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Padova, 8 May 2017

UNESCO Chair “Human Rights, Democracy and Peace”

2016-2018 Activities

(Unesco Chairs Meeting, Rome 24 May 2017)

The Chair’s research and education programmes place their specific emphasis on how to increase the effectiveness of the instruments that constitute the Universal Bill of Human Rights, with particular attention also to some soft law instruments, such as the UN Declaration on human rights education and training (2011), the UN Declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms (1998), the UN Declaration on the right to peace (2016), and certainly the UNESCO programmes on Education for sustainable development and Global citizenship education.

The Chair’s activities are marked by an approach which is strongly policy- and action-oriented and by a continuing exchange and cooperation with three ‘vital worlds’: civil society organisations, local governments institutions, and the school.

The reputation of the Chair was recently confirmed and appreciated with particular reference to two important events: the adoption by the General Assembly of the ‘United Nations Declaration on the Right to peace’ (December 2016) and the adoption by the Italian Parliament of the framework-law ‘on Italy’s participation in international missions’ (July 2016).

As far as the right to peace is concerned, the Chair played a major role in providing scientific content to the campaign conducted in Italy in cooperation with the National Coordinating-body of Local Authorities for Peace and Human Rights and the University’s Human Rights Centre. The Councils of 300 Municipalities and of 6 Regions have signed the petitionary motion prepared by the Chair and the Centre. The report prepared by Ambassador Christian Guillermet Fernandez (President/Rapporteur of the Intergovernmental Working Group of the UN Human Rights Council) and his legal adviser David Fernandez Puyana makes reference to the role of the Padova Chair.

The Chair further played an important role in drafting the text of the framework-law on Italy’s participation in international missions: on occasion of the hearing held at the Italian Chamber of Deputies on 16 April 2015, the Chairholder presented the proposal of the text of the first paragraph of article 1, which was substantially upheld:

“1. (...) The participation of Armed Forces, Police Forces, both military and civil, and Civil Peace Corps in international missions established in the framework of the United Nations or of other international organizations to which Italy belongs, or otherwise established in accordance with international law, including military operations and European Union’s police and Rule of Law missions, as well as missions aimed at exceptional humanitarian interventions, is permitted, in accordance with the provisions of this framework-law, provided that this participation complies with the principles laid down in Article 11 of the Constitution, *general international law, international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international criminal law.* ” (...) 3. In the context of Italy’s participation in international missions initiatives are taken to implement UN Security Council resolution no. 1325 (...) as well as the National Action Plan on “Women, peace and security”(italics added).

The importance of this article lies mainly in: the inclusion of Civil Peace Corps within the list of subjects legitimated to take part in international missions, the list of international legal sources, and the significance attributed to Security Council resolution no. 1325. The National Department for the Youth and Civil Service of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers has entrusted the task of organising the first three training courses for those in charge of training Civil Peace Corps to the Human Rights Centre of the University of Padova. The UNESCO Chair will participate with lectures concerning, in particular, the themes of institutional multilateralism and new forms of active states’ neutrality compliant with art. 28 of the Universal Declaration of human rights, and the role of human rights defenders.

The theme of democracy and peace has been developed by the Chair with regards to four elements: the *glocal* space for the extension of the practice of democracy from local communities to multilateral institutions; the multi-level governance architecture, with particular attention to local governments and institutional multilateralism; plural and inclusive citizenship and the pioneering role of the human rights defenders; intercultural dialogue for the development of a universal human rights culture aimed at sharing new cultural expressions in accordance with the approach provided in the 2005 UNESCO Convention on the protection of cultural diversity.

Also with reference to intercultural dialogue, the approach adopted by the Padova UNESCO Chair emphasises the need to maintain a strong attention on world order problems, keeping in mind their consequences on the local communities’ daily life.

The Chairholder’s essay included in the UNESCO publication *Agree to differ* and entitled “Plural Citizenship and the right to peace in the agenda of intercultural dialogue: an Italian case” (pp. 109-111), has been developed in accordance with this approach. It should be recalled that the volume, which the Padova Human Rights Centre contributed to print also with a financial contribution, was presented in March 2015 at the UNESCO Headquarters, on the occasion of the First Expert Meeting on the International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures (2013-2022). The Chairholder participated in the meeting with a presentation.

