

Ph.D.: Public Law – International Criminal Law.

Master: Human Rights and Humanitarian Law.

Lecturer: International Law, Human Rights, and foundational legal studies.

Researcher: Genocide studies, crimes against humanity, human trafficking, terrorism, war crimes against children, and the United Nations Security Council.

Political analyst: Freedom of religion or belief (FoRB rights).

Legal scholar with fifteen years of experience in teaching, research, and practical engagement across the fields of International Law, Human Rights, International Criminal Justice, Constitutional Law, and foundational legal studies. Throughout this period, I have established a consistent record of delivering high-quality instruction at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, demonstrating expertise in curriculum development, the application of active learning methodologies, and student advising.

My research agenda is primarily centered on the study of genocide, crimes against humanity, human trafficking, terrorism, war crimes against children, the United Nations Security Council, and the right to freedom of religion or belief (FoRB). I hold a Ph.D. in International Criminal Law (Turkey, 2021) and an LL.M. in International Human Rights Law (USA, 2009), complemented by advanced training at esteemed international institutions.

I have recently served as a researcher at the International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF). I am the author of *Beyond a Reasonable Doubt* (2023), which examines crimes perpetrated by the Islamic State in Iraq. My professional experience includes work with multilateral organizations, humanitarian projects, and volunteer initiatives in Switzerland, the United States, Belgium, Jordan, Greece, England, and Turkey. In addition, I am a humanitarian photographer, employing visual documentation as a tool for advocacy and the exposure of human rights violations.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Degree: Public Law | International Criminal Law

Koc University – Law School. Istanbul, Turkey (2016-2021).

Relevant courses: World Trade Organization & International Trade Law; Transnational & European Criminal Law; International Criminal Law; International Refugee Law; European Human Rights Law; Advanced Research Methods; Comparative Constitutional Law.

Master's Degree: Humanitarian and Human Rights Law

American University Washington College of Law. Washington-DC, USA (2009-2009).

Relevant courses: International Justice for Human Rights Violations; International Human Rights Advocacy; International Humanitarian Law; International Human Rights Law; Human Rights and Development; U.S. General Private Law; U.S. Public Law.

Law Degree: Bachelor of Laws

Universidade Federal de Vicosa (Federal University of Vicosa). Vicosa, Brazil (2002-2008).

EDUCATION: SHORT COURSES

Ruhr University Bochum – The Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict (IFHV)

Summer School 'Humanitarian Action': Humanitarian Crisis, International Humanitarian Law, International Criminal Law, Refugees and IDPs, Humanitarian Actors & Organizations, WASH
August 2019, Bochum, Germany.

Koç University – Office of International Programs

Summer Program International Migration and the Crisis: Cross-border movements of people, theories explaining international mobility, forced migration, migrant integration, governments' responses to the social, political, and legal challenges raised by international migration, dilemmas facing policy-makers at both national and international level.
July 2019, Istanbul, Turkey.

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health – Executive and Professional Education

Preparatory course on Radiological Emergency Planning: Terrorism, Security, and Communication: Skills and strategies to effectively prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the effects of radiological emergencies at the federal, state, or local, level; Emergency preparedness for terrorist activities; Lessons learned about how best to communicate with the media and public; Terrorist incidents involving radioactive materials.
July 2017, Cambridge, U.S.

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health & International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) – HELP Course

Preparatory course on Humanitarian Disasters and Public Health: Management of Disasters in Humanitarian Crises; Protection of Displaced Populations; International Humanitarian Law (IHL); Refugee Law and Refugee Protection.
July 2017, Baltimore, U.S.

American University Washington College of Law & The Netherlands Institute on Human Rights

Specialization in Humanitarian & Human Rights Law.

2008 and 2009 Specialized Summer Program of the Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law.
May 26 - June 13, 2008 and May 25 - June 12, 2009. Washington-DC, U.S.

