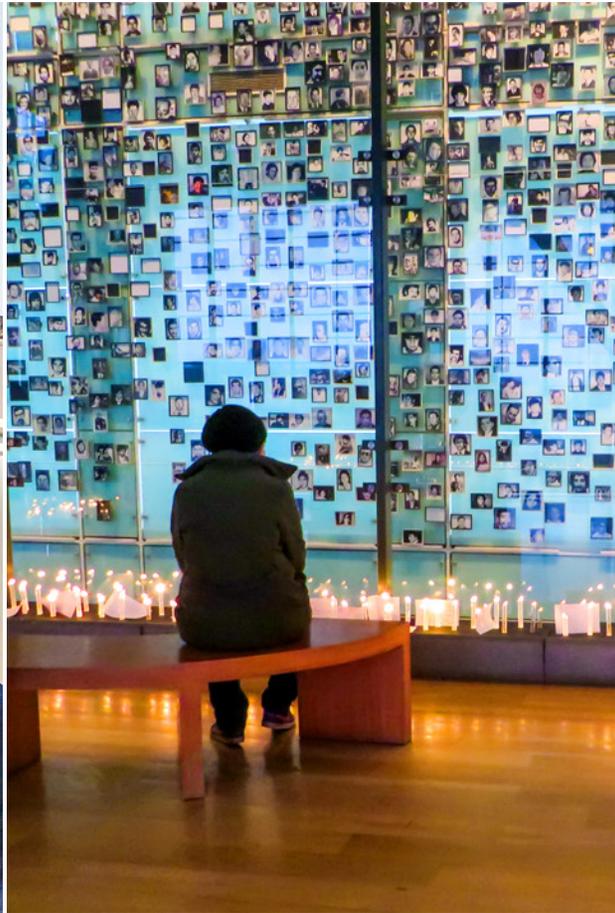


Global Human Rights

A UC DAVIS BIG IDEA





A Big Challenge, A Big Vision

The United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights—adopted in 1948 in the aftermath of World War II—stands as the first global affirmation of inherent human rights for all people. Translated into more than 500 languages, this landmark document has endured as an internationally recognized code of justice and a touchstone for our shared humanity across the globe.

Yet, while great strides have been made in promoting and defending human rights worldwide over the last 70 years, human rights struggles remain at the heart of the greatest global crises of our time—from war, political upheaval and environmental degradation to systemic inequities in access to education, health care, economic opportunity and social justice.

A Big Opportunity

UC Davis' Big Ideas are forward-thinking, interdisciplinary programs and projects that build upon the strengths of the university to positively impact the world for generations to come.

Through the Global Human Rights initiative, UC Davis seeks to partner with visionary philanthropists in working locally and globally to achieve an enduring impact in human rights scholarship, education and advocacy. Together, we will lead the way toward a more just, humane and equitable future for all.

More human beings are enslaved around the world than at any other time in the past. Fifteen million young women will be married as children in the next year. Worldwide, more than 65 million people have been forcibly displaced by conflict, persecution or human rights violations—an unprecedented number expected to double within the next two decades.

As grave as these challenges are, our best hope for the future lies in human rights thought leadership and humanitarian action across borders of all kinds—geopolitical, cultural, ideological and disciplinary.

UC Davis aims to serve as a model for how a major public research university can bring its full breadth of expertise to bear on critical human rights challenges—from injustices facing California’s undocumented population, to the struggles of global refugees and communities of genocide survivors. Leveraging our interdisciplinary strengths across law, the humanities, the social sciences and STEM fields, UC Davis will be an international leader in spearheading collaborative, sustainable responses to urgent human rights challenges. In the process, we will educate a new generation of human rights leaders in every field, working actively with impacted communities while equipping our students to point the way forward.





The Global Human Rights initiative at UC Davis will work to change how the world understands, promotes and defends fundamental human rights. These include the right to health care and well-being; the right to food, water and sustainable development; the right to work; the right to culture; the right to education; and the right to know one's history. We will achieve this impact through the work of three interconnected research centers, each guided by established faculty expertise and leadership distinguished equally by local impact and global reach.

Human Rights and Humanitarian Action

From spearheading humanitarian relief efforts to supporting at-risk human rights scholars, we will bridge research and practice at the intersection of human rights issues and humanitarian need to address global inequities in access to fundamental human rights.

