

Mattia PINTO

Lecturer (Assistant Professor), York Law School and Centre for Applied Human Rights,
University of York

Co-convener, LLM in International Human Rights Law and Practice

Law and Management Building, University of York, Freboys Lane, York YO10 5GD, UK

[Academic website](#)

mattia.pinto@york.ac.uk

[ORCID iD](#)

AREAS OF SPECIALISATION

Human rights; criminology and criminal law (including international criminal law); socio-legal studies (especially discourse analysis and socio-legal theory); international political sociology.

EDUCATION

- **PhD**, Law, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), 2018-2022
- **PGCert**, Higher Education, LSE, 2019-2021
- **LLM**, Transnational Law, King's College London (KCL), 2016-2017
- **Single-Cycle Master's Degree in Law (M.Jur)**, University of Bologna, 2012-2017

Doctoral thesis

“Human Rights as Sources of Penalty”

Supervisors: Prof Peter Ramsay (LSE) & Prof Conor Gearty (LSE)

Examiners: Prof Karen Engle (Texas at Austin) & Dr Sara Kendall (Kent)

LLM dissertation

“Awakening the Leviathan through Human Rights Law: How Human Rights Bodies Trigger the Application of Criminal Law”

Supervisor: Dr Nicola Palmer (KCL)

MJur thesis

“The Principle of *Nullum Crimen Sine Lege* between Civil Law and Common Law: The Influence of the Case Law of the European Court of Human Rights”

Supervisor: Prof Vittorio Manes (Bologna)

EMPLOYMENT

- **Lecturer**, York Law School and Centre for Applied Human Rights, University of York: *September 2022 - present*
 - Permanent academic position, involving research and teaching
 - Co-director of the LLM in International Human Rights Law and Practice
- **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, LSE Law School (part-time): *September 2019 – August 2021*
 - Teaching criminal law (LLB module) and legal research and writing skills (LLM module)
- **Master Adviser/Ph.D. Representative**, LSE Law School (part-time): *September 2019 – August 2021*

- **Legal Intern**, International Criminal Court (ICC), The Hague (Netherlands): *December 2017 – June 2018*
 - Office of Public Counsel for the Defence (OPCD)
- **Research Assistant in International Criminal Law**, KCL, Dickson Poon School of Law (temporary job): *October 2017 – December 2017*
- **Legal Trainee**, Council of Europe, European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR), Strasbourg (France): *February 2016 – March 2016*
 - Italian Division, Registry

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed journal articles

- Pinto M, 'Coercive Human Rights and the Forgotten History of the Council of Europe's Report on Decriminalisation' (2023) 86(5) *Modern Law Review* 1108
- Pinto M, 'Discursive Alignment of Trafficking, Rights and Crime Control' (2023) 19(2) *International Journal of Law in Context* 122
- Pinto M, 'Historical Trends of Human Rights Gone Criminal' (2020) 42(4) *Human Rights Quarterly* 729
- Pinto M, 'Of Sex and War: Carceral Feminism and its Anti-Carceral Critique' (2020) 8(2) *London Review of International Law* 351
- Pinto M, 'Awakening the Leviathan through Human Rights Law: How Human Rights Bodies Trigger the Application of Criminal Law' (2018) 34(2) *Utrecht Journal of International and European Law* 161
- Pinto M, 'The Denationalisation of Foreign Fighters: How the European States Expel Unwanted Citizens' (2018) 9(1) *King's Student Law Review* 67

Book chapters

- Pinto M, 'Human Rights and their Influence on Penalty and Penal Policy-making' in A Corda (ed), *Research Handbook on Penal Policy* (Edward Elgar, forthcoming)
- Pinto M and Mavronicola N, 'Accountability for Violations of Civil and Political Rights: Redress within and beyond the Penal Frame' in M Duin and K Henrard (eds), *Research Handbook on Accountability for Human Rights Violations* (Edward Elgar, forthcoming)
- Pinto M, 'Rights-driven Global Penalty' in F Mazzacuva, M Odriozola Gurrutxaga, N Recchia and A Santangelo (eds), *Criminal Justice in the Prism of Human Rights* (Maklu Publishers 2023)
- Pinto M, 'Human Rights as Penal Drivers Across the World' in L Farmer, J Hörnle, D Ormerod and M Ó Floinn (eds), *The Transformation of Criminal Jurisdiction: Extraterritoriality and Enforcement* (Hart Publishing 2023)
- Pinto M, 'Sowing a "Culture of Conviction": What Shall Domestic Criminal Justice Systems Reap from Coercive Human Rights?' in L Lavrysen and N Mavronicola (eds), *Coercive Human Rights: Positive Duties to Mobilise the Criminal Law under the ECHR* (Hart Publishing 2020)

