up themselves [here](#). This work we are doing is a very collective endeavour, and as one of our many friends, your ideas and connections are vital to our mission.

Thank you for your ongoing interest and support.

Warmest regards,
Anne-Marie

2021 Rights Tracker data out now!



Have you checked out all the new 2021 data on our [Rights Tracker](#)?

If you missed our online launch event, you can [watch it on our YouTube channel](#), and hear our team's discussion on Covid-19; racism in the United States; and the new data for Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Malaysia, among other things.

You can explore by country, right, or people group, and there are several new features, such as:

- new time trend charts for civil and political rights, so you can see all the rights in one view
- the ability to see the underlying indicator data as well as our scores for economic and social rights
- our helpful PDF downloads are now available in extra languages for countries in the survey.

Please let us know what you think of the new scores, and how you're using the data to improve people's lives. We value your feedback.

Human Rights during the Pandemic: a new report



This year we asked survey respondents in 39 countries to tell us what difference Covid-19 had made to human rights in 2020. We have published our findings in a special report, *Human Rights During the Pandemic*, with a foreword by the Right Honourable Helen Clark, former UNDP Administrator, and the co-chair of the Independent Panel on Pandemic Preparedness and Response.

We found that the pandemic, and government responses to it, negatively affected *all human rights*, in a very wide range of ways. Our data also make it clear that vulnerable populations have been worse affected than others, across all rights. We also report that several governments used the pandemic as an excuse to restrict people's rights. We hope that leaders can use these data to adjust their responses to Covid-19 and prevent unnecessary suffering.

For all the findings, download our plain-English report [here](#).

Team news



We are very pleased to announce a pair of changes to our team responsibilities. HRMI co-founder and director of the Center for the Study of Global Issues at the University of Georgia, **Dr K Chad Clay**, is shifting his focus slightly to methodological oversight, as our new **Methodology Research and Design Lead**.

Chad is pictured above with three of his senior graduate students who also work with HRMI: Meridith Lavelle, Morgan Barney, and **Matthew Rains**. Matt is several years into his PhD study, supervised by Chad, and is now succeeding Chad as our new **Civil and Political Rights Measurement Lead**. Matt will head up the civil and political rights data production, including the annual human rights survey.

HRMI data in the news

We are delighted with the range of news organisations that have used our 2021 data to tell important stories.

We've spotted coverage of human rights in Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Saudi Arabia, New Zealand, Australia, Hong Kong, Fiji, Cook Islands, and more. We've gathered links to everything

we know about and published them [on our website](#). Please let us know if you see something we haven't found!

Some highlights from the last month:

- Hong Kong Free Press' Rhoda Kwan covered our first full set of [data for Hong Kong](#)
- Aaron Bloch of the National Indigenous Times [wrote of concerns](#) raised by HRMI's scores for Australia.
- Emmanuel Samoglou from the Cook Islands News covered [HRMI's scores for Cook Islands](#), with comments from the President of Pride Cook Islands.
- RNZ's Pacific Waves programme featured an interview with us about [HRMI's scores for Pacific countries](#), focusing particularly on Papua New Guinea and Fiji.
- Rayhan Uddin reported on [Saudi Arabia's scores](#), for the Middle East Eye. His reporting has then also been included in several other articles about human rights in Saudi Arabia.
- Kabir Yusuf at Nigeria's Premium Times covered [Nigeria's economic and social rights scores](#).

Expansion to China and India



Not content to expand to only *one* of the two biggest countries in the world in 2022, we are now planning to roll out our annual human rights survey in both India *and* China next year.

We've been preparing for the challenges ahead for some time, and look forward to sharing our progress - and two new sets of data - with you as things develop.

Please get in touch if you have any suggestions as we get this work moving.

Pacific data update



This year we are launching our Pacific Module data at its own event, with details coming out soon.

Our Pacific data team members are pictured above: **Dr Sam Manuela**, **Seuta'a**, **Dr Patrick Thomsen**, and **Roi Burnett**, all based at the University of Auckland in New Zealand. They are currently working to process all the data collected in the Pacific Module of the annual survey, and designing ways to present the data for the first time on the Rights Tracker.

Watch this space for details of the upcoming launch event, and links to join us remotely as the team unveils the data.

Who else needs to know about the Rights Tracker?

Can you think of two or three colleagues or friends who might find the Rights Tracker useful?

Please help us spread the word! If you could drop a quick message to a few people, or post about us online, that would really help us to get our powerful human rights data out in the world making a difference.

You might want to share [this 1-minute introduction to HRMI](#), or one of our [animated methodology videos](#), or [Susan's](#) or [Anne-Marie's](#) TEDx Talks, or just a link to the [Rights Tracker](#) itself.

Thank you!

Please keep in touch!

Thanks for your interest in HRMI. You are also most welcome to follow us on [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Facebook](#) to keep up to date in between newsletters.

Please also feel free to [contact us directly](#) with feedback, ideas, and requests. We're here to help.

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