It is also worth reporting that the music theater “We, human rights. Representation of human dignity and of peace”, written by the Chairholder and published in 2016 in an Italian-English facing-page edition (Marsilio Publishers, Venice), was staged for the first time in Padova on 13 December, on occasion of the International Conference “Looking beyond the 50th Anniversary of the Covenants. What Interdependence and Indivisibility of Human Rights?”, organised by the UNESCO Chair and the Human Rights Centre. Other performances are reported to have been realised in schools too.

The Unesco Chair will continue to have academic exchanges with: University of Panteion, Athens, Unesco Chair; University of Luxemburg, Unesco Chair; University of Bergamo, Unesco Chair; University of Zagreb; University of Western Sydney; University of Graz, European Training and Research Centre for Human Rights and Democracy; University of Wrocław, Poland; “Ryckvelde”, (Bruges) a European and international Centre promoting European citizenship as a primary citizenship; European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation, EIUC; Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

In the academic year 2016-2017 the UNESCO Chair at the Padova University will continue to provide teaching and research cooperation in the following major programmes of the University of Padova:

- the Bachelor Degree Programme in “Political Science, International Relations, Human Rights” (350 students enrolled per year),
 - the Master’s Degree Programme in “Human Rights and Multi-level Governance” (50 students enrolled per year),
 - the Joint Ph.D Degree Programme in “Human Rights, Society, and Multi-level Governance” (Partner Universities: Padova, Zagreb, Athens, Nicosia, Western Sydney).
- Special cooperation will continue with the European Master in Human Rights and Democratisation (41 partner universities), especially to assist the Padova University in carry out its role as first enrolling university in the framework of the E.MA main course
- The Chair will continue to offer a large amount of lectures in educational and training courses and seminars in the Italian school system.

The Chair will continue to develop its work in the Veneto Region as well as in Italy and in the framework of relationships with significant international venues.

Research will be developed with reference to the following subjects:

- Italy in the universal and regional (European) systems of human rights, aimed in particular to prepare the Italian Yearbook of Human Rights (annual publication, started in 2011);
- the right to peace as a fundamental right: follow-up to the UN Declaration of December 2016;
- human rights, peace and intercultural dialogue for the inclusive citizenship;
- human rights and intercultural dialogue in the foreign policy of the EU and other international actors;
- peace, human rights, use of force: countering the states attempt to reappropriate the *ius ad bellum*;

- human rights, peace, inclusion, transnational democracy: the international role of local governments, 'city diplomacy', multilevel governance;
- the principle of complementarity and universal jurisdiction for the prosecution of international crimes;
- mixed migration flows, human trafficking and migrants' smuggling under a human rights perspective;
- violence against women as a human rights violation and form of discrimination against women: a legal and public policy analysis of States' response
- interdependence and indivisibility of human rights at the regional level from an integrated and holistic perspective;
- links and relations among religions, minorities and human rights from a multi-disciplinary perspective.

In the a.y. 2016-2017 the UNESCO Chair will continue to support three major academic publications of the Padova University Human Rights Centre:

Peace Human Rights Governance (PHRG)

The new peer-reviewed academic journal of the Human Rights Centre and of the UNESCO Chair in Human Rights, Democracy and Peace is published in English from Spring 2017 by Padova University Press, three issues per year. Launched on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the foundation of the Padua's University Centre, PHRG aims to constitute a new scientific resource within the increasing and multi-faceted global human rights studies community. The specific aim of PHRG is to present original theoretical and empirical contributions on current human rights issues while actively favouring the development of a multi-disciplinary and multi-level approach to human rights research and dissemination. The UNESCO Chairholder is member of the Scientific Board.

Italian Yearbook of Human Rights

The UNESCO Chairholder will continue to be the Director of the prestigious *Italian Yearbook of Human Rights*, the periodic publication which annually provides a dynamic and up-to-date overview of the measures Italy has taken to adapt its legislation and policies to international human rights law and to comply with commitments voluntarily assumed by the Italian Government at the international level. The Yearbook surveys the activities of the relevant national and local Italian actors, including governmental bodies, civil society organisations and universities. It also presents reports and recommendations that have been addressed to Italy by international monitoring bodies within the framework of the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the European Union. Finally, the Yearbook provides a selection of international and national case-law that casts light on Italy's position vis-à-vis internationally recognised human rights.

