UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Human Rights

1819-5-A5810166

Learning objectives

The course aims at providing the students with the knowledge and critical understanding of the main aspects of the system of international protection of human rights in its historical evolution and present situation, with particular emphasis on the right to life and the right of not being subject to torture.

Contents

- General concept of human rights;

- Historical development of human rights protection in international law;

- The right to life and the right of not being subject to torture in the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights.

Detailed program

The first part of the course deals with the general aspects of human rights, their historical development and their inclusion in international law, beginning with the United Nations Charter and in the light of the main subsequent treaties (European and American Conventions; United Nations Covenants; Conventions against torture and against enforced disappearance), taking also into account the procedural means for their protection. The second part of the course deals with the case law of the European Court of Human Rights as regards the right to life and the right of not being subject to torture, with special emphasis on certain aspects, such as the use of lethal force or state of necessity.

Prerequisites

It is better to have passed the exam of international law.

Teaching methods

University classes, with some optional lectures entrusted to foreign and Italian experts. The course is taught in English.

Assessment methods

The exam is oral, without partial proofs. To evaluate the exam the following factors are taken into account: knowledge of the matter; coherence and completeness of the exposition; correct use of legal terminology; capacity to express oneself in a understandable and synthetic way.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

A collection of relevant texts is distributed to the students attening the classes.

For those who do not attend: Smith, Textbook on International Human Rights, seventh edition, Oxford University Press, 2016.