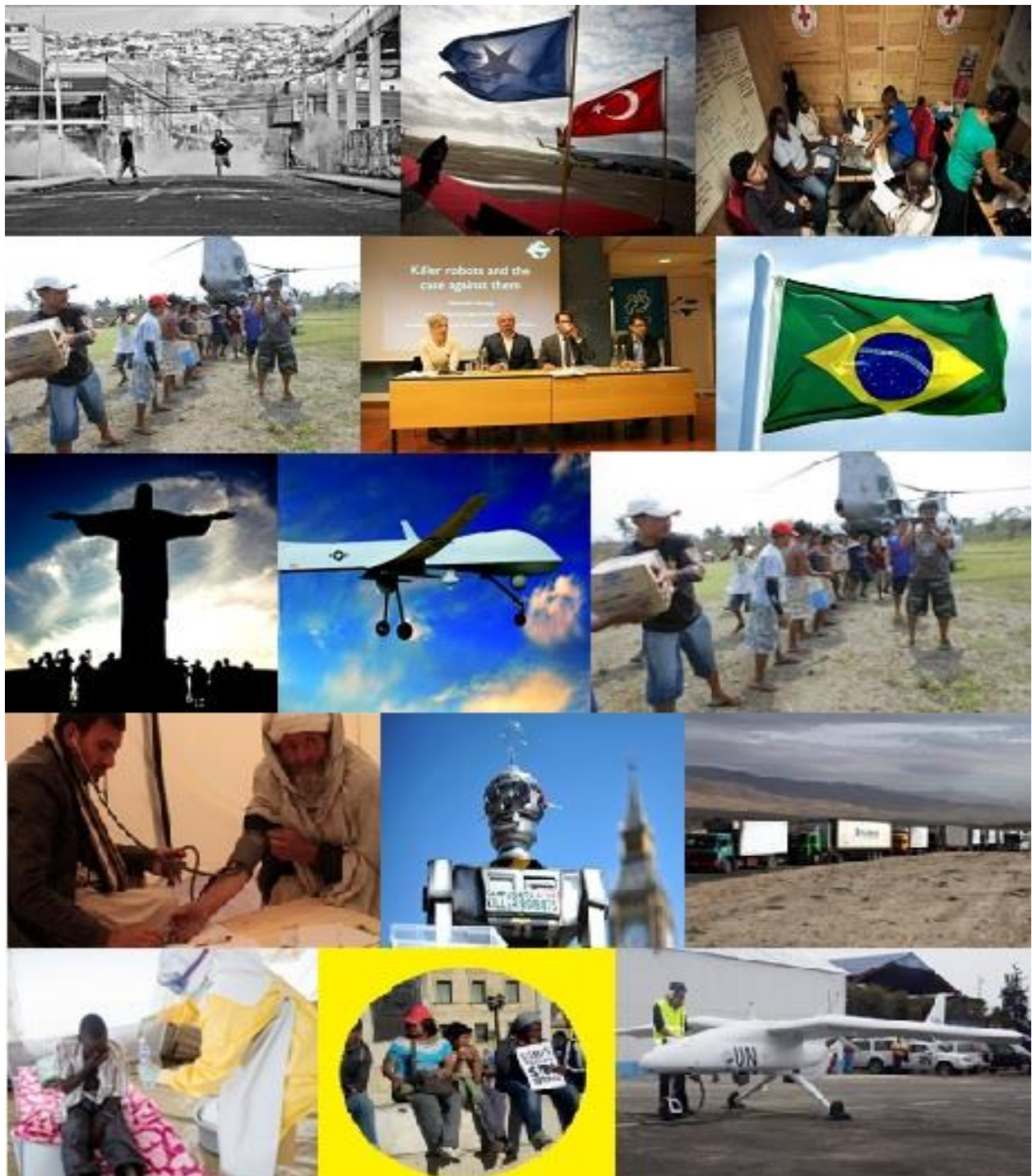


# NORWEGIAN CENTRE FOR HUMANITARIAN STUDIES

## ANNUAL REPORT – 2014



## Overview

The [Norwegian Centre for Humanitarian Studies](#) (NCHS) is established by [CMI](#), [NUPI](#) and [PRIO](#), with the aim to promote and facilitate critical and relevant research on humanitarian issues. The Centre is financed by the Norwegian Research Council, and has four overarching objectives:

- To produce high quality, policy relevant research on humanitarian issues
- To establish a critical mass of Norwegian scholars working on humanitarian issues, and linking these up with international networks
- To serve as a key partner for discussion and analysis for humanitarian actors
- To stimulate public debate on humanitarian issues

The Centre's activities are organized under the following ongoing and past projects:

- [Armed Conflict and Maternal Health in Sub-Saharan Africa](#) (PRIO)
- [Economic Conditions of Displacement](#) (NUPI and FAFO)
- [Protection of Civilians: From Principle to Practice](#) (CMI, NUPI, PRIO)
- [Armed Violence in Urban Settings: New Challenges, New Humanitarianisms](#) (NUPI and PRIO)
- [The Critical Humanitarian Technology Project](#) (ended in 2013) (PRIO w/NUPI)

In 2014, the following 3-year projects under the NCHS umbrella received funding from the Research Council of Norway:

- [Brazil's Rise to the Global Stage](#) (BraGS) (PRIO and NUPI)
- 'Conflict of interest? business for peace' as Development air in volatile environments (PRIO)
- Aid in crisis? rights-based approaches and humanitarian outcomes (PRIO)

Inspired by and as part of these projects, scholars from NCHS published 12 blogs and held 14 seminars, 2 workshops and 3 book presentations. These events engaged Norwegian and international academics, policy makers, practitioners and other actors from and with interest in the humanitarian field. As part of the NCHS projects, the scholars have also contributed to the Centre's academic and policy relevant portfolio through publications in peer reviewed journal articles, commentary pieces, op-eds, reports, policy briefs and guest blogs. Joining their academic expertise on migration and corruption, PRIO and CMI have entered a new collaboration addressing unexplored connections in their new initiative *Corruption and Migration* (CORMIG).

The Centre is led by [Kristin B. Sandvik](#) (Senior Researcher, PRIO), and consists of 14 Senior Researchers, 2 Researchers and 1 Project Assistant. NCHS also has collaboration partners in Afghanistan, Colombia and Somalia.

## Blogs

In order to stimulate public debate on humanitarian issues, NCHS researchers and guest authors contributed with the following blogs in 2014:

- [Fighting the War with the Ebola Drone](#)  
By Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO)
- [Do they really care? Protection of Civilians and the Veto Powers in the UN Security Council](#)  
By Kristoffer Lidén (PRIO)
- [Humanitarian innovation, humanitarian renewal?](#)  
By Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO)
- [Estranged violence in Tegucigalpa](#)  
By Joakim Hertzberg Ulstein (NUPI)
- [The humanitarian triad](#)  
By Raymond Apthorpe (Royal Anthropological Institute, London)
- [Is it acceptable to lie for a good cause?](#)  
By Henrik Urdal (PRIO)
- [A Humanitarian Technology Policy Agenda for 2016](#)  
By Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO), Christopher Wilson (Engine Room), John Karlsrud (NUPI)
- [The Rise of the Humanitarian Drone: Giving Content to an Emerging Concept](#)  
By Patrick Meier (iRevolution)
- [The Humanitarian–Development Nexus: Lessons from Northern Uganda](#)  
By Jon Harald Sande Lie (NUPI)
- [Female Empowerment in DR Congo](#)  
By Gudrun Østby (PRIO)
- [Impunity and the conflation of rape and adultery in Sudan’s Criminal Act](#)  
By Liv Tønnessen (CMI)
- [Syria’s humanitarian crisis](#)  
By Are J. Knudsen (CMI)