Series: Human Rights Studies

Peter Lang International Academic Publishers

The series intends to foster the publication of volumes that investigate the multiple facets of a strongly evolving reality, and stimulate the production of new and innovative ideas. It

offers to highlight how the human rights paradigm is at times used and at times disregarded or exploited in cases and situations that regard among others those belonging to vulnerable groups (immigrants, asylum seekers, persons with disabilities), NGOs and human rights defenders' advocacy, intercultural dialogue, governance of world economy, bio-technologies and peace operations. Those studies which adopt inter- and trans-disciplinary approaches, in accordance with the fundamental principle of interdependence and indivisibility of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, will be favoured.

The Padua UNESCO Chair will continue to develop its work in the framework of the communication, dissemination and multi-medial activities promoted by the Human Rights Centre through its website. Besides keeping up to date the specific section of the site devoted to the Chair and its activities, the Chair contribute through providing contents, both factual and academic, on the various areas of research listed above, also through the diffusion of "Human Rights Academic Voices", that is, brief academic comments on current relevant issues concerning peace and human rights.

ACTIVITIES REALISED IN 2016

The UNESCO Chair Human Rights, Democracy and Peace has continued to participate in the planning and realisation of scientific conferences and seminars and to provide teaching and research cooperation in the following major programmes of the University of Padova: the Bachelor Degree Programme in "Political Science, International Relations, Human Rights"; the Master's Degree Programme in "Human Rights and Multi-level Governance"; the Joint Ph.D Degree Programme in "Human Rights, Society, and Multi-level Governance".

Conference on "The shadow report in Italy: the civil society participation on monitoring UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities"

University of Padova, Palazzo del Bo, Aula Nievo, March 14th, 2016

Speakers: Giampiero Griffo, Board member of the European Disability Forum; Marco Mascia, Director of the Human Rights Centre of the University of Padova; Laura Nota, Vice-Rector for Disabilities; Antonio Papisca, Unesco Chair Human Rights, Democracy and Peace, University of Padua.

International Conference on "Religions and Human Rights"

University of Padova, Sala delle Edicole, Piazza Capitaniato, April 14-15, 2016

The relationship between religion and human rights is controversial and debated. The aim of the international conference is to take stock of the complex connections between religion and human rights, emphasizing that both the definition and the application of these two concepts are influenced by the different social and cultural contexts within which they are placed. Starting from the geopolitical changes which have involved contemporary society on a global scale, the conference intended to critically evaluate the two main narratives on this topic: on the one hand religions understood as an element opposing the

affirmation of human rights, and on the other religions considered as agencies facilitating the implementation of human rights. Religious rights, understood as individual and/or collective rights, are disputed as well.

Conference on “The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP): dangerous to our health?”

University of Padova, Palazzo Liviano, “Sala delle Edicole”, Piazza Capitaniato, 3, Wednesday May 4, 2016, 16:30

Speakers: Antonio Papisca, Unesco Chair Human Rights, Democracy and Peace, University of Padua; Roberto De Vogli, Professor in Global Health and Psychology, University of Padua and University of California Davis; Susan George, American and French political and social scientist, activist and writer on global social justice, Third World poverty, underdevelopment and debt. President of the Transnational Institute, Amsterdam; Honorary President of Attac France; author of “Shadow Sovereigns: How Global Corporations Are Seizing Power.”

Music and Human Rights Seminars

University of Padova, Human Rights Centre, April-June 2016

The organisation of these seminars is the direct outcome of a fruitful cooperation between the Chair and ‘Musician for Human Rights’, an international NGO, founded in 2009 by world-renowned musicians, which aims to promote a culture of humanism through music worldwide, in support of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The seminars included, among others, the following lectures: The Yin and Yang of Music and Human Rights; Hearing and Listening: The Art of Knowledge; The Sound of Human Rights; One and Many Voices: Unity through diversity and interdependence; Fountain or Stone?: The Spirit of the Law and The Letter of the Law; From Refugee to Refuge: Self-discovery, opportunity, and transformation: an empirical case; Brainwashing, War, and Torture: Music as Weapon.

Human Rights Orchestra in Concerto

University of Padova, Sala dei Giganti of Palazzo Liviano, Wednesday June, 8th at 9pm

Musicians for Human Rights performed in Padova with prestigious soloist from the Human Rights Orchestra conducted by Alessio Allegrini, first horn of the Santa Cecilia National Orchestra. The programme displays music by Olivier Messiaen, Felix Mendelssohn, Dmitri Shostakovich, Maurice Ravel, Johannes Brahms. Musicians from Conservatory of Padova will join Musicians for Human Rights for the execution of a sonata by Ludwig van Beethoven. The concert ends a series of Music and Human Rights Seminars.

