

ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN OUTLINE

ELSA INTERNATIONAL
2021/2022



elsa

The European Law Students' Association

Dear Network,

Strongly dedicated to its philosophy statement, ELSA constantly leads its commitment towards Human Rights to action to turn our promise into reality - raising awareness on Human Rights. We aim to reinforce our commitment by setting achievable goals and bringing meaningful change one step at a time in addition to raising awareness on all levels.

To be the powerful force, to be the voice of the law students and young lawyers on the protection and implementation of human rights, we need our Network: It starts with **you**. Considering the importance of the Annual Human Rights Campaign and ELSA Day for realising this aim, we prepared this outline to guide you on the concept of the Annual Human Rights Campaign and the 10th ELSA Day, also to provide you with different ideas for the format of your events.

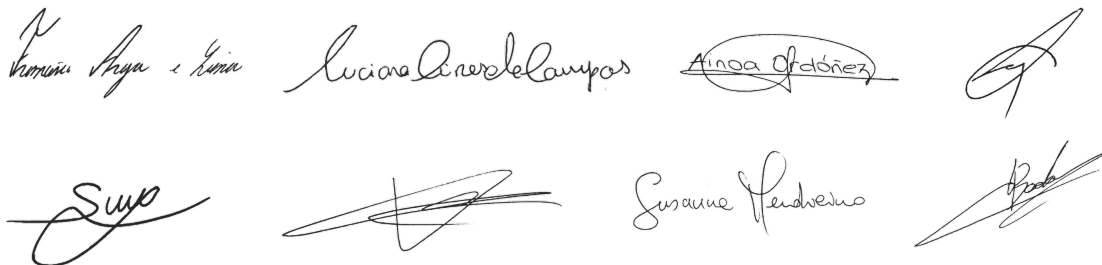
We encourage all of you to read the outline and to define your goals for this term: will you be the voice of the law students and young lawyers in your city/country and how do you wish to do that? Always remember that your smallest step can play an important role in turning the invisible to visible - giving voice to the topics that can have an impact on the whole society.

If you are reading this outline, congratulations, you already put your first step toward - ambition. Now it is time to take action!

We wish you a pleasant read and strength to complete your mission!

Francisco, Luciana, Ainoa, Tony, Samira, Mathieu, Susanna and Valentin

International Board of ELSA 2021/2022



The image displays eight handwritten signatures arranged in two rows of four. The signatures are in black ink and vary in style, from cursive to more stylized, abstract marks. The names of the signatories correspond to the list provided in the text above: Francisco, Luciana, Ainoa, Tony, Samira, Mathieu, Susanna, and Valentin.

1. What is the Annual Human Rights Campaign

Each year the network organises a Europe-wide Human Rights Campaign with the aim of raising awareness on the importance of human rights protection and creating a forum for the voice of law students and young lawyers across Europe. During the Annual Human rights Campaign, the entire ELSA Network, throughout 44 countries and more than 350 local groups, works together to realise a unique human rights forum where our members have the opportunity to discuss national and international standards of protection and implementation of human rights. In 2020/2021, ELSA organised an information campaign on the importance of the interplay between artificial intelligence and human rights. In 2021/2022, ELSA will focus on a very pressing matter in the 21st Century - protecting privacy in the Digital Age.

2. What is ELSA Day?

ELSA Day constitutes a part of the annual Human Rights Campaign and was first introduced to the ELSA Network in 2012. The aim was to unify the Network, develop internationality and focus on human rights events. Since then, we have had eight editions and more than 1,000 ELSA Day events. The first edition was held on the 20th of March 2013.

At the ICM in Malta in 2014, it was decided that the event will take place on the last Wednesday of November each year. Over the years the ELSA Day project has gained high popularity and recognition and it has been established as the biggest and most influential event across the whole ELSA Network. The aim of the ELSA Day is to jointly demonstrate our Human Rights commitment by providing legal education and opportunities that enable law students to be independent and critical members of society. The event is also dedicated to raising awareness of human dignity and cultural diversity.

As said by Federica Toscano, the Vice President in charge of Seminars and Conferences of ELSA International 2012/2013 and the founder of ELSA Day: *“A culture of sharing and understanding shall not halt at some political borders, but should go beyond these frontiers: human dignity is not connected with a certain passport or the place where we are born. Let us ensure then that we move the discussions from the constraints of national borders and unite them under the ELSA Day.”*

3. How is ELSA Day organised?

Each National Group appoints a National Coordinator, who is in charge of encouraging and supporting the Local Groups in organising ELSA Day events, passing on information from international to the national and local level, reminding and helping the Local Groups in filling in the Specification and Evaluation Forms.

ELSA International is in charge of guiding the network through the National Coordinators by creating guidelines and unified marketing materials. Make sure to use **#ELSADay** and **#alldifferentaltogether** when sharing the news regarding your ELSA Day event in order to achieve efficient joint promotion.

4. Topic of the Annual Human Rights Campaign and 10th ELSA Day: Privacy in the digital age

The general topic of ELSA Day, as part of the Annual Human Rights Campaign, is Human Rights and any event on this topic will be appreciated. However, as the field of human rights is very diverse, we want to focus on a specific topic. For this year's Annual Human Rights Campaign, the focus will be on 'Privacy in the digital age'. Indeed with the development of technologies, people are questioning the reaches onto their privacy.

