**Curriculum Vitae**

Dr. Cathérine Van de Graaf

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| **Work Experience** |  |
| October 2024 – ongoing October 2024 – ongoing May 2021 – October 2024 October 2022 – May 2023October 2021 – October 2022 | **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**Human Rights Centre, Ghent University, Belgium**Principal investigator in joint project “**[**Who is the Court for? Bringing the Human back into Human Rights Research**](https://portal.volkswagenstiftung.de/search/projectDetails.do?siteLanguage=en&ref=9D093)**”** (10 %)Academy of European Human Rights Protection, University of Cologne, Germany**Postdoctoral Research Fellow*** Focus: Discrimination, Empirical legal research, European Court of Human Rights

**Legal Clinic Coach**Human Rights Centre, Ghent University, Belgium* Focus: Academic freedom

**Visiting Professor**Human Rights Centre, Ghent University, Belgium* Focus: International human rights law, Multiculturalism and law
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| October 2016 – April 2021 | **Doctoral Research Fellow**Human Rights Centre, Ghent University, Belgium* Focus: Perceived procedural justice, Mediation of discrimination reports, Religious discrimination
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**Memberships**

Open Council of Europe Academic Networks ([OCEAN](https://www.coe.int/en/web/open-academic-networks/who-we-are)).

Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality & Anti-Discrimination Law ([BCCE](https://www.law.berkeley.edu/research/berkeley-center-on-comparative-equality-anti-discrimination-law/about-us/membership-list-2/#bb0-last-name-s-z-3)).

Human Rights Centre ([HRC](https://hrc.ugent.be/staff/catherine-van-de-graaf/)), Ghent University.

European Academy of Religion ([EUARE](https://www.europeanacademyofreligion.org/)).

Vereniging voor de sociaal-wetenschappelijk studie van het recht ([VSR](https://rechtensamenleving.nl/)).

**Editorships**

Editor, EHRC Updates, starting January 2025.

Editor, Strasbourg Observers, November 2024 – present.

Editor, Tijdschrift voor Mensenrechten, March 2023-present.

Editor, [blog](https://tijd.mensenrechten.be/) Tijd voor Mensenrechten, March 2023-present.

Member of Scientific Advisory Board, Völkerrechtsblog, July 2021-present. [[website]](https://voelkerrechtsblog.org/about/team-and-contact/)

**Education**

Doctor of Laws, Ghent University, Belgium – 2021.

 Dissertation: *Perceptions of Procedural Justice in Cases of Perceived Discrimination*

LLM, International Human Rights Law, Lund University and Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Sweden – 2018.

Dissertation: *The Role of Minorities in State Apologies for Historical Wrongs: Healing the Nation through Participation?*

Master of Laws, University of Antwerp, Belgium – 2014.

Dissertation: *Pornography Wars: Public morality, harm and the violation of rights*

Bachelor of Laws, University of Antwerp, Belgium – 2012.

**Obtained research funding**

* Call from Volkswagen Foundation “Next – Law between Normativity and Reality”: obtained EUR 147.300 as individual grantee (project submitted with Alice Margaria) – ongoing
* Call from Volkswagen Foundation "Human Rights in Times of Multiple Challenges - Perspectives from Science and Society": obtained EUR 71.200 for organisation Human Rights symposium “Misappropriation and Human Rights Implosion” (together with Julia Miklasova and Paula Rhein-Fischer) – ongoing
* Ghent University: obtained 3-year BOF postdoctoral fellowship with yearly bench fee of € 4.000 for project “Trajectories of coincidental change and standstill in human rights litigation” – ongoing