International Conference on "Les religions, les institutions et les politiques dans une Europe mondialisée"

University of Padova, Palazzo Bo, Aula Nievo, 21 novembre 2016, ore 9,00

Speakers: Alain Touraine, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris Antonio Papisca, Unesco Chair Human Rights, Democracy and Peace, University of Padova; Antimo Luigi Farro, University La Sapienza, Roma; Léonce Bekemans, University of Padova; Vincenzo Milanese, University of Padova; Enzo Pace, University of Padova;

Monica Simeoni, University of Sannio; Francesco Vespasiano, University of Sannio; Giuseppe Giordan, University of Padova.

International Conference "Looking beyond the 50th Anniversary of the Covenants. What Interdependence and Indivisibility of Human Rights?"

University of Padova, Aula Magna, 13-14 December 2016

The Conference, which took place in Padova on 13 and 14 December 2016, aims to nurture a multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral debate on the present and especially the future of human rights promotion, protection and implementation. It sets the focus, in particular, on the evolution and state of realisation of the principle of interdependence and indivisibility, the linchpin of the human rights paradigm, and on how human rights are put to the test by the challenges and crises emerging at multiple levels today and up to 2030, also in light of the UN Agenda for sustainable development.

The list of speakers included: Alfred de Zayas, United Nations Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, Geneva; Katharina Pabel, Member of the United Nations Human Rights Council Advisory Committee, University of Linz; Khurshid Ahmad, Professor at the School of Computer Science and Statistics, Trinity College, Dublin; Magali Fricaudet, Coordinator of the Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights of "United Cities and Local Governments", Barcelona; Giampiero Griffo, Member of the World Council of Disabled People's International; Livia Holden, University of Padova, Antonio Papisca, Unesco Chair Human Rights, Democracy and Peace. Thirty-five experts from various Countries have been selected to enliven five panels on the following themes: 1. An agenda 2030 for the International Bill of Human Rights; 2. Tackling human rights global issues: cities, subsidiarity, multi-level governance; 3. Human rights and new technologies: pragmatic and paradigmatic challenges; 4. Human rights and citizenship: challenges and opportunities for diversity and inclusiveness; 5. The Enablers of Human Rights: Education, Development and NHRIs.

We, Human Rights. Representation of Human Dignity and Peace

University of Padova, Sala dei Giganti of Palazzo del Liviano, Tuesday 13 December 2016, 9 p.m

The scenic action "*We, Human Rights. Representation of Human Dignity and Peace*", adapted from the same-name screenplay by Antonio Papisca (Marsilio Publishing, 2016), was performed on stage by a group of students of the Bachelor Degree in Political Science, International Relations and Human Rights, of the Master's Degree in Human Rights and Multi-level Governance, and of the International Joint Ph.D Programme Human Rights, Society, and Multi-level Governance. The *mise en espace* was by Lorenzo Maragoni, director of the company Amor Vacui and collaborator of the Teatro Stabile del Veneto. The *mise en espace*, in the prose and poetry of law, aims at signifying a lecture of the new international law taught, in a simple language, by the sources of law and validated by its witnesses in the field, the human rights defenders.

The Italian Yearbook of Human Rights 2016

Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Roma, 15 December 2016

On 15 December 2016, on the occasion of the International Human Rights Day, an event for the presentation of the Italian Yearbook of Human Rights 2016 took place in Rome at the Aldo Moro room of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. The Yearbook is published by Peter Lang Academic Publishers and edited by the Human Rights Centre of the University of Padova and the UNESCO Chair Human Rights, Democracy and Peace. The event was organised by the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Human Rights of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (CIDU), in cooperation with the University Human Rights Centre and the UNESCO Chair.

ACTIVITIES PLANNED IN 2017-2018

The Unesco Chair Human Rights, Democracy and Peace will continue to provide teaching and research cooperation in the following major programmes of the University of Padova: the Bachelor Degree Programme in “Political Science, International Relations, Human Rights”; the Master’s Degree Programme in “Human Rights and Multi-level Governance”; the Joint Ph.D Degree Programme in “Human Rights, Society, and Multi-level Governance”.

