



University of Cyprus  
Department of Law

The **Department of Law** at the **University of Cyprus** kindly invite you to a research seminar on

## **Remedies for Human Rights Violations and UN Treaty Bodies**

**University of Cyprus, Wednesday, 4 March 2020 at 16:00-18:00**

By Dr. Tina Stavrinaki

### **Abstract**

UN human rights treaties do not provide for a homogeneous framework regarding the competence of treaty bodies to indicate the redress of a violation in an individual case. The treaty bodies have elaborated their working methods taking into consideration factors related to their respective instruments, the practice established by human rights courts, as well as the nature of the violation found. They have strengthened redress in cases of serious human rights violations but must make further progress in taking into account the national procedural parameters which prevent the implementation of their recommendations. The treaty bodies regularly recommend compensation but only define the amount exceptionally or indirectly. However, their recommendations are being made in increasingly precise terms to reflect the gravity of the damage, moral and/or material. The reparation indicated by the committees involves more and more positive measures, especially in cases of discrimination. In some cases, these measures go beyond reparation *stricto sensu* and seek to repair the direct and indirect consequences of the violation. The nature and impact of these measures are tested by relatively new concepts introduced by recent treaties, such as “reasonable accommodation”. In their recommendations related to guarantees of non-repetition, the treaty bodies incorporate two main categories of measures. General measures resemble concluding observations and are less detailed than recommendations which deal with legislative amendments and resemble real injunctions. This practice has a tangible impact on the process of the judicialisation of the procedure of individual complaints under the UN human rights treaties.

### **Speaker Bio**

Tina Stavrinaki is Visiting Lecturer at the Law Department, University of Cyprus. She holds a PhD in international law from the University Panthéon-Assas (Paris 2). Her thesis ([Editions A. Pedone, 2016](#)) is the first in depth study on the individual complaints procedures for violations of UN human rights treaties. She has worked as a legal officer with the [National Human Rights Institution](#) in Greece, the UNHCR Greece and the Marangopoulos Foundation for Human Rights. She has extensive experience in the practice of international organisations and her research covers a wide range of human rights issues, such as international monitoring mechanisms, freedom of expression, data protection in criminal law, gender equality, non-discrimination, racist violence, hate speech, rights of persons with disabilities, police and human rights, the administration of justice for victims, and aspects of social rights, including [the right to a healthy environment](#) before the European Committee of Social Rights. She co-founded and coordinated until 2019 the [Racist Violence Recording Network](#), a widely recognized best practice in building synergies between human rights institutions, civil society and national authorities to combat hate crimes. She was a member of the National Council against Racism and Intolerance in Greece (2015-2019) and has trained lawyers, humanitarian staff and police members. Since January 2020, she serves as an independent expert at the [UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination \(CERD\)](#) for a term of 4 years.

### **Practical Details**

**Venue:** University of Cyprus, XΩΔ 02, B208.

**Registration:** Participation is free and no registration is needed.

**Language:** The seminar will be conducted in English.