**Publications**

Journal Articles

* Heirwegh, Tess and Cathérine Van de Graaf (2019). The local swimming pool as a space of rights contestation – An analysis of ‘burkini’ policies in Belgian local swimming pools. *The Journal of Legal Pluralism and Unofficial Law*. [[article]](https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/07329113.2019.1639309)
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine (2019). Procedural justice perceptions in the mediation of discrimination reports by a national equality body. *International Journal of Discrimination and the Law.* [[article]](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1358229120927921)
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine (2021). Procedural Fairness: between Human Rights Law and Social Psychology. *Netherlands Quarterly of Human Rights.* [[article]](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/0924051921992749?casa_token=_FlED8RNrcQAAAAA:HEUHJY3n9XJDjPjFngjWg0ek4aQetYRxAup_wunfPuMGbGghUdvoPFRJj0Iop2-Lto3avQXR73hB9g)
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine (2021). Perceptions of discrimination of Muslim women in Belgium: A study of discriminatory incidents across public and private organisations reported to the National Equality Body. *Islamophobia Studies Journal.* [[article]](https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/10.13169/islastudj.6.2.0207.pdf)
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine (2021). The Value of Fair Procedure: All’s Well that Ends Well? *International Journal of Procedural Law*. [[article]](https://biblio.ugent.be/publication/8748799)
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine. "Formal and informal mediation of discrimination complaints: A comparison of the legal framework and practice of Austria, Belgium, Ireland and Portugal in discrimination cases." *European Equality Law Review* 2 (2023): 54-73. [article]
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine, and Angelika Nußberger. "Countering the Fiction of Neutrality: Pushing for Transparency?." *Oxford Journal of Law and Religion* (2023). [[article]](https://academic.oup.com/ojlr/article-abstract/11/1/74/6988783)
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine. ‘What about the presumption of innocence?’ Legal Consciousness and Himpathy in Social Media Users Comments on Flemish #MeToo Scandal. *European Journal of Women Studies (2023)*, issue 4. [[article]](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/13505068231177546)
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine. “De bevoegdheid van het VMRI om meldingen over mensenrechtenschendingen te ontvangen.” Tijdschrift voor Mensenrechten 2 (2023):21-26. [[article]](https://mensenrechten.be/tijdschriften/index)
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine. “Vrijheid van religie op Franse voetbalvelden” Tijdschrift voor Mensenrechten 3 (2024): 20-24 [[article](https://mensenrechten.be/bestanden/uploads/tijdschriften/TvMR2024_3.pdf)]
* Harriet Ní Chinnéide and Cathérine Van de Graaf, Animal Welfare vs. Religious Freedom: Reflecting on The ECtHR's Decision in Executief van de Moslims van België and Others v Belgium, European Constitutional Law Review 1 (2025) [[article](https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/european-constitutional-law-review/article/animal-welfare-v-religious-freedom-reflecting-on-the-ecthrs-decision-in-executief-van-de-moslims-van-belgie-and-others-v-belgium/203D84E7EF42C3BEE5CB97D32770D3FA)].
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine and Yannick Schoog, Savickis v. Latvia: the Role of Immutability and Choice in the Discrimination Analysis of the ECtHR, International Journal of Discrimination and Law (2025) (forthcoming).

Book Chapters

* Van de Graaf, Cathérine. "Wat met het vermoeden van onschuld?” De effecten van juridisch bewustzijn op de #MeToo-beweging – Een kritische discoursanalyse van de reacties van sociale media-gebruikers op het schandaal rond Bart De Pauw in Eva Brems, Liesbeth Stevens en Pieter Cannoot (eds.) *Recht en Gender in België - 10 jaar later* (Die Keure 2021). [[book]](https://www.diekeure.be/nl-be/professional/11337/recht-en-gender-in-belgie-10-jaar-later)
* Nußberger, Angelika and Cathérine Van de Graaf. "Pluralisation of Family Forms in the Jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights." In Nina Dethloff and Katharina Kaesling (eds.), *Between Sexuality, Gender and Reproduction.* (Intersentia Online 2023). 109-132. [[book]](https://www.larcier-intersentia.com/en/sexuality-gender-reproduction-9781839703126.html)
* Pieter Cannoot, Cathérine Van de Graaf, Ariël Decoster, Claire Poppelwell-Scevak and Sarah Schoentjes. “Hormonal eligibility criteria in women’s professional sports competitions under the ECHR: the case of Caster Semenya v. Switzerland”, Interdisciplinary Studies in Human Rights (Springer 2023).
* Cathérine Van de Graaf, “Conflicting interests? European National Equality Bodies acting as (informal) mediators in discrimination complaints” in Elif Askin and Hanna Stoll (eds.) *Contested Equality: International and Comparative Legal Perspectives* (Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd 2024). [[book](https://www.e-elgar.com/shop/gbp/contested-equality-9781035325764.html?srsltid=AfmBOopBSbHcqFkrSAmlufEBOCKL3YRZ2jjlpiqrPL_YaLE1tbpwOSs6)]

Reports

* Pieter Cannoot and Cathérine Van de Graaf, “Charting progress: A comparative analysis of LGBTIQ equality action plans in the EU”, commissioned by European Commission. [[report](https://www.equalitylaw.eu/downloads/6060-charting-progress-a-comparative-analysis-of-national-lgbtiq-equality-action-plans-in-the-eu)]

Interviews

* Cathérine Van de Graaf, “TvMR sprak met Frédéric Krenc”, Tijdschrift voor Mensenrechten, 2023, ed. 4, 16-19 [[article](https://mensenrechten.be/bestanden/uploads/tijdschriften/TvMR2023_4.pdf)].