Human Rights, Migration and At-Risk Migrants

Through advocacy, public policy recommendations and community-engaged research collaborations, we will build on a distinguished record of policy leadership. Together, we will shine a light on the social, cultural and economic contributions of migrants, while giving a voice to those who are exploited and dehumanized.

Mass Atrocity and Genocide Studies

From leading interdisciplinary research on genocide and transitional justice, to developing curricular tools for addressing global conflict, we will empower educators and students to confront the legacies of atrocity while advocating for justice and democratic stability—working directly with communities of survivors in California and beyond.

Together, these three centers will form a powerful and uniquely comprehensive hub for research, education, policy guidance and engagement at the forefront of human rights thought and humanitarian action.



Poised for Leadership

UC Davis is uniquely positioned for leadership in addressing global human rights and humanitarian challenges, by virtue of our university's remarkable breadth and depth of expertise in human rights issues worldwide, as well as its physical location. At the heart of California—a state that has long been both a place of refuge from, and the site of, great humanitarian violations—UC Davis is deeply embedded and actively engaged in communities with complex human rights histories.

Among those who have been displaced by violence or have faced the violation of their human rights are our neighbors, colleagues and students. Over the last century, California has provided asylum for Armenian survivors of genocide; European Jewish scientists, musicians and actors escaping the Holocaust; and Southeast Asians and Iraqis fleeing war and oppression. At the same time, terrible rights violations have taken place within our state: the systematic destruction of Native

American communities, the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, and the exploitation of Central Valley Mexican American and Filipino American farm workers. We continue to face ongoing human rights challenges—from refugees traumatized by mass atrocity, environmental degradation and rising inequality, to the dehumanizing treatment of undocumented immigrants and other vulnerable migrant populations who make their home in California.



Over the years, UC Davis has committed itself to playing a leadership role in responding to these critical human rights issues, with an impact that is truly global in scope. As just a few examples of this impact, UC Davis' Immigration Law Clinic was the first of its kind in the United States and remains one of the nation's only legal clinics devoted to providing direct representation to immigrants. Our faculty have spearheaded efforts to help refugee and at-risk students and scholars, and they have provided key policy guidance, from advising on California K-12 curriculum development to remedying exploitative migrant labor practices. And they have made instrumental contributions to the public record of human rights abuses, including the world's leading collection of Guantánamo detainee testimonies and a major open-access archive of personal stories about deportation.

At every step of the way, UC Davis is dedicated to engaging our students in this vital work—changing the world by educating a new generation of leaders who will take their knowledge of and commitment to human rights with them as they embark on careers in government and public service, law, international development and humanitarian relief, business, industry and education.

Now, UC Davis is committed to doing even more—leveraging our unique interdisciplinary strengths, our land-grant mission and our long history of leadership as part of a comprehensive Global Human Rights endeavor that will amplify our impact in human rights scholarship and humanitarian relief. Piloted by the research, education, community engagement and policy leadership of our three interdisciplinary centers, the Global Human Rights initiative will harness the wealth of our collective expertise to address urgent human rights needs.

“My goal for the long-term future is to return to Syria and apply everything I learned in Lebanon to my country and the goal of rebuilding Syria and its citizens.”

- **JIHAD QUSANYEH**, who was studying applied chemistry at the University of Damascus when he was taken prisoner during the early years of the civil war in Syria. Jihad, left, who now teaches at a small refugee elementary school just outside the Syrian border, is part of the first cohort of students aided by the Article 26 Backpack project—a digital tool for academic mobility that will help tens of thousands of displaced students reclaim the right to education.



Human Rights and Humanitarian Action

UC Davis has a long history of international engagement at the intersection of human rights issues and humanitarian need—from promoting educational opportunity, to fostering women’s empowerment, to expanding access to clean water and food. Now we have a vision to expand on this work by creating a comprehensive Human Rights and Humanitarian Action center—bridging research and practice to address immediate human rights challenges and anticipate humanitarian need over the horizon.