## Events

The Centre has also served as a forum for discussion and analysis among humanitarian actors in Norway, and engaged national and international networks working on humanitarian issues to participate in the following events in 2014:

- [Killer Robots at the UN](#) (PRIO)
- [Colombia: Ending the War - Ending the War on Drugs?](#) (PRIO)
- [The road towards Colombian peace – Field-based perspectives](#) (PRIO)
- [The Humanitarian Cyber Space: Expanding Frontiers or Shrinking Space?](#) (PRIO)
- [The rise and decline of a global security actor: UNHCR, refugee protection and security](#) (PRIO)
- [The role and utility of research in driving evidence based aid](#) (PRIO)
- [From Actionable Information to Assessments of Impact: Key Pointers for Evidence-Based Humanitarian Action](#)(PRIO)
- [Afghanistan: humanitarian efforts and development assistance](#) (CMI, PRIO, The Norwegian Afghanistan Committee)
- [Roundtable with professor Michael Ignatieff : R2P and protection of civilians](#) (NUPI)
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- [Book Launch: Protecting Civilians in Refugee Camps](#) (CMI, University of Bergen - Faculty of Law)
- [UNRWA and the Palestinian Refugee Camps](#) (CMI, NUPI)
- [Roundtable: Refugee Resettlement and the Political Economy of Protection](#) (PRIO)
- [The Humanitarian Triad - Seminar with Raymond Apthorpe](#) (Bjørknes University College, Research School on Peace and Conflict, PRIO)
- [Research Seminar: Human Rights and Drones](#) (PRIO, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights)
- [Ebola: A Humanitarian Crisis or a Crisis of Humanitarian Governance?](#) (MSF Norway, Norwegian Refugee Council, Norwegian Red Cross, PRIO)



- [Beyond the Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza: What now for Israel and Palestine?](#) (PRIO, NOREF)
- [The \(D\)evolution of a Norm: R2P, the Bosnia Generation, and the Future of Humanitarian Intervention](#) (NUPI)
- [The International Politics of Human Rights and the Responsibility to Protect](#) (PRIO)
- [Armed Conflict and Maternal Health - Policy and Research Seminar](#) (PRIO)
- [Reframing Urban Violence in Latin-America: Humanitarian and Military Responses](#)
- [Humanitarian Innovation](#) (PRIO)

As part of the NCHS project *Protection of Civilians: From Principle to Practice*, project members from PRIO, NUPI and CMI also held the 3-day PhD Course [Humanitarian Action and the Protection of Civilians](#) for the [Research School on Peace and Conflict](#). The research course explored the international political conditions for the protection of civilians (PoC) agenda and how these are reflected in the role and impact of humanitarian action in cases like Afghanistan, Uganda, Somalia, South Sudan and Colombia. The course was lectured by [Astri Suhrke \(CMI\)](#), [Benjamin de Carvalho \(NUPI\)](#), [Cindy Horst \(PRIO\)](#), [Jon Harald Sande Lie \(NUPI\)](#), [Kristoffer Lidén \(PRIO\)](#), [Liv Tønnessen \(CMI\)](#), [Niels Nagelhus Schia \(NUPI\)](#), [Ole Jacob Sending \(NUPI\)](#), [Pinar Tank \(PRIO\)](#), [Torunn Wimpelmann \(CMI\)](#), [Øystein H. Rolandsen \(PRIO\)](#), [Kristin Bergtora Sandvik \(PRIO\)](#) and Simon Harragin. Following the PhD course, a project workshop was held, in which project members discussed academic papers from work package II and ideas for work package 3 of the PoC project.

