

**INTERNATIONAL VEGAN  
RIGHTS ALLIANCE**



## 2nd International Symposium on Veganism and Law Berlin, July 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> 2017

Presented by the International Vegan Rights Alliance and ProVeg

Following our huge joint success in 2016, the International Vegan Rights Alliance (IVRA) and ProVeg (formally VEBU) are delighted to welcome you to our second Symposium on Veganism and Law. The Symposium will take place in Berlin over the weekend of July 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> 2017.

### Call for Papers

**\*\*DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017\*\***

Veganism is rapidly growing in popularity but how are vegans supported by our laws and equality measures or the regulations and policies that they influence?

Whilst the UK Equality and Human Rights Commission states that veganism comes within the scope of protection of human rights and equality measures, veganism in other countries is regarded to be largely exempt from such protection.

In the recent past, vegan lawyers have successfully litigated in cases concerning discrimination against vegans and some countries, such as Italy and Portugal, have made attempts to obtain legal protection for the dietary aspect of veganism.

In 2016, an All Party Parliamentary Group was established in the UK to give a voice to the demands of vegans; Jeanette Rowley published a chapter in *Critical Perspectives on Veganism* arguing that veganism is transformational for the exclusivity of human rights; Italian Carlo Prisco published *The Right to Vegetarianism* and Ralf Müller-Amenitsch published *Vegan im Recht* in Germany.

This growing area of interest is critical to the development and well-being of the global vegan community and has enormous potential for animal rights. In 2017 and onwards, we expect to see more vital and informative work in this area.

Building on our first international Symposium on *The Right to a Plant Based Diet*, and our concluding *Declaration* that veganism comes within the

scope of various human rights principles and provisions, this Symposium asks further questions about veganism in law. Its aims are to examine the strengths and limits of international and regional laws for veganism and vegans, to highlight the value that legal protection for veganism can bring to nonhumans and to explore how vegan rights can contribute towards the end of speciesist prejudice.

## Symposium Papers

(All speakers will have the opportunity to have their papers peer reviewed and published in an online Symposium Collection)

Submissions for presentations are invited on the implications of veganism for law, legal practice and theory from a diverse range of vegan professionals, including, **but not limited to** lawyers, social workers, educators, clinicians, health care professionals, academics/researchers, official policy developers, equality body representatives, representatives from vegan societies and Human Resource representatives. Speakers are permitted to present on more than one topic if they wish. Topics for consideration include, **but are not limited to:**

### Veganism in human rights and equality law

- Analysis of case law in this area
- International human rights and freedom of conscience
- Veganism and regional interpretations of human rights terms
- Conceptualising vegan rights and equality in European and other regional jurisdictions
- Veganism and European Union Council Equality Directives
- Veganism and the network of European Equality Bodies
- Public sector equality duty and the marginalisation of veganism

### Veganism in the workplace

- Analysis of case law in this area
- Duties of employers
- Duties of vegan employees
- Veganism and compulsory safety clothes
- Food availability and the workplace
- Employment advisory bodies and the recognition of vegan issues
- Permitted discrimination and occupational requirements
- Employment claims process

## **Veganism and health and welfare services**

- Analysis of case law in this area
- Relevant policies and standardised practices in the availability and provision of alternative medicines
- Food availability in hospital or care home
- Veganism and health/social care worker training curriculum
- Vegan pregnancy and sector responses to raising vegan infants
- Ageing vegans and Care Home training, policy and practice
- Ageing vegans and Power of Attorney
- Vegan prejudice in adoption and fostering process

## **Veganism and education**

- Analysis of case law in this area
- Food availability for vegan pupils
- Prejudice in the curriculum and teacher training
- Policy and practices for the welfare of vegan pupils
- Parental right to educate children according to their own moral convictions

## **Veganism and family law**

- Analysis of case law in this area
- The vegan rights of parents
- The vegan rights of the child
- Vegan safeguarding in fostering and adoption

## **Veganism and consumer law**

- Food labelling developments
- Food availability
- Other consumer issues such as food availability on planes/trains, clothing labelling.

