

CURRICULUM VITAE



Name: Steven L. B. Jensen

Present position: Senior Researcher

Languages: Danish (proficiency), English (proficiency), German (reading), French (basic)

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KEY QUALIFICATIONS

Human Rights History, International Human Rights Diplomacy, HIV/AIDS and Health, Social and Economic Rights, Human Rights and Development.

My research focuses on the historical evolution of human rights since 1945 with a focus on the pivotal role played by Global South countries in the legal, political and diplomatic breakthrough for international human rights. The main publication here is the prize-winning book [The Making of International Human Rights. The 1960s, Decolonization and the Reconstruction of Global Values](#) (CUP 2016). I currently work on a history of social and economic rights in 20th century international politics and have previously published the co-edited volume [Social Rights and the Politics of Obligation in History](#) (CUP 2022). I have also published on topics such as HIV/AIDS, health and development, [global inequality](#) and [effectiveness of national human rights institutions](#). I have also been a regular contributor to [Open Global Rights](#).

Before joining The Danish Institute in 2007, I worked for UNAIDS based in Geneva (2003-2007) where my work focused on strengthening coordination, strategic planning and civil society involvement in national AIDS responses and UN reform. My work for the Danish Institute from 2007-2010 focused on strengthening the engagement of national human rights institutions in national responses to HIV/AIDS. I have in this capacity done consultancy work for UN agencies such as UNAIDS, WHO and OHCHR. From 2001-2002 I worked as a Head of Section at the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Department for Southern Africa).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2018 -	Senior Researcher	Danish Institute for Human Rights, Denmark
2013 -	Researcher	Danish Institute for Human Rights, Denmark
2010 - 2013	PhD Candidate	University of Copenhagen & Danish Institute for Human Rights
2007 - 2010	Project Manager	Danish Institute for Human Rights
2003 - 07	Programme Officer, Country Support Department	UNAIDS, Geneva
2001 -02	Head of Section, Department for Southern Africa	The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs

EDUCATION

2014	Ph.D. in History	Saxo Institute (History), University of Copenhagen
2001	M.A. History (cand.mag)	Department of History, University of Copenhagen.
2000	MSc by Research with Distinction	Center for Second World War Studies, Edinburgh University

OTHER RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCES

2022	Visiting Researcher	Geneva Academy for International Humanitarian
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2019	Visiting Researcher	Law and Human Rights, Geneva Bonavero Institute of Human Rights, University of Oxford
2019-	Contributor	The Daily Maverick newspaper (South Africa)
2018-	Lecturer, Human rights history module	European Masters Programme in Human Rights and Democratization, Venice
2017	Winner of Human Rights Best Book Award	International Studies Association
2017	Winner of Chadwick Alger Prize for Best Book on International Organization	International Studies Association
2017	Co-organizer of workshop “Arguments for and against Socioeconomic Rights – Past and Present”	Harvard Law School
2016	Visiting Researcher	University of Oxford
2016-	Contributor	Open Global Rights
2016	Member of Official Danish Delegation	UN General Assembly High Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS, New York
2016	Nobel Lecture: “The Making of International Human Rights, 1945-1993	Nobel Peace Institute, Oslo, Norway

2015 -2018	Collaborating Partner	Socio-Economic Rights in History Network
2015	Awarded the 2015 Rene Cassin Thesis Prize (Special Mention)	Institut International des Droits de l'Homme, Strasbourg
2011	Visiting Researcher	Yale Law School

Board Membership of NGOs and professional bodies

- Board Member, Danish AIDS-Fondet (2022-)
- Board Member (Deputy Chairperson), Humanity in Action Denmark (2021-)
- Board Member, Ubumi Prisons Initiative Zambia (2021-)
- Board Member, Society for Contemporary History Research (2021-)
- Board Member (Staff elected representative), The Danish Institute for Human Rights (2022-)

PUBLICATIONS

Please consult <https://www.humanrights.dk/staff/steven-l-b-jensen> for updated list of publications