

## Dr Rosa Freedman

Senior Lecturer

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### About

Dr Rosa Freedman is a senior lecturer at Birmingham Law School, University of Birmingham. She received her LL.M in Public International Law at University College London and her PhD at Queen Mary University of London. Freedman's research focuses on the UN and human rights, in particular the impact of politics, international relations, the media, and civil society on the work and proceedings of United Nations human rights bodies. She has published extensively on the UN Human Rights Council and is currently undertaking a British Academy funded project on Special Procedures. Freedman has published two books, ***Failing to Protect: The UN and Politicisation of Human Rights*** (<http://www.hurstpublishers.com/book/failing-to-protect/>) (Hurst; OUP, 2014) and ***The United Nations Human Rights Council: an early assessment*** (</schools/law/news/2013/freedman-unhrc.aspx>) (Routledge, 2013) and academic articles in international law and interdisciplinary journals. She writes for national and online media, works closely with the UN and with state governments, and sits on the advisory boards of international NGOs.

### Feedback and office hours

In the second semester of 2014-2015, my Office and Feedback Hours will be:

Tuesdays 10.30 am - 12.30pm

Students are welcome to see me during these hours without an appointment. If you need to see me outside these hours, please email me to arrange another time, or just knock on my door (although I can't guarantee that I'll be available)

### Qualifications

- LLB (QMUL)
- LL.M (UCL)
- BVC (Inns of Court School of Law)
- PhD (Queen Mary, University of London)

### Biography

Rosa obtained her LLB in 2005 before undertaking a specialised LL.M (Public International Law) at University College London. She was called to the Bar at Gray's Inn in 2007. Rosa joined Birmingham Law School from QMUL, where she was awarded a studentship for the duration of her doctoral studies.

### Teaching

- International Human Rights (LLB and LL.M)
- Socio-Legal Theory (LL.M)
- Research Skills (LL.M)
- Dissertation supervision

### Research

Rosa researches and writes on the United Nations human rights machinery and international human rights law. She is interested in the extent to which those bodies discharge their mandates and the intersection of international law and international relations. She has published extensively on the United Nations Human Rights Council and is currently focusing on the United Nations Special Procedures system. Rosa has a broader interest in the impact of politics, international relations, the media, and civil society both on the work and proceedings of international institutions and on states' compliance with international human rights norms. Rosa has presented papers at national and international conferences on international human rights and international law. Rosa also undertakes interdisciplinary and collaborative research on hybridity, including jointly organising and running an interdisciplinary workshop through the Institute of Advanced Studies.

### Other activities

- Academic head of the Legal Skills Advisory Service

- Law School coordinator for the MA in International Law, Politics and Global Ethics
- Member of the University Humanities and Social Sciences Ethical Review Committee

## Publications

### Books

- ***Failing to Protect: The UN and Politicisation of Human Rights*** (<http://www.hurstpublishers.com/book/failing-to-protect/>) (Hurst: London; OUP: New York, 2014)
- ***The United Nations Human Rights Council: A Critique and Early Assessment*** (<http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415640329/>) (Routledge, 2013)

### Articles

- 'Expanding or Diluting Human Rights?: The proliferation of United Nations Special Procedures mandates.' *Human Rights Quarterly* (2016) forthcoming (with Jacob Mchangama)
- 'UN Immunity or Impunity?: A human rights based challenge.' 25 (1) *European Journal of International Law* (2014), pp. 239-254
- 'Third Generation' Rights: Is there room for hybrid constructs within International Human Rights Law?', 2 (4) *Cambridge Journal of International and Comparative Law* (2013), pp. 935-959
- 'The United Nations Human Rights Council: More of the same?', 31 (2) *Wisconsin International Law Journal* (2013), pp. 208-251
- 'New Mechanisms of the UN Human Rights Council,' 29 (3) *Netherlands Quarterly of Human Rights* (2011), pp. 289-323
- 'The United States and the Human Rights Council: An Early Assessment,' 23(1) *St Thomas Law Review* (2010), pp. 23-70
- 'Improvement on the Commission?: The UN Human Rights Council's Inaction on Darfur,' 16(1) *University of California-Davis Journal of International Law & Policy* (2009), pp. 81-129
- 'Public Awareness of Human Rights: Distortions in the Mass Media,' 14(4) *International Journal of Human Rights*, 14(4) (2010), pp. 491-523 (with Eric Heinze, 50% - 50%)