Blogposts

* Cathérine Van de Graaf, Eva Brems and Stéphanie Hennette-Vauchez (October 2024), Third Party Intervention to the ECtHR in F.D. and I.M. and three others (les Hijabeuses) v. France, Strasbourg Observers [[blogpost](https://strasbourgobservers.com/2024/10/31/third-party-intervention-to-the-ecthr-in-f-d-and-i-m-and-three-others-les-hijabeuses-v-france/)]
* Margaria, Alice, Cathérine Van de Graaf (19 November 2024), The Visible and The Invisible of Justice in Strasbourg, Verfassungsblog [[blogpost](https://verfassungsblog.de/interview-ecthr-judges-human-rights/)]
* Milkaitė, Ingrida, Marlies Vanhooren, Cathérine Van de Graaf, Pieter Cannoot, Eva Brems (May 2024), Third Party Intervention to the ECtHR in Obesnikova v. Bulgaria: Unpacking Gender Bias in Youth Football, Strasbourg Observers [[blogpost](https://strasbourgobservers.com/2024/05/03/third-party-intervention-to-the-ecthr-in-obesnikova-v-bulgaria-unpacking-gender-bias-in-youth-football/)]
* Ní Chinnéide, Harriet and Cathérine Van de Graaf (April 2024), Prohibition of Religious Slaughter in Executief van de Moslims van België and Others v. Belgium: Process-Based Review and a new Legitimate Aim, Strasbourg Observers [[blogpost](https://strasbourgobservers.com/2024/04/26/prohibition-of-religious-slaughter-in-executief-van-de-moslims-van-belgie-and-others-v-belgium-process-based-review-and-a-new-legitimate-aim/)]
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine (April 2024), Georgian Muslim Relations and Others v. Georgia: A Bleeding Pig’s Head and Other Expressions of Religious Hatred with No Police Intervention, Strasbourg Observers [[blogpost](https://strasbourgobservers.com/2024/04/23/georgian-muslim-relations-and-others-v-georgia-a-bleeding-pigs-head-and-other-expressions-of-religious-hatred-with-no-police-intervention/)]
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine (February 2024), Georgian Muslim Relations e.a. t. Georgië (EHRM, 24225/19) – Een bloedende varkenskop en andere uitingen van religieuze haat, EHRC Updates. [[blogpost](https://www.ehrc-updates.nl/commentaar/212770)]
* Academic Freedom team of the Human Rights Clinic (Ghent University) (9 June 2023), How Beijing influences academic freedom beyond its borders, Human Rights in Context. [[blogpost](https://www.humanrightsincontext.be/post/how-beijing-influences-academic-freedom-beyond-its-borders)]
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine (1 December 2022). Standing on the Shoulders of Giants, Völkerrechtsblog. [[blogpost](https://voelkerrechtsblog.org/editorial-23-call-for-blogposts/)]
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine (28 October 2022), Banning body-covering swimwear: the Human Rights Centre submitted a Third Party Intervention to the ECtHR in Missaoui and Akhandaf v. Belgium, Strasbourg Observers. [[blogpost](https://strasbourgobservers.com/2022/10/28/banning-body-covering-swimwear-the-human-rights-centre-submitted-a-third-party-intervention-to-the-ecthr-in-missaoui-and-akhandaf-v-belgium/)]
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine (14 June 2022), Belgium Reprimanded in Anderlecht Christian Assembly of Jehovah’s Witnesses and Others: the Procedure for Recognition of a Religion Lacks Minimum Guarantees of Fairness, Strasbourg Observers. [[blogpost](https://strasbourgobservers.com/2022/06/14/belgium-reprimanded-in-assemblee-chretienne/)]
* Raffaela Kunz & Cathérine Van de Graaf, On Academic Boycotts, Völkerrechtsblog, 04.04.2022. [[blogpost](https://voelkerrechtsblog.org/on-academic-boycotts/)]
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine / Khabook, Reza (28 January 2022), Ali Riza v. Switzerland: No Jurisdiction for the Court of Arbitration for Sport? Strasbourg Observers. [[blogpost](https://strasbourgobservers.com/2022/01/28/ali-riza-v-switzerland-no-jurisdiction-for-the-court-of-arbitration-for-sport/)]
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine / Schoog, Yannick (22 December 2021). Too Old to Deserve State Support? – Šaltinytė v. Lithuania: Age Discrimination in Socio-Economic Policy. Strasbourg Observers. [[blogpost](https://strasbourgobservers.com/2021/12/22/too-old-to-deserve-state-support-saltinyte-v-lithuania-age-discrimination-in-socio-economic-policy/)]
* Katsoni, Spyridoula, Meike Krakau and Cathérine Van de Graaf (1 November 2021). Here is to Blogposts, Editors and Authors! Cheers! Völkerrechtsblog. [[blogpost]](https://voelkerrechtsblog.org/here-is-to-blogposts-editors-and-authors-cheers/)
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine (1 September 2021). The Human Rights Centre Submitted a Joint Third Party Intervention. Strasbourg Observers. [[blogpost]](https://strasbourgobservers.com/2021/09/01/the-human-rights-centre-submitted-a-joint-third-party-intervention-in-a-case-before-the-ecthr-against-belgium-concerning-a-ban-of-religious-symbols-in-public-high-schools/)
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine (4 June 2021). Obstetric Violence and the European Court of Human Rights. Human Rights in Context (blog). [[blogpost]](https://www.humanrightsincontext.be/post/obstetric-violence-and-the-european-court-of-human-rights)
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine (30 November 2018). Mutu and Pechstein v. Switzerland: Strasbourg’s Assessment of the Right to a Fair Hearing in Sports Arbitration. Strasbourg Observers (blog). [[blogpost](https://strasbourgobservers.com/2018/11/30/mutu-and-pechstein-v-switzerland-strasbourgs-assessment-of-the-right-to-a-fair-hearing-in-sports-arbitration/)].
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine (5 October 2018). Inhumane and degrading treatment in the workplace: a first for the European Court of Human Rights? Strasbourg Observers (blog). [[blogpost](https://strasbourgobservers.com/2018/10/05/inhumane-and-degrading-treatment-in-the-workplace-a-first-for-the-european-court-of-human-rights/)].
* Van de Graaf, Cathérine (16 February 2018). The Whereabouts Requirement: Does the ECtHR protect the right to respect for private and family life of French sport professionals? Strasbourg Observers (blog). [[blogpost](https://strasbourgobservers.com/2018/02/16/the-whereabouts-requirement-does-the-ecthr-protect-the-right-to-respect-for-private-and-family-life-of-french-sport-professionals/)].