The global impact of this work is exemplified by initiatives like the Article 26 Backpack project, a digital tool administered by a UC Davis-led consortium to empower refugees whose education has been interrupted by war and conflict. Today, only one percent of refugees worldwide have access to any form of higher education. Named for the article in the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights that

established education as a fundamental right, the Article 26 Backpack is being deployed as a secure online tool throughout the Middle East, where eventually it will enable tens of thousands of young people to safely access, store and share their academic records with universities, agencies and employers.

Amplifying the impact of such initiatives, the Human Rights and Humanitarian Action center will establish UC Davis as a world leader in education-focused humanitarian relief while creating new pathways for our faculty and students to collaborate with major international and intergovernmental relief training and research organizations. Through this critical work, the center will serve as a vital hub for research, policy development and engagement with the fields of relief, higher education in emergencies, and other areas of global need caused by war, natural disaster, climate change and economic collapse.

Advancing Human Rights Thought, Driving Humanitarian Action

- Support programs for displaced scholars and artists—from political exiles to students and activists seeking asylum from persecution based on sexual orientation or gender identity
- Endow professorships to recruit top human rights scholars
- Fund clinical fellowships for humanitarian leaders and human rights defenders
- Create student internship opportunities with human rights organizations in New York and Geneva
- Expand the Article 26 Backpack program to help refugee populations reclaim their right to education

“They were trembling with happiness and didn’t think this would be a realistic outcome given the three-day detention. I’m incredibly grateful for the opportunities this country provides, and one of those is the duty to speak up and act when there’s injustice.”

- School of Law student **SARA EHSANI-NIA '18**, assisting travelers detained at San Francisco International Airport in 2017. An Iranian-American daughter of immigrants, Sara was able to act as a translator for an elderly Iranian couple visiting family in the United States, helping to gain their release.



Human Rights, Migration and At-Risk Migrants

No place better illustrates the humanitarian costs of the U.S. migration crisis than California—home to one-quarter of the nation’s undocumented population. And no institution is better prepared to respond than UC Davis.

Building on a distinguished record of leadership in advocating for immigrant rights and shaping migration and refugee policy, we are creating the nation’s first comprehensive center for Human Rights, Migration and At-Risk Migrants. The center will focus its research, policy and community engagement efforts on leading humanitarian responses to the dehumanizing treatment of migrants who cross borders for economic, social and political reasons.

Crucial to the center’s work is addressing critical questions of human rights, social and economic integration and political voice arising from migrants in precarious situations at home

and abroad, with particular emphasis on the more than two million undocumented immigrants who make their home in California. Drawing on cross-disciplinary scholarly expertise as well as the proximity of UC Davis to rural areas that house large immigrant populations, the center will conduct this work through policy and research collaborations focused on humanizing immigrants and on promoting the social and economic advantages of immigrant integration. This work will take shape through transnational and community-engaged research initiatives, including a digital public archive of personal stories about deportation, a policy study of the devastating impacts of deportation and removal on families and communities, and a long-range analysis of migrant labor policies and global labor flows.

Telling the Human Story of Migration

- Endow a chair and a faculty directorship to lead the center’s research, education and outreach activities
- Establish a master’s program in migration studies
- Create undergraduate and graduate fellowships that expand academic and professional opportunities
- Fund an annual symposium and public lecture series
- Support key policy and education initiatives that give a human face to the deportation crisis, illuminate exploitative labor practices, and demonstrate the social and economic value of successful immigrant integration

“As someone who comes from a marginalized community which has been the victim of genocide, I felt honored in recognizing the Armenian Genocide and supporting this community and helping unite communities around campus.”

- **MICHAEL GOFMAN '20**, President of the Associated Students, University of California, Davis, speaking about a 2018 ASUCD resolution to commemorate the 103rd anniversary of the Armenian Genocide and to support the campus Armenian Students Association and the Armenian community in Davis.



Mass Atrocity and Genocide Studies

When societies endure wars, dictatorships, ethnic cleansing, genocide or civil conflicts, they must struggle to restore truth and justice, write their own histories, secure reparations for victims and work toward national reconciliation—all while teaching younger generations about past violence so as not to repeat it. In the early decades of the 21st century, the world continues to reel from the effects of the 20th century’s atrocities, even as conflicts continue to rage in the Middle East and elsewhere.

