

## **NURHP Terms and Conditions and Rules of Conduct**

### ***Introduction***

The Northwestern University Human Rights Project, (NUHRP), forum is a place where law students, current and past, Northwestern University School of Law alumni, staff or any other member of the legal fraternity with interests in human rights can interact and have discussions about several human rights related topics. However, we ask that you follow these rules and guidelines to ensure that the forum has productive conversations as well as relevant and accurate content. These rules and guidelines are enforced by administrators and moderators, and at their discretion, may delete posts, without warning or notice to any party, that do not comply. Also, failure to comply with these rules or our Terms and Conditions and Rules of Conduct may result in a ban from the forums or the entire site, as well as the removal of posts. In amplification of this preamble please see the rule below on Northwestern University Technology Policies, Rules and Guidelines.

### ***Requirements and Criteria For Suitable and/or Relevant Posts***

This site is dedicated to the human rights issues, past, present and even issues that might arise in future. The purpose of the website and subsequent posts and forums is to provide a platform to stimulate intellectual debate, share experiences and knowledge, provide constructive criticisms and or encouragement. Posts may include, but not limited to: academic articles, constructive critiques thereto, letters and responses, updates on current events of a human rights nature, pictures and videos of human rights violations or historic events in terms of key human rights issues, key human rights judgments-especially from domestic courts and more so from jurisdictions where internet access is not reliable or no website exists that can provide the said information. For now, all videos have to be uploaded on youtube and have the subsequent link posted on the website.

It shall also serve as a point where up to date information on human rights situations such as uprisings, protests, or other political, civil, social and economic upheavals taking place in countries of former and current law students including clinic students in the field, law school staff (professors, assistant professors, teaching fellows, adjuncts), human rights lawyers and activists who are affiliated with Northwestern University School of Law can post their legal views, make opinions on human rights issues. All posts shall be subject to all other rules and regulations contained herein.

The moderator(s) and or administrator(s) have the discretion to determine if a matter does not fit the broad criteria above.

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1. All persons who post any material on this website shall be deemed to have read

2. all the relevant Northwestern University Information Technology Policies, Guidelines, and Practices as listed on <http://www.it.northwestern.edu/policies/> with particular emphasis on the *Reporting a Northwestern University Information Technology Policy Violation Policy* and the *Incident Response Protocol* also on <http://www.it.northwestern.edu/policies/>. By posting a contribution on this website you are agree to be bound by the rule University internet usage rules and regulations.
3. No discriminatory posts shall be entertained. There shall be on discrimination on sex, sexual orientation, age, gender, race, socio-economic status, educational status, religion and or creed and political affiliation or any other form of illegal discrimination.
  - a. Contributors can post views of a political nature as long as said views do not violate other rule or guideline contained herein.
4. All forum posts must be written in English. Any thread topics or replies written in a language other than English will be removed. NUHRP recognizes the importance of other languages and appreciates the universal nature of past, current and future contributors, however, this website is meant to serve, past, current and future law students who met, meet or will be expected to meet the Law School's English requirements as well as law professors, members of the legal fraternity and the public. Contributors are restricted to posting quotes from say, foreign leaders if delivered in a foreign language and accompanied by an accurate translation in English.
  - a. Contributors shall try their best to post grammatically correct information. The moderators of this site are not editors. If a post is deeply flawed grammatically, the moderator(s) reserve the right to delete the posting.
  - b. No swearing or usage of lewd and lascivious language. All persons should use language that is not unbecoming of the legal profession. Contributors should be constantly aware that as aspiring, current or retired lawyers, the society holds the profession and its members in the highest of esteem, so keep it clean.
5. No spamming, advertising or linking to commercial sites: No external links to other irrelevant websites such as stock market message boards, celebrity and financial blogs, newsletters, referrer based compensation sites, adult entertainment, shopping, sports or commercial sites. Linking to personal sites, commercial or not is generally not permitted unless such linking furthers ones argument and or provides further information on a topic of discussion. Please ask a moderator if you are unsure. Please be aware that we do not permit external links on your signature file. The moderators have a final word on whether a link posted in a conversation or discussion violates this rule. If deemed to be a violation then the post shall be deleted.
6. The following actions are further not permitted:
  - a. No "**flaming**" or "**badgering**" -- posting hostile or insulting messages or information aimed at other users for their views, comments, status as a user on the site, or any other reason. You can disagree with someone's posting or view and still be polite and civil.
  - b. No "**trolling**" - posting controversial (often off-topic) messages with the intention of baiting other users to reply. One may play the devil's advocate. However we encourage users who wish to do so must state upfront that they are doing so and that the position presented are do so to spark academic debate. However, statements like "The Holocaust never happened!" or "Women are naturally

inferior to men!” shall not be tolerated irrespective of the intention of the individual posting such a comment.

- c. No "spamming" - no advertisements of any kind, or referral to irrelevant links and or other services. "Spam" as replies (fewer than 7 words) which do not contribute to a forum thread in a positive or constructive manner. Short messages are highly discouraged.
7. No discussions whatsoever on software piracy, hacking, the sharing of such and or similar illegal pirated material (games, music, software, pictures, movies, books, academic papers etc.), or linking to sites where such activities are tolerated or encouraged. This does not include linking to social networking sites such as youtube, twitter, and or facebook, save if such linking is irrelevant, in terms of human rights issues or subjects, to the discussion and or post at hand.
8. No personal information about yourself or anyone else is allowed. Such information shall be removed as soon as it is noticed by the moderator. A poster can post a link to facebook or linkedin page where his or her appropriate personal information on the author can be found.
9. No plagiarism is permitted. All contributors to website and the forums herein shall be deemed to be familiar with the Northwestern University Honor Code as stipulated at: <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/studentservices/rulesregs/honorcode/> .

Contributors not familiar with the provisions contained therein, ought to familiarize themselves with the said code prior to any posting. Northwestern University School of Law is not responsible for any plagiarized article, information or publication displayed on this site. The moderators shall remove with immediate effect any material found to violate this rule and where necessary, especially in the case of a current student, start disciplinary proceeding and or any other remedial action necessary, as soon as an act of plagiarism is brought to their attention or discovered.

10. The moderator(s) shall have full and final discretion to delete any post or contribution found to violate any rule, guideline or policy contained herein. They do not have to alert the contributor as to why their post has been deleted. A contributor can contact the moderator(s) through the website as to why their contribution has been deleted. The moderator (s) shall then notify the contributor with reasons as soon as it is practically possible, generally within but not limited to, a two-week period once the complaint has been received.