***Contributions to Third Party Interventions to the ECtHR (TPI)***

* TPI F.D. and I.M. and three others (les Hijabeuses) v. France (application) [[TPI](https://hrc.ugent.be/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/TPI-HRC-UGent-hijabeuses-.pdf)]
* TPI Obesnikova v. Bulgaria (application no. 20839/22) [[TPI](https://hrc.ugent.be/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Final-TPI.pdf)]
* TPI Semenya v. Switzerland (GC) (application no. 10934/21) [[TPI](https://hrc.ugent.be/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/HRC-TPI-Semenya-v-Switzerland.pdf)]
* TPI Missaoui and Akhandaf v. Belgium (application no. 54795/21) [[TPI](https://hrc.ugent.be/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/HRC_Missaoi-and-Akhandaf_final-intervention.pdf)]
* TPI Semenya v. Switzerland (application no. 10934/21) [[TPI](https://biblio.ugent.be/publication/8722361/file/8722362)]
* TPI Mikyas and others v. Belgium (application no. 50681/20) [[TPI](https://biblio.ugent.be/publication/8716420/file/8716421)]

 **(Additional) short term trainings**

Training, Science Communication – the Basics for First Stage and Recognised Researchers, Personalentwicklung Wissenschaft Universität zu Köln, 30th March 2023,

Training, How to successfully Write a Funding Proposal, Personalentwicklung Wissenschaft Universität zu Köln, 10 February 2022.

Training, Qualitative Messes: Realities of Documentary and Interview-based Analyses?, Ghent University – June 2019.

Training, Supervising writing assignments, Ghent University – November 2018.

Training, Using NVivo for qualitative data analysis, Ghent University – June 2018.

Course, Advanced Academic English: Writing Skills, University Language Centre, Ghent University – February-June 2018.

Course, Practical Spanish (A1), University Language Centre, Ghent University – February-June 2018.

Summer School, Qualitative Research Summer Intensive, Research Talk at the Odum Institute (University of North Carolina), Chapel Hill (NC) – July 2017.

Training, The feedback conversation, Ghent University – December 2016.

**Languages**

Dutch – native speaker.

English – highly proficient in spoken and written English.

French – good command.

German – basic command.