Given this global state of affairs, thoughtful human rights pedagogy, deep historical thinking and vigorous defense of the rights of those affected by mass violence are more urgent than ever. UC Davis will lead this effort by building capacity in areas such as transitional justice; the relationship between gender, sexuality and mass violence; the effects of mass atrocity on cultural heritage and on natural and built environments; and other key areas. We will leverage our excellence in interdisciplinary research

and teaching, as well as our proximity to the state capital and the Bay Area, to create a center that will have a lasting impact in California, the United States and the world.

Building on UC Davis’ deep faculty expertise—including internationally recognized experts on the Holocaust, Armenian Genocide and Latin American dictatorships, as well as increasing focus on indigenous peoples, violence against women and children, and disadvantaged populations—the Mass Atrocity and Genocide Studies center will empower students and educators to advocate for justice and democratic stability by working directly with communities of survivors in California and beyond. Teaching will be at the heart of the center’s work, with a focus on experiential learning opportunities, policy guidance and curricular tools that both prepare students to confront the legacies of violence and help educators teach effectively about human rights, atrocity and memory.

Empowering the Next Generation to Confront the Legacies of Atrocity

- Endow chairs in genocide studies and transitional justice and create faculty positions in human rights studies
- Build a marquee internship program that prepares the next generation of human rights leaders
- Create graduate scholarships and research fellowships that attract top students
- Establish a robust practitioners-in-residence program
- Provide seed funding for a world-class summer institute for training educators



A Blueprint for a Brighter Future

Collectively, these three cross-disciplinary centers will provide a powerful foundation for UC Davis' Global Human Rights initiative, setting in motion an ambitious and impactful research, education and engagement agenda. Doing so will pave the way for our faculty and students to expand this work into other critical avenues for human rights and humanitarian leadership in the future—from combating

widespread discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people, to protecting the rights of indigenous peoples, to ensuring equal access to the free exchange of ideas across electronic frontiers.

Undergirding all of these endeavors, the human rights idea—the universal principle that all human beings have inherent rights and dignity—serves as the blueprint for

humanity's way forward from violence, injustice and inequality. UC Davis' Global Human Rights initiative is poised to serve as a model for how a global land-grant university can implement this blueprint—affirming the value of a transdisciplinary approach to addressing some of the most difficult problems facing humanity.



Big
IDEAS

An Invitation

Philanthropy has always been key to the university's success in moving great ideas forward. With your partnership, the Global Human Rights initiative will help to build a more just, humane and equitable future for all, while preparing a new generation of human rights leaders to point the way forward.

Thank you for your consideration of this exciting Big Idea. We look forward to discussing how your philanthropic goals may be achieved through this transformative initiative.

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Ways of Giving

We respect that, for each donor who wishes to provide significant philanthropic support, there are personal, financial and gift planning aspects to consider. We will work with you to realize your philanthropic vision and develop the gift plan that best meets your needs. At your request, we can also work with your tax and financial advisors. Following are various gift types and their associated benefits. You may wish to consider a mix of gift types to help you achieve both your philanthropic and financial objectives.

Cash Gifts

- Are the simplest and most popular giving method
- Can be tax deductible in the year they are given

Gifts of Securities

- Include stocks, mutual funds and bonds
- Can avoid capital gains taxes
- Can provide an income tax deduction for the full fair market value of long-term, appreciated securities

Gifts of Real Property

- Include land, farms, personal residences, and rental or commercial property
- Can avoid capital gains tax on appreciated assets
- Can provide an income tax deduction for the full fair market value of long-term, appreciated property
- Can eliminate property expenses and taxes
- Can provide continued use for life through a retained life estate gift

Bequests and Living Trusts

- Establish the UC Davis Foundation as a beneficiary of your estate
- Can provide an estate tax deduction equal to the value of the gift
- Offer flexibility by allowing you to provide for family first

Retirement Plan Gifts

- For current gifts, utilize the IRA Charitable Rollover provision (*for donors aged 70½ and older*)
- Name the UC Davis Foundation as a beneficiary
- Can eliminate income tax on the plan distributions
- Preserve the plan's full value for gift purposes

Life Income Gifts

- Include charitable remainder trusts and gift annuities
- Can provide potential tax savings on income, estate and capital gains
- Generate income for you and/or your loved ones for a fixed period of time or until your passing
- Distribute the remaining assets to the UC Davis Foundation