Book reviews

- Pinto M, 'Silvana Tapia Tapia: Feminism, Violence Against Women, and Law Reform: Decolonial Lessons from Ecuador' (2023) *Feminist Legal Studies*

Working papers

- Pinto M, '**Historical Trends of Human Rights Gone Criminal**' (2020) LSE Legal Studies Working Paper No. 4/2020
- Pinto M, '**Sowing a "Culture of Conviction": What Shall Domestic Criminal Justice Systems Reap from Coercive Human Rights?**' LSE Legal Studies Working Paper No. 20/2019

Blogposts

- Pinto M, '**Beyond Criminalisation: Torture as a Political Category**' (*Critical Legal Thinking*, 1 March 2021) – translated into Turkish and published on *Hukukkritik.com* ('Suçlulaştırmanın Ötesinde: Politik Bir Kategori Olarak İşkence')
- Pinto M and Marchesi M, '**“Lock Them Up and Throw Away the Key!”: Another Step in the ICC's Pathway toward Retributivism**' (*Opinio Juris*, 25 November 2019)
- Pinto M, '**Romeo Castaño: “meticulously elaborated interpretations” for the sake of prosecution**' (*Strasbourg Observers*, 10 September 2019)
- Pinto M, '**The ICC Appeals Chamber invites amici curiae on Jordan appeal in the Al-Bashir immunities case**' (2018) 121 *ADC-ICT Newsletter* 3
- Pinto M, '**The Bemba Appeal Hearing: Three Issues on Command Responsibility**' (2018) 119 *ADC-ICT Newsletter* 3

Public engagement and outreach

- Tapia Tapia S, Pinto M and Mavronicola N, '**The Duty to Investigate Crimes of Torture in National Law and Practice**', Input to the Report of the Special Rapporteur on Torture (23 November 2023)

Podcasts

- **Human rights as sources of national and international criminal law** (An episode of *For Inquisitive Minds* by Ali Jiwani, 10 October 2019)

SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

- York Law School Discretionary Research and Impact Funds (£1,500) – 2023
- Modern Law Review Scholarship 2021-22 (£2,000) – 2021-2022
- LISS-DTP Seminar Funding, with Shruti Balaji, Hannah Owens, Mirko Palestrino and Josh Walmsley, 'PhD Seminar Series in International Political Sociology (IPS) 2021/2022' (£4,500) – 2021
- LSESU Teaching Awards 2020-21 – nominated – 2021
- LSA Graduate Student & Early Career Workshop Grant – free registration to the LSA annual meeting – 2021
- Modern Law Review Seminar Funding, with Prof Natasa Mavronicola and Dr Steven Malby, 'Human Rights Penalty: The Next Decade' (£4,000) – 2021
- LSE Class Teacher Awards 2019-20 – Highly Commended (£50) – 2020
- LSESU Teaching Awards 2019-20 – nominated – 2020
- LSE Conference Grant (£700 towards participation and travel expenses for LSA Annual Conference, Denver, held online due to COVID-19) – 2020
- LSE Conference Grant (£800 towards participation and travel expenses for ICON-S 2019, Santiago de Chile) – 2019
- LSE PhD Studentship (fees + £18,000 each year for four years) – 2018-2022

- Cambridge European Scholarship (fees in full) – 2018, *declined*
- University of Manchester School of Law Scholarship (fees + £14,777 p.a.) – 2018, *declined*
- LISS DTP 1+3 Doctoral Studentship (fees + £16,777 p.a.) – 2018, *declined*
- Scholarship for the King's College London LLM's fees awarded by the University of Bologna as one of the best students at the Law School (€3,000 + 15% discount on fees) – 2016
- Scholarship for excellence in studies at the University of Bologna (€1,500) – 2016
- Runner-up in the “Premio Giuseppe Sperduti” moot court competition (appeal to the ECtHR), organized by the Italian Society for International Organization (SIOI) (€500 per team + one-month legal traineeship at the European Court of Human Rights) – 2015
- Scholarship for excellence in studies at the University of Bologna (€1,500) – 2015
- Scholarship for excellence in studies at the University of Bologna (€1,500) – 2014
- “Andrea Sogni” Award for excellence in studies, Cariparma Crédit Agricole (€1,600) – 2013
- Scholarship for excellence in studies awarded by the Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR) within the national programme for the promotion of excellence (€500 + tuition fee for the first year of university) – 2012
- Scholarships for the high school student with the best academic achievement granted by Liceo Melchiorre Gioia High School (Piacenza, Italy) (€200) – 2011