As part of the [Critical Humanitarian Technology Project](#) and [Training for Peace-program](#), researchers from PRIO and NUPI, also published a special issue on the technologization of humanitarian efforts in the Norwegian journal *Internasjonal Politikk*. In this special issue, guest editors John Karlsrud (NUPI), Maria Gabrielsen Jumbert (PRIO) and Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO) highlight the need of a critical research agenda within the field of humanitarian technology – particularly with regard to how new technology changes power relations and perceptions of security within the humanitarian field. The special issue, titled ‘Teknologisering av humanitært arbeid’, consists of six peer-reviewed journal articles – three articles by researchers with NCHS affiliation, and three articles by other contributors.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Nils Mørk, Christopher Wilson and Guro Åsveen.

## Publications

In addition to the Centre's contribution through blogs and events, NCHS researchers have also produced a number of high quality academic and policy relevant research on humanitarian issues, as part of or inspired by past and ongoing research projects. These publications have been on issues ranging from protection of civilians, emerging humanitarian technologies, migration, refugees and displacement and emerging global powers.

### Journal articles:

Jumbert, Maria Gabrielsen; Hoelscher, Kristian; Tank, Pinar & de Carvalho, Benjamin (2014) '[Brazil: An Aspiring Global Power](#)', *Government Gazette*, July 2014, pp.80-82.

Karlsrud, John; Jumbert, Maria Gabrielsen & Sandvik, Kristin Bergtora (2014) '[Ny humanitær teknologi – en kritisk forskningsagenda](#)', *Internasjonal Politikk*, 72 (2), pp.224-233.

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Lemaitre, Julieta & Sandvik, Kristin Bergtora (2014) '[Beyond Sexual Violence in Transitional Justice: Political Insecurity as a Gendered Harm](#)', *Feminist Legal Studies*, December 2014, 22 (3), pp. 243-261.

Lemaitre Ripoll, Julieta; López, Eva Sol; Mosquera, Juan Pablo; Sandvik, Kristin Bergtora & Gómez, Juliana Vargas (2014) '[De desplazados a víctimas. Los cambios legales y la participación de la Mesa de Víctimas de Mocoa, Putumayo.](#)' [Displaced victims. Legal changes and involvement of the Bureau of Victims of Mocoa, Putumayo.], PRIO Report, 8. Colombia: Universidad De Los Andes (Justica Global).

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[efectivo de derechos.](#) [Dream about a decent life. The League of Displaced Women: A Case Study of best practices organization based on the full enjoyment of rights], PRIO Report, 7. Colombia: Universidad De Los Andes (Justica Global).

Mørk, Nils (2014) 'Sosiale medier og humanitært arbeid: En god løsning på feil problem?', *Internasjonal Politikk*, 72 (2), pp. 245-252.

Reid-Henry, Simon & Sending, Ole Jacob (2014) '[The "humanitarianization" of urban violence](#)', *Environment and Urbanization*, October 2014, 26 (2), pp. 427-442.

Sandvik, Kristin Bergtora (2014) '[Humanitarian innovation, humanitarian renewal?](#)', *Forced Migration Review – Special Supplement: Innovation and Refugees*, September 2014, pp. 25-27.

Sandvik, Kristin Bergtora (2014) '[Teknologi og det humanitære fornyelsesprosjektet](#)', *Internasjonal Politikk*, 72 (2), pp.272-281.

Sandvik, Kristin Bergtora; Jumbert, Maria Gabrielsen; Karlsrud, John & Kaufmann, Mareile (2014) '[Humanitarian technology: a critical research agenda](#)', *International Review of the Red Cross*.

Sandvik, Kristin Bergtora & Lohne, Kjersti (2014) '[The Rise of the Humanitarian Drone: Giving Content to an Emerging Concept](#)', *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, September 2014, 43 (1), pp. 145-164.

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Sandvik, Kristin Bergtora (2014) '[Ebola: A Humanitarian Crisis or a Crisis of Humanitarian Governance?](#)', *Humanitarian Practice Network*.

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Sandvik, Kristin Bergtora & Karlsrud, John (2014) '[Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in Humanitarian Response](#)', *UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Occasional Policy Paper, OCHA Policy and Studies Series*, June 2014, 010.

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