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Center for the Human Rights of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry

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Oppose Disability Profiling - Nothing About Us Without Us!

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[Stop Psychiatric Profiling website stoppsychiatricprofiling.org](#)

NEW! [CHRUSP Analysis of White House Document "Now is the Time"](#)

[Grass Roots Disability Organizations Letter to VP Biden](#)

CHRUSP human rights reporting on ICCPR:

- [Suggestions for Questions to Ask U.S. Government](#)

[CHRUSP/VOH/RMHL/Opal response to Cuomo](#)

[Rosita Libre de Marulanda "THEY ARE COMING TO GET ME, AGAIN!"](#)

[PsychRights letter to VP Biden](#)

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Opposition to OHCHR-WHO Legislation Guidance

CHRUSP issued a joint statement with Validity Foundation and the World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry, opposing 'Guidance on Mental Health, Human Rights and Legislation' that is being launched October 9, 2023,

[Joint_Statement_Opposing_OHCHR_WHO_Guidance_Project_Final.docx](#)

Reimagining Crisis Support - a new book

Reimagining Crisis Support: Matrix, Roadmap and Policy by Tina Minkowitz aims to shift the conversation about personal crisis from one based in mental health discourse to one based in a social model of disability and human rights. Download a pdf [here](#); read more and order at-cost paperback or download epub from [the book's website](#).

Amicus to International Criminal Court on insanity defense

The International Criminal Court requested amicus curiae observations in the appeal by Dominic Ongwen of his conviction, who had raised a defense unsuccessfully of criminal non-responsibility due to 'mental disease or defect'. Tina Minkowitz and Robert Fleischner submitted a [brief](#) urging the Court to consider the CRPD and adopt a CRPD-compliant alternative.

Using UN Human Rights Mechanisms

A guide to using UN human rights mechanisms for individual complaints and systemic reporting, focusing on issues of concern to users and survivors of psychiatry. [pdf](#) [word](#)

Peru's Legal Capacity Reform

Peru has enacted the first legal capacity reform that complies with CRPD in its overall approach, despite flaws as indicated in the commentary by Sodis (civil society organization that worked on the reform).

[Legislative Decree No. 1384 Peruvian legal capacity reform .docx](#)

[Analysis of Peru's legal capacity reform](#)

Absolute Prohibition Campaign - a CHRUSP project

In early 2016, over 40 participants in Europe, North America, Latin America, Australia and Asia responded to our call to support the CRPD standard of absolute prohibition of involuntary commitment and treatment, by writing blog posts from their perspectives as survivors, allies, relatives, researchers, activists, and lawyers. Blog posts are compiled at <http://absoluteprohibition.org>.

Since December of that year, we have connected together through email and teleconferences. Please correspond with CHRUSP if you are interested in getting involved.

CRPD course - a CHRUSP project

CRPD from a survivor of psychiatry perspective, taught by Tina Minkowitz. Currently available for self-directed study, see <http://crpdcourse.org>.

Key Resource - General Comment No. 1 on Legal Capacity

In 2014, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities issued its first General Comment, addressing states' obligations to ensure universal equal legal capacity. This means that no one can legitimately be deprived of the right to make decisions in their personal lives or to be recognized as actors capable of exercising rights and duties directly in the legal system.

General Comment No. 1 explains that mental capacity cannot justify a removal of legal capacity, including in crisis situations. It acknowledges that forced psychiatric interventions violate Article 12 and cannot be justified. Read [here](#)

Key Resource - Guidelines on Article 14

In 2015, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities issued its second key jurisprudential document relevant to the work of CHRUSP - the [Guidelines on Article 14](#), liberty and security of the person.

The Guidelines explain that Article 14 contains an absolute ban on detention based on an actual or perceived impairment, that involuntary hospitalization in mental health services violates Article 12 (legal capacity) in addition to Article 14, and that forced treatment violates Article 15 (freedom from torture and other ill-treatment).

The Guidelines also explain that declarations of incapacity to plead or to be held criminally responsible, and the detention resulting from such declarations contravene Article 14, and that people with disabilities have rights to non-discrimination, accommodations, and inclusive access to programs in the context of legal proceedings and detention.

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