PRESENTATIONS

- 11-13/09/2023: ‘Human Rights-driven Penal Desires’ – Critical Legal Conference 2023, University of Durham
- 01-04/06/2023: ‘Bordered Penalty as Antagonistic Politics’ – LSA Global Meeting 2023, San Juan, Puerto Rico
- 22/05/2023: ‘What can discourse theory do for me? I’m a lawyer!’ – LSE Law School
- 04-06/04/2023: ‘Human Rights-driven Penal Desires’ – SLSA Annual Conference 2023, Ulster University at Derry
- 08/03/2023: ‘Anti-Torture Activism and the limits of the (criminal) law’ – Amnesty Society and Lawyers without Borders event ‘Human rights and the law: A beginners guide’, University of York
- 07/12/2022: ‘Human Rights-driven Penal Desires’ – York Law School Research Seminar, University of York
- 27-28/09/2022: ‘Human Rights as Penal Drivers Across the World’ – X AIDP International Symposium for Young Penalists ‘Criminal Justice in the Prism of Human Rights’, University of Bologna
- 08/09/2022: ‘The anti-torture norm: emerging directions in research’ – University of Copenhagen
- 13-16/07/2022: ‘Human Rights-driven Penal Desires’ – LSA Global Meeting 2022, ISCTE University Institute of Lisbon
- 25/03/2022: ‘Human Rights Penalty: The Next Decade’ – University of Birmingham, Law School
- 28/01/2022: ‘Making Anti-Torture a Penal Imperative: A History of the Present’ – PhD Seminar Series in International Political Sociology (2021-2022)
- 23/11/2021: ‘Beyond Rights-based Punishment: Torture as a Political Category’ – 14th Melbourne Doctoral Forum on Legal Theory (online)

- 17/06/2021: Guest Lecture 'Human Rights: Taming or Enabling the Criminal Justice System?' – Goethe University Frankfurt, Law School
- 11/06/2021: 'Punishing Torture through Human Rights: The Paradox of Rights-Based Penal Discourses' – Workshop on the Political Turn(s) in Criminal Law Thinking (online)
- 28/05/2021: 'Punishing Torture through Human Rights: The Paradox of Rights-Based Penal Discourses' – LSA Annual Conference 2021, Chicago (online due to COVID-19)
- 25/05/2021: 'Punishing Torture through Human Rights: The Paradox of Rights-Based Penal Discourses' – LSA Graduate Student & Early Career Workshop 2021, Chicago (online due to COVID-19)
- 30/04/2021: 'Punishing Torture through Human Rights: The Paradox of Rights-Based Penal Discourses' – Human Rights PhD Triangle Conference, University of Cambridge (held online due to COVID-19)
- 28/04/2021: 'Historical Trends of Human Rights Gone Criminal Across the Globe' – WG Hart Legal Workshop 2021 'New Perspectives on Jurisdiction and the Criminal Law' (held online due to COVID-19)
- 07/04/2021: 'Punishing Torture through Human Rights: The Paradox of Rights-Based Penal Discourses' – Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Theory Forum event on 'Research Ideas' (held online due to COVID-19)
- 01/04/2021: 'Protecting Virtue and Punishing Vice: Genealogies of Anti-Trafficking Discourses' – SLSA Annual Conference 2021, Cardiff University (held online due to COVID-19)
- 29/01/2021: "'Abolitionism v Reductionism" in Light of Continental European Criminal Law Theory' (with Prof Christoph Burchard) – Workshop on the Political Turn(s) in Criminal Law Thinking (online)
- 20/01/2021: 'Protecting Virtue and Punishing Vice: Genealogies of Anti-Trafficking Discourses' – LSE Law PhD/Staff Lunchtime Seminar (held online due to COVID-19)
- 15/01/2021: 'Protecting Virtue and Punishing Vice: Genealogies of Anti-Trafficking Discourses' – PhD Seminar Series in International Political Sociology (2020-2021) (held online due to COVID-19)
- 26/10/2020: Session on 'Police, Protests and Human Rights Violations' – LSE PhD Reading Group 'Contemporary Legal Questions: A Journey through Movies' (online)
- 16/09/2020: Session on 'Defund the Police' – Critical Modern Slavery Study Group, online discussion group convened by Dr Pankhuri Agarwal (University of Bristol) and Dr Maayan Niezna (University of Kent)
- 02/09/2020: 'Discursive Alignments of Trafficking, Rights and Crime Control' – SLS Annual Conference 2020, University of Exeter (held online due to COVID-19)
- 02/07/2020: 'Historical Trends of Human Rights Gone Criminal' – Workshop on 'Human Rights Overreach', Erlangen, Germany (held online due to COVID-19)
- 3/06/2020: 'Discursive Alignments of Trafficking, Rights and Crime Control' – Critical Modern Slavery Study Group, online discussion group convened by Dr Pankhuri Agarwal (University of Bristol) and Dr Maayan Niezna (University of Kent)
- 29/05/2020: 'Discursive Alignments of Trafficking, Rights and Crime Control' – Mannheim Doctoral Working Group, LSE Mannheim Centre for Criminology
- 24/01/2020: 'Human Rights as Sources of Penalty: The Case of Human Trafficking' – Conference 'Rights, dignity and religion: responding to "modern slavery"', University of Sheffield
- 18/01/2020: 'Coercive Human Rights' – Cumberland Lodge LSE Law Research Cafe