### Book Chapters

- 'Hybrid Human Rights', in P. Jackson, *Handbook on Security and Development* (forthcoming, Edward Elgar, 2014)

### Book Reviews

- 'The End of Conceit: Western Rationality After Postcolonialism, by Patrick Chabal', 2(1) *Peacebuilding*, (2013) pp.285-287

### Media articles

#### The Independent

- **[The lack of basic human rights around the world: a harrowing reality](http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/features/the-lack-of-basic-human-rights-around-the-world-a-harrowing-reality-9913644.html)** (<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/features/the-lack-of-basic-human-rights-around-the-world-a-harrowing-reality-9913644.html>), The Independent, 10 December 2014 (commissioned article)

#### Huffington Post

- **[UK Must Constructively Engage with UN Expert on Violence Against Women](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/dr-rosa-freedman/violence-against-women_b_4864854.html)** ([http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/dr-rosa-freedman/violence-against-women\\_b\\_4864854.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/dr-rosa-freedman/violence-against-women_b_4864854.html)), 28 February 2014 (with Ben Warwick)
- **[UN Tells EU to Adopt a Human Rights-Based Approach to Migrants](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/dr-rosa-freedman/un-tells-eu-to-adopt-a-hu_b_3381802.html)** ([http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/dr-rosa-freedman/un-tells-eu-to-adopt-a-hu\\_b\\_3381802.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/dr-rosa-freedman/un-tells-eu-to-adopt-a-hu_b_3381802.html)), 4 June 2013
- **[Haiti Cholera Claims: Ultimatum to the United Nations](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/dr-rosa-freedman/haiti-cholera-un_b_3243219.html)** ([http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/dr-rosa-freedman/haiti-cholera-un\\_b\\_3243219.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/dr-rosa-freedman/haiti-cholera-un_b_3243219.html)), 9 May 2013
- **[Israel's Move Could Topple UN's House of Cards](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/dr-rosa-freedman/israels-move-could-topple_b_2589296.html)**, ([http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/dr-rosa-freedman/israels-move-could-topple\\_b\\_2589296.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/dr-rosa-freedman/israels-move-could-topple_b_2589296.html)) 31 January 2013