Training for trainers course of the organisations participating in the experimentation of the Civil Peace Corps

Department for Youth and National Civil Service under the Prime Minister’s Office, Roma, April-May 2017

International Conference “Global Orthodoxy. Religion, Politics, and Human Rights”

University of Padova, Human Rights Centre, 12 May 2017

International Conference “Sixty years after the Treaties of Rome Which strategy for the European Unification?”

Pavia, Palazzo Vistarino, 6-8 July 2017

Seminar on the art. 1 of the law 145 of 21 July 2016 “Provisions governing Italy’s participation in international missions”

Department for Youth and National Civil Service under the Prime Minister’s Office, Roma, July 2017

Seminar on “Code of practice for the experiment, containing the fundamental principles of the civil peace corps’ actions”

University of Padova, July 2017

Workshop on “Follow up of the United Nation Declaration on the Rights to Peace”

University of Padova, 21 September 2017 in occasion of the UN International Day of Peace

Participation in the celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the European Master in Human Rights and Democratisation

EIUC, Venice, September 2017

Seminar on “Italy’s National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security in implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolution n. 1325 of 31 October 2000”

University of Padova, October 2017

International Conference “The Role of Human Rights Research: Current Challenges and Future Opportunities”

University of Padova, Aula Nievo, 24-25 November 2017

Presentation of the Italian Yearbook of Human Rights 2017

Rome, December 2017

Seminar on “Global citizenship and city diplomacy”

With the participation of NGOs, CSOs, Local Authorities
University of Padova, March 2018

PhD Human Rights, Society, and Multi-level Governance - Annual Conference

April-May 2018

Presentation of the Italian Yearbook of Human Rights 2018

Rome, December 2018

Meeting of the Mediterranean Unesco Chairs on “The right to peace, multi-level governance and city diplomacy”

University of Padova, July 2018

CHAIR HOLDER PUBLICATIONS

Papisca, A., (2016) ‘*Cuius Europa, Eius (nova) Civitas. Per una legge europea uniforme sulla cittadinanza*’, *La cittadinanza europea*, 1/2016, 5-12.

Papisca, A. (2016) *Noi, diritti umani. We, human rights. Rappresentazione di dignità umana, et di pace. Representation of human dignity and peace*, Venezia, Marsilio Editori.

Papisca, A. (2016) ‘Diritti umani e fratellanza per l’ecologia politica’, in *Antoniano*, XCI, pp. 941-960.

Papisca, A. (2016) ‘*Neutralità attiva con il nuovo diritto internazionale. Riflessioni in chiave di politica del diritto*’, relazione presentata al Convegno “Neutralità attiva, un possibile

approccio per una politica di pace, disarmo e diplomazia popolare per l'Italia, Casa internazionale delle donne, Via della Lungara 19 Roma, 10 settembre 2016 in <https://neutralitaattiva.wordpress.com/le-relazioni/>

Cofelice, A., De Perini, P., De Stefani, P., Mascia, M., Papisca, A., Pividori, C. (2016) (eds) *Italian Yearbook of Human Rights 2015*, Brussels, P.I.E. - Peter Lang.

Cofelice, A., De Perini, P., De Stefani, P., Mascia, M., Papisca, A., Pividori, C. (2016) (eds) *Annuario italiano dei diritti umani 2015*, Venezia, Marsilio Editori.

Mascia, M., Papisca, A. (2016) *La Dichiarazione sul diritto alla pace è in dirittura d'arrivo all'Assemblea Generale delle Nazioni Unite*, *Human Rights Academic Voice*, ottobre 2016

Mascia, M., Papisca, A. (2016) *Il Consiglio Diritti Umani delle Nazioni Unite ha adottato il testo della Dichiarazione sul diritto alla pace*, *Human Rights Academic Voice*, luglio 2016

Papisca, A. (2017, with M. Mascia) 'Civil Peace Corps: New Inspiration for the Italian Foreign Policy', *Peace Human Rights Governance*, 1(1), 117-156.

Papisca, A. (2017, with M. Mascia) 'L'alternativa all'ONU è il sanguinoso disordine mondiale. A venticinque anni dall'Appello del pacifismo italiano per la democratizzazione e il rafforzamento delle Nazioni Unite', *Human Rights Academic Voice*, pp. 7.



Prof. Antonio Papisca
Unesco Chairholder