- 2/07/2019: ‘“Sowing a ‘culture of conviction”: what shall domestic criminal justice systems reap from coercive human rights?’ – ICON-S 2019, Santiago de Chile
- 7/06/2019: ‘The Role of Human Rights as Sources of Penalty: A Transnational-Law Perspective’ – Writing Workshop Series on Social Sciences and Law (Legal Realism) – Queen Mary University of London
- 5/06/2019: ‘When Human Rights Go Violent: Expanding the Penal Field in the Name of Humanity’ – Queen Mary Postgraduate Legal Research Conference 2019 ‘Silver Linings’
- 9/05/2019: ‘The Role of Human Rights as Sources of Penalty: A Transnational-Law Perspective’ – LSE Law PhD Upgrade Conference
- 01/03/2019: ‘Odi et Amo: The Irresoluble Confrontation between Human Rights and Criminal Law’ – Human Rights PhD Triangle Conference – LSE Human Rights Centre
- 19/01/2019: ‘Human rights and penalty’ - Cumberland Lodge LSE Law Research Cafe
- 05/06/2017: Discussant of Prof Mia Sward’s (Johannesburg) lecture ‘The Mobilisation of South African Civil Society in the Al Bashir matter’ – King’s College London, Dickson Poon School of Law
- 22/03/2016: Roundtable ‘The Multilevel Protection of Rights in Europe’ – University of Bologna (Italy)

ACADEMIC SOCIETY POSITIONS

Fellow of the UK Higher Education Academy (AFHEA)

Member of the Law and Society Association (LSA)

Member of the Socio-Legal Studies Association (SLSA)

Member of DoingIPS

Member of the Yorkshire Criminal Law Forum

External Member of the Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Theory Forum at LSE

JOURNAL EDITORIAL POSITIONS

Academic Member of the Editorial Board of the *York Law Review*

Former Senior Associate Editor of the *University of Bologna Law Review* (2015-2018)

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND PANELS ORGANISED

Co-organiser of the panel ‘Human Rights Penalty: Paradox, Critique, and Future’ at the Critical Legal Conference 2023, Durham (with Dr Silvana Tapia Tapia)

Co-organiser of the panel ‘Human Rights Penalty: Paradox, Critique, and Future’ at the SLSA Annual Conference 2023, Derry (with Prof Natasa Mavronicola and Dr Silvana Tapia Tapia)

Co-organiser of the panel ‘Retracing the discursive and material roots of global penalty’ at the LSA Global Meeting 2022, Lisbon (with Olivia Nantermoz)

Co-organiser of the conference ‘Human Rights Penalty: The Next Decade’ – Birmingham Law School (25 March 2022) (with Prof Natasa Mavronicola and Dr Steven Malby)

Co-organiser of the PhD Seminar Series in International Political Sociology (2021-2022)

Co-organiser of the panel ‘Human Rights: Taming or Enabling the Carceral State?’ at the LSA Annual Conference 2021, Chicago/online (with Prof Rachel López)

Organiser of the PhD reading group ‘Contemporary Legal Questions: A Journey through Movies’ – LSE Law School (2020-2021)

Organiser of the session ‘Defund the Police’ – Critical Modern Slavery Study Group (online) (2020)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate

- International Criminal Justice, York Law School, 2023-2024
- UG Dissertation, York Law School, 2022-2024
- Human Rights: Law, Power & Global Challenges, York Law School, 2022-2023
- Legal Concepts, York Law School, 2022-2023
- Legal Skills, York Law School, 2022-2023
- Criminal Law, LSE Law School, 2019-2021

Postgraduate

- International Criminal Justice, York Law School, 2023-2024
- Human Rights Placement, York Law School, 2023-2024
- Human Rights Laboratory, York Law School, 2023-2024
- Applying International Human Rights Law, York Law School, 2022-2024
- PGT Dissertation, York Law School, 2022-2024
- Legal Research and Writing Skills, LSE Law School, 2019-2020

LANGUAGES

- Italian (native)
- English (fluent)
- French (elementary proficiency – Course of French Language, Level 2 at the Modern Language Centre, King's College London)