TEACHING JOBS

Graduate teaching experience:

1. Associate Professor: Altınbaş University, School of Law. July 2021 – January 2022. Istanbul, Turkey.
2. Assistant Professor: Istanbul Center of International Law. September 2019 – January 2022. Istanbul, Turkey.
3. Assistant Professor: Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais, School of Law. February 2016 – September 2016. Poços de Caldas, Brazil.
4. Assistant Professor: FUMEC University, School of Law. February 2015 – July 2015. Belo Horizonte, Brazil.
5. Assistant Professor: Newton Paiva University Center, School of Law. August 2015 – December 2015. Belo Horizonte, Brazil.
6. Visiting Professor: Community Foundation for Higher Education of Itabira (FUNCESI), School of Law. August 2014 – December 2014. Itabira, Brazil.
7. Associate Professor: Izabela Hendrix Methodist Institute, School of Law. August 2012 – March 2014. Belo Horizonte, Brazil.
8. Assistant Professor: Minas Gerais College (FAMIG), School of Law. August 2012 – December 2012. Belo Horizonte, Brazil.
9. Assistant Professor: Integrated Education System of Minas Gerais, School of Law. February 2011 – December 2012. Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

Post-Graduate teaching experience:

1. Assistant Professor: Brazilian Institute for Teaching, Development, and Research (IDP). August 2012 – August 2015. Brasília, Brazil.
2. Visiting Professor: PROMOVE Integrated Colleges, School of Law. April 2015 – June 2015. Belo Horizonte, Brazil.
3. Visiting Professor: Inter-American College of Porto Velho (UNIRON). August 2011 – May 2012. Porto Velho, Brazil.

Courses taught:

Public International Law, Human Rights Law, International Criminal Law, Constitutional Law, Constitutional Theory, Legal Sociology, Theory of Justice, Introduction to Legal Studies.

Teaching and curriculum development:

- Responsible for instruction, as well as for the selection and compilation of readings, preparation of scholarly articles and supplementary materials, and the development of assignments and online discussion exercises.
- Demonstrated a consistent record of delivering high-quality instruction in both undergraduate and graduate law courses, evidencing expertise in curriculum design and pedagogical delivery.
- Developed comprehensive curricula, course syllabi, lectures, presentations, and other instructional materials to present complex content in an accessible and engaging manner, thereby ensuring student engagement and achievement of desired learning outcomes.
- Created and curated instructional materials, including syllabi and presentations; selected and compiled pertinent readings, prepared scholarly articles, and designed assignments and online discussion exercises to support course objectives and transform technical legal content into compelling learning resources.
- Delivered course content responsively, employing instructional design methodologies and active learning strategies to facilitate student comprehension and successful application of course material.
- Supervised and advised students in the preparation of academic theses and capstone projects.

Student support and mentorship:

- Provided specialized academic guidance to a diverse student body, offering direction on research projects, career resources, and extracurricular activities.
- Advised students on career pathways, extracurricular engagement, and the utilization of resources to support their professional and personal development.
- Advised students on the writing of monographs.
- Demonstrated a strong capacity for student mentorship, expanding opportunities and enhancing both personal and professional growth.

Assessment and administration:

- Evaluated student performance utilizing a variety of assessment methods, maintaining detailed records of academic progress and grade distribution.
- Exhibited strong organizational skills, meticulous attention to detail, and the ability to meet deadlines in the fulfillment of course requirements.
- Fostered effective and respectful working relationships with university administration.
- Participated as a member of thesis and capstone project examination committees.

RESEARCH JOBS

Independent Research Fellow and Policy Analyst Contractor

International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF). Bonn, Germany: Remote.

Nov 2022 – May 2025.

- Conducted comprehensive monitoring and analysis of Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB) rights in select countries across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, with a focus on the identification and detailed documentation of incidents of religious intolerance and persecution through both quantitative and qualitative data analysis.
- Contributed subject-matter expertise to the IIRF Violent Incidents Database, a pivotal data collection initiative on religiously motivated violence.
- Played a significant role in the Annual Audit of the Open Doors World Watch List (WWL), an internationally recognized ranking of countries with the highest levels of religious persecution; critical academic analyses have enhanced both the methodological rigor and the credibility of the WWL.
- Prepared in-depth reports and analytical assessments on religious persecution and the status of religious freedom in various countries.

Independent Research Fellow and Policy Analyst Contractor

21Wilberforce. Washington-DC, USA: Remote.

June 2023 – October 2024.