Given the broad scope of such an area, many aspects may be explored. One may first look into what exactly 'privacy' entails in the digital world. There are several areas that may be explored in this domain:

Is anything posted on the internet **truly 'private'**?

- To what extent do firms and governments have the right to store and utilise data generated by users on websites, apps, and other digital resources?
- Can digital assets and artificial intelligence be exploited to breach one's right to privacy?
- Are human rights at risk of being impinged by the increasing potential of mass surveillance?
- Are there any remedies for the misuse or invasion of users' private information?
- Can data gathered have a profound effect on social media's algorithms and thus affect an individual's information cycle and point of view?

One of the key pieces of legislation that is relevant in this regard is the well-known General Data Protection Regulation which is one of the foundations of the way that data is regulated in the European Union nowadays, with explicit instructions on how to store, use and dispose of data.

5. What events could be organised?

Legal debates can be organised on the local and national levels, debating upon the implications' of technologies into today's privacy. In order to make an impact on society, remember to advertise the debate among non-lawyers as well. However, always bear in mind the non-political status of ELSA.

Institutional visits or "**Lawyers at work**" are another key event for this topic, where ELSA members will have the opportunity to get in touch with experts and lawyers on Law and Technology, and legal issues emanating from the protection of privacy and acquire practical knowledge on the topic at hand.

The National Groups can conduct **surveys** via questionnaires prior to the ELSA Day on what people think about the impact of the digital reality on privacy and how familiar they are with the issue. The results of those surveys can be provided to the local groups and be implemented in their events.

Over the past year, ELSA officers have taken advantage of the circumstances and broaden their options when it comes to organising an event in the midst of a pandemic. Consider the possibilities of organising events that are more accessible for your members during these challenging times, such as creating videos, webinars and/or digital documents to raise awareness of the topic of ELSA Day. This can be done through **input papers, Essay Competitions, Legal Research Groups, ELSA Webinars, ELSA Webinars Academy, Conferences** or **video materials**, which allow for online sharing. These options can also be used as additional promotion for a physical event or as an extension of the event to raise even more awareness on the topic.

6. Annual Human Rights Campaign Specification Form and Council of Europe Materials

Just like the previous years, the Council of Europe (CoE) will ship materials to approximately 40 National or Local Groups. The exact content will remain unknown for now, but is likely to include pens, notebooks, calendars, information brochures, etc. to be in the package. Our contacts in the Council will send materials

to the events they find the most impactful and interesting happening on ELSA Day. We do not control precisely how the Groups are selected, but academic quality, creativity, visibility, and relevance to the topic are important elements. It takes some time to pack and ship materials. For this reason, the Council needs information about your event as early as possible. We must therefore operate with strict deadlines (see the timeline at the bottom). When the idea of your event is hatched, please fill in the Annual Human Rights Campaign Event Specification Form. ELSA International will forward your event to the Council and save your form for the Annual Human Rights Campaign Competition and Report.

Please note that visibility materials from the Council of Europe can only be received for events planned for ELSA Day and you should fill in the specification forms by the deadline indicated **for the visibility materials**.

7. Evaluation

In order to improve our goals for carrying out this mission, we need to evaluate our achievements. Please fill in the Annual Human Rights Campaign Evaluation Form after your Annual Human Rights Campaign event. The information will be collected and processed by ELSA International and will be distributed throughout the Network. The Evaluation Form will be available until March. Keep in mind that your event will not be taken into account for the Competition or final statistics in the Report if you do not submit the Evaluation Form.

7. Annual Human Rights Campaign Competition

The best Annual Human Rights Campaign event will be rewarded. All National and Local Groups that fill in the Specification **and** Evaluation Forms automatically compete in the Competition. The prize will be eternal honor and glory – together with an object you proudly can bring back to your ELSA office. Upon the discretion of ELSA International, the guiding criteria are:

- 1. the required forms must be filled in;**
2. the topic of the event must be relevant to privacy in the digital age;
3. the academic quality of the event;
4. impact on society of the event,
5. the level of creativity; and
6. online and offline visibility of the event.

In order to support your application, you are encouraged to submit materials such as pictures, videos, promotion materials etc. to humanrights@elsa.org.

8. Kind reminder

You might ask yourself what ELSA means by being committed to human rights: Which rights are we referring to and which actions can be taken by ELSA? The [Human Rights Handbook](#) might help guide you towards an answer on this.

Finally, please bear [ELSA's Philosophy Statement](#) in mind when preparing for the Annual Human Rights Campaign. If this Campaign can get us closer to the fulfillment of our beautiful Vision, it is definitely worth calling it a success!

9. Timeline

Below you will find the schedule used by the International Board of ELSA as regards the organisation of the Annual Human Rights Campaign. Please note, however, that the timeline may be subject to small changes due to unforeseen circumstances. Nevertheless, compliance with the deadlines below will ensure well-organised events for the Annual Human Rights Campaign.

Call for National Coordinators	13-27 September 2021
Appointment of the National Coordinators	30 September 2021
Deadline for submitting the Annual Human Rights Campaign specification forms for CoE visibility materials	24 October 2021
ELSA Day	24 November 2021
Deadline for submitting the Annual Human Rights Campaign Specification form	03 March 2022
Deadline for submitting the Annual Human Rights Campaign Evaluation Form	13 March 2022
Award ceremony of the competition	ICM Spring 2022