## **Veganism, police custody and prisoners' rights**

- Regional and National Prison Rules
- Provision of food, clothes and other items
- Food availability in police detention

## **Vegan rights claims and legal process in various jurisdictions**

- Types of action (tribunal, equality, rights etc.)
- Costs, duration, etc.

- Scope of out of court settlement options
- Mediation, advisory bodies and the status of veganism

## Veganism, legal process and the courtroom

In this category, we are pleased to include speakers who have direct experience as vegan litigators or plaintiffs in regional legal process and court contexts.

## Justice and the conceptualisation of a vegan jurisprudence of human rights

This area is broad. For example, we would be pleased to include:

- Notions of human identity in a speciesist legal system.
- The foundation of rights: do protective rights exist for rational, autonomous selves on the basis of exclusionary dignity or should they be reconceptualised as obligatory duty to others?
- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights as the original violence to nonhumans.
- Justice and practical, ethical veganism: balancing competing cross species duties; comparing the incomparable and thinking the unthinkable.
- Productive Paradox: transcending exclusive human rights; vegan human rights as a representation of ethical duty to nonhuman others rather than the claims for the self.
- The interface of human and nonhuman rights at the European Court of Human Rights (Judge Pinto in Grand chamber, *Herrmann V Germany* App no 9300/07, 26 June 2012.)
- Veganism and Earth Jurisprudence.
- The implications of Protocol 14 of the European Convention on Human Rights for the claims of vegans (inadmissibility if no "significant disadvantage").
- Beyond personal and "significant" disadvantage. A vegan reconceptualisation of the Article 9 right to freedom of conscience under the European Convention of Human Rights.
- Vegan human rights in a speciesist legal system: the problem "legitimate aim" and "proportionality".
- Vegan human rights in a speciesist legal system: the false ontological assumptions of the judiciary.
- Human rights and path dependency: can we envisage change? If so, how?
- The utility of vegan human rights in the animal industrial complex.
- Vegan human rights as a representation of oppositional politics of identity and action.
- Vegan human rights and the creation of non-practising state practitioners (the duty to accommodate).

# The Presentation

Presenters will speak for around 15 minutes and will be allocated an additional 10 minutes for questions from participants.

Presentations can be given with or without PowerPoint slides. If using PowerPoint, please keep accessibility principles in mind and avoid the use of small or light/faint fonts on a light background. If using PowerPoint, please send us your presentation a week before to avoid technical difficulties.

## Submission Guidelines for Publication

Papers will be collated and published in a 2017 Symposium Collection. For consistency, we ask that all speakers who wish to have their paper published comply with the following guidelines:

### The paper

Written papers for publication should be written in English and should be between 1500–2000 words. Please include an abstract of no more than 250 words. This does not count towards the 2000-word limit. We are happy to receive your abstract before you complete your proposed draft. Please include references as footnotes (rather than in-text citations) to support your abstract. **We can offer practical support to any symposium participant who would like to contribute to the Symposium Collection but requires assistance with written English language.**

### The abstract

The Abstract should:

- Explain the objective of the paper
- Note the structure of the paper
- Briefly note the argument presented
- Note the context for the argument
- Note the findings or conclusion

## Symposium Schedule

(Our exciting schedule will be available soon)

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> early arrivals are invited to join us for an optional evening dinner.**

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> 10:00-19:00: scheduled symposium programme.**  
**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> 19:00-onwards: optional dinner and social gathering.**  
**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> 10:00-15:00: scheduled symposium programme.**

## Symposium Fees

There are no speaker, participant or publication fees. For offers of sponsorship please see below.

## Sponsors

We are interested to hear from individuals and organisations that would like to sponsor either an individual participant or the event. If you would like to talk to us about sponsorships, please contact [loukas@theivra.com](mailto:loukas@theivra.com)

## Contacts

**Abstracts and enquiries about submission topics:**

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# Venue

**Veganz: Revaler Straße 100, 10245 Berlin**



# Media

All media enquiries to:  
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# Previous Symposium And Declaration

<http://www.theivra.com/symposium.html>

