



EDITORIAL

Dear fellow alumni,

The past year has been especially challenging for human rights and people working on issues related to human rights. During the celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the EMA in Venice in September, we addressed some of those internal and external challenges faced by the human rights community in the last years. We also heard though messages of optimism and hope from Manfred Nowak, our panelists and our workshop facilitators. We felt the strengt of our network with the organisation of this major event.

In 2018, we will celebrate the 70th anniversary of one of the milestone human rights documents: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Let's make sure we have reasons to celebrate by the end of the year. Let's work on replacing fear with hope in 2018! Networks like ours are needed more than ever. Modestly, our association can contribute to reverse trends, reinforce human rights and to support human rights professionals worldwide.

My hope for our association is that we continue to grow strong, give each other support. My hope is that more and more of the alumni contribute time, tips, jobs, ideas and initiative to the network. This network is only worth as much as you put into it.

Véronique Lerch
President E.MAlumni Association

PS: Do not hesitate to reach out to Adam, our new board member responsible for the newsletter, if you have ideas or input for the newsletter write him at adam@globalcampusalumni.org

Call for New GCA ambassadors

We are looking for GCA ambassadors to help current EMA students transition smoothly to their second semester placements. If you live in an EMA second semester city and would like to help this years students settle in by acting as a contact point, give advice or simply meet for a coffee please contact

jennifer@globalcampusalumni.org or
charlotte@globalcampusalumni.org

We are in particular looking for alumni in **Belfast, Seville, Utrecht, Budapest, Thessaloniki, Hamburg** and **Bochum** - though we would love to hear from anyone interested.

New Alumni Hub in Beirut

A new Alumni Hub in Beirut is in the making. Alumni Elena Ascittie is the focal point. If you are in Beirut or know of any alumni there, please contact her at ascittie@hotmail.com.

News from the hubs

Strasbourg

The EMAlumni Strasbourg Hub met in late November for an evening of food, wine and human rights related discussions.



THE MASTER

Admission is open for the European Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation (EMA). *Deadline for applications:* 22 January for the first round and 19 March for the second round. Do spread the word in your network.

News from Alumni

Alumnus *Ram Kumar Bhandari*, has published an article in the Harvard Human Rights Journal. The article "*The Disappeared and the Question of Justice: A story from Nepal*" explores the violations of rights of missing and disappeared persons. You can read the full article [here](#).

In addition fellow alumnus *Pablo Fernández* was interviewed in December by the Human rights Campaign Team of CISV. He talks about his reasons to get involved in human rights, some of the major challenges for today's human rights defenders and not the least about the EMA. You can read the interview [here](#).

Finally, alumnus *Thomas Coombes* has written a blog post on how to communicate human rights. The article focusses on how we can better communicate to audiences by telling the positive



In Strasbourg? Check out the [Facebook](#) group or contact one of the local co-ambassadors:

Tania Gisselbrecht taniagi@hotmail.com or

Diana Balanescu diana.balanescu@gmail.com

Brussels

The Brussels Hub met on 13 December for an EMA Christmas drink and to thank the two outgoing Alumni Secretary Generals, Sara and Moana, for their hard and dedicated work in the network. With their enthusiasm, professionalism, and patience they have helped shape the Association into the dynamic organisation and network it is today.



If you are in Brussels and want to join the Hub, contact Michael Merrigan on michael@globalcampusalumni.org or visit the [Facebook](#) group.

Active membership?

Are you an 'active' member of the EMAlumni Association? If not, sign up [here](#).

rather than the negative human rights stories. We need hope, not fear! You can read more [here](#).

Did you publish an article, book, photo or video touching upon a human rights subject? [Write](#) us if you want to share it with fellow alumni.

Mentoring programme:

Would you like to build on your coaching skills, or support fellow alumni to fulfil their potential? We are looking for mentors. Follow this [link](#) to learn more and sign up [here](#) as a mentor.



Events

The **Career Day 2018** will take place in the Monastery on the Lido on **26 January**. It is organized by the E.MAlumni Association in cooperation with EIUC. The Career Day offers current masterini an opportunity to learn from experienced alumni about opportunities in a future human rights career. In practical terms masterini will be offered advice on CVs and on where and how to find relevant work once they graduate.



The previous Career Day was well perceived by the Masterini.



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