#### The Guardian Online

- **[Making jury service pay](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/jul/13/jury-service-loss-earnings-childcare)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/jul/13/jury-service-loss-earnings-childcare>) 13 July 2010
- **[Let's redistribute child benefit ourselves](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/jun/28/child-benefit-freeze-redistribution)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/jun/28/child-benefit-freeze-redistribution>) 28 June 2010
- **[The ultra-Orthodox face up to abuse](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2010/may/05/ultra-orthodox-child-abuse)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2010/may/05/ultra-orthodox-child-abuse>) 5 May 2010
- **[Make STD testing mandatory](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/feb/08/std-testing-mandatory)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/feb/08/std-testing-mandatory>) 8 February 2010
- **[Circumcision – above the law?](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2009/oct/01/circumcision-judaism)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2009/oct/01/circumcision-judaism>) 1 October 2009
- **[Are students switched on to the erosion of our rights?](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/libertycentral/2009/apr/03/human-rights-students)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/libertycentral/2009/apr/03/human-rights-students>) 5 April 2009
- **[The left must wake up](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2009/jan/28/recession-politics)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2009/jan/28/recession-politics>) 28 January 2009
- **[Lecturers are not border police](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2008/dec/10/highereducation-immigration)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2008/dec/10/highereducation-immigration>) 10 December 2008
- **[Dangerous liaisons](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2008/nov/19/religion-islam)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2008/nov/19/religion-islam>) 19 November 2008
- **[We must do more for Burma](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/jan/02/wemustdomoreforburma)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/jan/02/wemustdomoreforburma>) 2 January 2008
- **[Talking loud, saying nothing](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/dec/13/talkingloudsayingnothing)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/dec/13/talkingloudsayingnothing>) 13 December 2007
- **[Mistaken identity](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/oct/19/mistakenidentity)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/oct/19/mistakenidentity>) 19 October 2007
- **[UN's talking shop](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/sep/18/untalkingshop)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/sep/18/untalkingshop>) 18 September 2007
- **[Biafran lessons](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/sep/08/biafranlessons)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/sep/08/biafranlessons>) 8 September 2007
- **[A case of extraordinary amnesia](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/aug/04/renditionflightsbelowthera)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/aug/04/renditionflightsbelowthera>) 4 August 2007
- **[Blocking democracy](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/jul/21/blockingdemocracy)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/jul/21/blockingdemocracy>) 21 July 2007
- **[Disciplining parents](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/jul/18/discipliningparents)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/jul/18/discipliningparents>) 18 July 2007
- **[A small price to pay](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/jun/22/asmallpricetopay)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/jun/22/asmallpricetopay>) 22 June 2007
- **[Seeking justice](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/jun/18/seekingjustice)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/jun/18/seekingjustice>) 18 June 2007
- **[Time to take responsibility](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/jun/06/timetotakeresponsibility)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/jun/06/timetotakeresponsibility>) 6 June 2007
- **[The genocide loophole](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/may/13/thegenocideloophole)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/may/13/thegenocideloophole>) 13 May 2007
- **[China's church crimes](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/may/08/chinaschurchcrimes)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/may/08/chinaschurchcrimes>) 8 May 2007
- **[Church cover-ups](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/may/05/churchchildabuse)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/may/05/churchchildabuse>) 5 May 2007
- **[The repression Olympics](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/apr/23/therepressionolympics)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/apr/23/therepressionolympics>) 23 April 2007
- **[Laying down the law](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/apr/18/cruelbutnotunusual)** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/apr/18/cruelbutnotunusual>) 18 April 2007

- [The rights stuff \(http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/apr/10/therightsstuff\)](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/apr/10/therightsstuff), 10 April 2007
- [Fighting for peace \(http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/apr/03/fightingforpeace\)](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/apr/03/fightingforpeace), 3 April 2007
- [Bringing Mugabe to book \(http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/apr/02/bringingmugabetobook\)](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/apr/02/bringingmugabetobook), 2 April 2007

#### Jewish Chronicle

- [Rot showing in UN human rights body \(http://www.thejc.com/comment-and-debate/analysis/110528/rot-showing-un-human-rights-body\)](http://www.thejc.com/comment-and-debate/analysis/110528/rot-showing-un-human-rights-body), 23 August 2013
- [Israel losing support by ignoring hostile UN human rights body \(http://www.thejc.com/comment-and-debate/analysis/108605/israel-losing-support-ignoring-hostile-un-human-rights-body\)](http://www.thejc.com/comment-and-debate/analysis/108605/israel-losing-support-ignoring-hostile-un-human-rights-body), 14 June 2013

