



**BIRMINGHAM CITY**  
University

**Faculty of Business, Law and Social Sciences**

**Proposed Title:**

Promoting Global Health: An Investigation of the Universal Periodic Review and United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

**School:**

School of Law

**Proposed Supervisory Team:**

Dr. Friso Jansen; Prof. Jon Yorke; Alice Storey; and Dr. Sarah Cooper.

**Abstract:**

This research will investigate the bilateral and multilateral challenges to promoting and safeguarding healthcare within the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Agenda.

The UPR involves a periodic review of UN member states' human rights record, and in this mechanism national governments, civil society stakeholders, and the Working Group, will engage with relevant issues such as health/healthcare. In 2015, the UN established the Sustainable Development 2030 Agenda. This agenda covers a broad set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals, and 167 targets. These "will serve as the overall framework to guide global and national development action for the next 15 years, and SDG3 aims to "ensure healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages."

Against a backdrop of advances in both the safeguarding of health and new threats to physical and mental health worldwide, this project aims to explore the synergies of the UPR and the SDGs, and analyse the opportunities and obstacles for promoting global health.

Applicants may present their investigation by:

**1. Focusing on a particular issue within global health, for instance:**

- Disability rights
- Sexual and reproductive health
- Access to medicines/healthcare
- Healthcare coverage
- Preventing the spread of disease(s)
- Reducing death and illness resulting from pollution/hazardous chemicals.

And/or

- 2. Focusing on a particular jurisdiction.** This could be, for example, a region (e.g., Sub-Saharan Africa), or a single or comparative jurisdiction focus (e.g., the UK, USA, Australia etc).

We are very willing to receive enquires concerning themes/jurisdictional analysis.

**Research Environment:**

The School of Law has an active research community, hosting three centres for research excellence, namely the Centre for American Legal Studies, Centre for Human Rights, and Centre for Law, Science and Policy. See, <http://www.bcu.ac.uk/law/research> The School has a vibrant PGR community across these centres. See, <http://www.bcu.ac.uk/law/research/our-phd-students>

The successful candidate would join these communities, and specifically contribute to the activities of the Centre for Law, Science and Policy and the Centre for Human Rights. They would add to the growing expertise these centres have respectively in examining law and medical science and engaging with the UPR mechanism. They will also be provided teaching, dissemination, and collaboration opportunities. In particular, they will be supported to build a network with stakeholders such as UPR Info.

**Applicant Requirements:**

The applicant should have an excellent academic record in legal study and be able to demonstrate their capacity to undertake qualitative research. A grounding in human rights, and the UPR/UN/SDG frameworks is highly desirable, as is an understanding of and interest in global health, but guidance will be available on the technical aspects, if required.

**Contact: Name, e-mail and telephone number:**

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