**Teaching experience**

*Co-lecturer, The European Convention on Human Rights: Theory and Practice, Ghent University – February 2024 – June 2025 (ongoing).*

Visiting professor, Advance Course Multiculturaliteit en Recht, Ghent University – February 2022- September 2022.

Visiting professor, Advance Course Selected Topics of International Human Rights Law, Ghent University – October 2021-February 2022.

Lecturer, Tutorial “On the European Court of Human Rights”, University of Cologne – October 2021-February 2023.

Guest lecture, #MeToo and Procedural Justice, Advance Course Gender and the Law, Ghent University – March 2021.

Guest lecture, Sexism, sexual harassment and #MeToo, Genders, sexualities and law, University of Antwerp, November 2020.

Guest lecture, Business and Human Rights, Advance Course Human Rights, Ghent University – November 2018.

Guest lecture, Right to life: State Killing, Advance Course Human Rights, Ghent University – October 2017.

Teaching assistant to Prof. Dr. Eva Brems, Advance Course Human Rights, Ghent University – September 2017- January 2019.

**Talks**

* Talk at Lunch Seminar “Just an accessory: the Strasbourg Court's separate examination of the discrimination complaint” at iCourts (University of Copenhagen), 24th of June 2024.
* Talk at “Writing and Publishing in the Law of the ECtHR” (Writing school), University of Essex and University of Cologne, 26-27th of February.
* Talk “State of implementation of the LGBTIQ action plans”, annual legal seminar of the European Equality Law Network, Brussels, 1 December 2023.
* Talk “A perspective on human rights and citizenship” at Seminar "Who is the perfect migrant?" organised by Theodor-Heuss-Akademie der Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung, 18 February 2023.
* Keynote “Procedural Justice and Discrimination” at Young Legal Researchers Conference, Hasselt University, 16 December 2022.
* “Human Rights”, WELTWEIT Summer School 2022 “Human Rights”, University of Cologne, August 2022.
* “Mensenrechten van ouderen: ‘ageism’, leeftijdsdiscriminatie en stereotypering”, Lezingenreeks ‘Aging’, Belgian Medical Students’ Association, UZ Gent.

**International Exchanges and Collaborations**

Copenhagen, Visiting Scholar at the Danish National Research Foundation's Centre of Excellence for International Courts (iCourts), May – June 2024.

Glasgow, Visiting Scholar at the Legal Theory Research Group of the School of Law, Autumn 2019.

Sweden, Erasmus Program, Lund University, Spring 2013.

**Organisation of events**

Study Day, VSR Annual Study Day ‘Diversity and migration’, Ghent University, 15 May 2025 (forthcoming).

Symposium, 15th Anniversary Strasbourg Observers, Ghent University, 8-9 May 2025 (forthcoming).

Panel talk, HumanRights@DeKrook on ‘Sport en Mensenrechten’, public library of Ghent (De Krook), 12 November 2024.

Workshop ‘Exploring the ‘Human’ of the European Court of Human Rights: Notions, Practices and Methods’, University of Zurich, 5-6 September 2024.

Symposium in collaboration with the Venice Commission ‘Money and Democracy – an uneasy relationship”, Fritz Thyssen Foundation (Cologne), 7-8 December 2023.

Symposium ‘Misappropriation and Human Rights Implosion’, Hannover, 6-8 November 2023.

Lecture Series ‘Let’s talk about academic freedom’, Academy for European Human Rights Protection, November 2022-ongoing.

Junior Researchers’ Workshop, European Human Rights Protection—Twenty Years from Now, University of Cologne, 14-15 September 2022.

HumanRights@DeKrook, collaboration of the Human Rights Centre (Ghent University) and the public library of Ghent (De Krook), Autumn 2019-Autumn 2020.

Junior Scholar Workshop on Procedural Justice, Ghent University, 10 September 2019.

Training on Procedural Justice in the Mediation of Discrimination Reports by a National Equality Body, Presentation of Research Findings to Staff Members Belgian National Equality Body, 8 February 2021.

**Student supervision**

Doctoral thesis

Raoul Rombouts, “Passive bystander or active ally? The relationship between bystanders and the law in employment discrimination”, Ghent University (2023-…)

Master thesis

Lauria Gatoni (2022), Tshilanda Solange Tshamala (2022), Ellen Dekeyzer (2021), Jolien Rabaut (2021), Ivy Rahedi (2021).

Internship

Arnaud Navarre (2022)

Assessor

Martin Derycke, Tomasz Castelein, Andrés Vélez, Suay Boulougouris, Mariam Gaiparashvili.