#### Law Blogs

- [Five years after Haiti quake, a new setback for cholera victims \(http://theconversation.com/five-years-after-haiti-quake-a-new-setback-for-cholera-victims-36149\)](http://theconversation.com/five-years-after-haiti-quake-a-new-setback-for-cholera-victims-36149), *The Conversation*, 12 January 2015 (column by invitation)
- [We are all Charlie Hebdo – and this is an attack on our rights, \(https://theconversation.com/we-are-all-charlie-hebdo-and-this-is-an-attack-on-our-rights-35978\)](https://theconversation.com/we-are-all-charlie-hebdo-and-this-is-an-attack-on-our-rights-35978) *The Conversation*, 7 January 2015 (column by invitation)
- [Western states are still scared to defend migrants' rights, \(https://theconversation.com/western-states-are-still-scared-to-defend-migrants-rights-35621\)](https://theconversation.com/western-states-are-still-scared-to-defend-migrants-rights-35621) *The Conversation*, 17 December 2014 (column by invitation)
- [Human rights have always been marred by hypocrisy – but the CIA report is a new low, \(https://theconversation.com/human-rights-have-always-been-marred-by-hypocrisy-but-the-cia-report-is-a-new-low-35388\)](https://theconversation.com/human-rights-have-always-been-marred-by-hypocrisy-but-the-cia-report-is-a-new-low-35388) *The Conversation* 11 December 2014 (column by invitation)
- [When UN peacekeepers commit atrocities someone has to act \(https://theconversation.com/when-un-peacekeepers-commit-atrocities-someone-has-to-act-34317\)](https://theconversation.com/when-un-peacekeepers-commit-atrocities-someone-has-to-act-34317), *The Conversation*, 17 November 2014 (column by invitation)
- [United Nations' silence on gay rights is allowing their abuse \(https://theconversation.com/united-nations-silence-on-gay-rights-is-allowing-their-abuse-33384\)](https://theconversation.com/united-nations-silence-on-gay-rights-is-allowing-their-abuse-33384), *The Conversation*, 23 October 2014 (column by invitation)
- [Haitian cholera victims could soon bring the UN to court \(https://theconversation.com/haitian-cholera-victims-could-soon-bring-the-un-to-court-32637\)](https://theconversation.com/haitian-cholera-victims-could-soon-bring-the-un-to-court-32637), *The Conversation*, 8 October 2014 (column by invitation)
- [United Nations under pressure to protect 'traditional families' over individual rights \(https://theconversation.com/united-nations-silence-on-gay-rights-is-allowing-their-abuse-33384\)](https://theconversation.com/united-nations-silence-on-gay-rights-is-allowing-their-abuse-33384), *The Conversation*, 17 September 2014
- [Snooping on irregular migrants breaches their human rights – and puts us all at risk \(https://theconversation.com/snooping-on-irregular-migrants-breaches-their-human-rights-and-puts-us-all-at-risk-29173\)](https://theconversation.com/snooping-on-irregular-migrants-breaches-their-human-rights-and-puts-us-all-at-risk-29173), *The Conversation*, 16 July 2014
- [Failing to Protect: Systemic weaknesses within the UN human rights machinery \(http://www.universal-rights.org/blogs/91-failing-to-protect-systemic-weaknesses-within-the-un-human-rights-machinery\)](http://www.universal-rights.org/blogs/91-failing-to-protect-systemic-weaknesses-within-the-un-human-rights-machinery), Universal Rights Group, 7 July 2014
- [UN Human Rights Council Keeps Up Its Bad Form On LGBT Rights \(http://theconversation.com/un-human-rights-council-keeps-up-its-bad-form-on-lgbt-rights-28676\)](http://theconversation.com/un-human-rights-council-keeps-up-its-bad-form-on-lgbt-rights-28676), *The Conversation*, 4 July 2014 (with Camilla R Barker)
- [Failing to Protect \(http://ilq2.org/author/rafreedman2013/\)](http://ilq2.org/author/rafreedman2013/), *Int Law Grrls*, 30 May 2014
- [Britain's First FGM Prosecution Is All Too Politically Convenient \(https://theconversation.com/britains-first-fgm-prosecution-is-all-too-politically-convenient-25511\)](https://theconversation.com/britains-first-fgm-prosecution-is-all-too-politically-convenient-25511), *The Conversation*, 14 April 2014 (with Ben Warwick)
- [Haiti Cholera Claims: Absolute Immunity vs Human Rights \(http://ilq2.org/2013/07/09/haiti-cholera-claims-absolute-immunity-vs-human-rights/\)](http://ilq2.org/2013/07/09/haiti-cholera-claims-absolute-immunity-vs-human-rights/), *Int Law Grrls* 9 July 2013
- [The United Nations Human Rights Council's Backwards Step on LGBT Rights \(http://ilq2.org/author/rafreedman2013/\)](http://ilq2.org/author/rafreedman2013/), *Int Law Grrls*, 7 June 2013
- [Is rights replication undermining the international human rights system? \(http://ukhumanrightsblog.com/2013/03/20/is-rights-replication-undermining-the-international-human-rights-system/\)](http://ukhumanrightsblog.com/2013/03/20/is-rights-replication-undermining-the-international-human-rights-system/), *UK Human Rights Blog*, 20 March 2013