Research Project on the United Nations Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

- Conducted research on the impact of civil society organizations (CSOs) in the implementation of human rights recommendations related to Freedom of Religion, Belief, and Conscience (FoRB Rights).
- Performed comprehensive literature reviews examining issues pertaining to FoRB Rights and CSO engagement in the UPR process, synthesizing complex information into accessible formats.
- Conducted interviews with leading CSO personnel, identifying and analyzing effective strategies and tactics for potential replication by other organizations.
- Developed detailed case studies highlighting the successes and challenges faced by CSOs within the UPR mechanism, extracting valuable lessons for future advocacy efforts.
- Contributed to the advancement of human rights implementation strategies through rigorous analysis of UPR recommendations.

Doctoral Researcher

Koç University. Istanbul, Turkey

Oct 2016 – Ago 2021.

- Led comprehensive research projects in International Criminal Law, particularly in studies on genocide and crimes against humanity perpetrated against children, employing rigorous methodologies to analyze vast quantities of qualitative and quantitative data while maintaining the highest standards of academic integrity.
- Demonstrated exceptional analytical skills in identifying and evaluating primary and secondary sources, compiling extensive bibliographies, and interpreting complex data to derive insightful conclusions.
- Authored and published peer-reviewed articles in prestigious academic journals, significantly contributing to scholarly discourse and presenting findings at international conferences.
- Exhibited strong communication skills through persuasive presentations to academic committees and the successful preparation of research proposals, securing financial support for projects.
- Displayed meticulous attention to detail in conducting thorough fact-checking, textual revision, and proofreading of academic documents to ensure publication-ready quality.
- Fostered a productive and innovative research environment through effective collaboration with interdisciplinary teams, amplifying the overall impact of research initiatives.

Research Fellowship

War Crimes Research Office, American University Washington College of Law. Washington-DC, USA.

September 2010 – December 2010.

- Short-term internship contract work: Conducted extensive legal research and drafted legal opinions, studies, pleadings, reports, and memoranda on diverse substantive and procedural matters of considerable complexity in International Criminal Law.

Legal Intern

Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations in Geneva. Geneva, Switzerland

August 2010 – October 2010.

Diplomacy Training Program – Capacity Building Educational Program.

- Assisted the Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations (Delbrasgen) in high-level meetings at the UN Human Rights Council.
- Supported the Brazilian delegation in meetings relevant to Delbrasgen's interests.
- Prepared comprehensive support materials, meeting reports, and summaries.
- Conducted research and monitored issues of Human Rights Law.

PUBLICATIONS

Book

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Beyond a reasonable doubt: Did the Islamic State commit genocide against Christians in Iraq? International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF) & Verlag für Kultur und Wissenschaft. Bonn, 2023. ISBN 978-3-86269-267-5. DOI: 10.59484/VRPI5861

Book Chapter

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Liquid bodies in the postmodern era: A Critical Legal Studies approach to the problem of human trafficking. In: Elisha J. Dung; Augustine Avwunudiogba. (Org.). Human Trafficking: Global History and Perspectives. 1sted. London: Alabama University; Lexington Books, 2021, v. 1, p. 133-158.

Publication in Law Journals – Blind peer review process

Upcoming: MAZZINGHY, Áquila. What's going on? A legal primer on the Security Council's response to the Six Grave Violations Against Children in armed conflicts. February 2026.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. The sons and daughters of the thunder: The Islamic State/DAESH and the children affected by the foreign fighter phenomenon. Revista Direito, Estado e Sociedade - PUC-Rio. June, 2025. DOI: 10.17808/des.2111

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. The international human right to appeal and the adjudication of individuals devoid of procedural privileges by the Brazilian Supreme Federal Court. Revista Jurídica da UFERSA | REJUR. July, 2025. DOI: 10.21708/issn2526-9488.v9.n17.p176-212.2025

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. United Nations Framework on Terrorism and States Compliance to Security Council Anti-Terror Resolutions. Banja Luka Criminal Law Review. 2021. DOI: 10.7251/BLCL2101127M

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Please, set me free! The right to challenge an unlawful detention: Scrutinizing the practice of the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention. (2020) 5 Perth International Law Journal.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Child-friendly justice behind bars: A comparative analysis of the protection mechanisms of the rights of arrested children in the practice of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and of the European and Inter-American Courts of Human Rights, American University International Law Review: Vol. 35 : Iss. 2, Article 6.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Please, hear my cry: Judicial interpretation of children's human rights under the jurisprudence of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, 43 Hastings Int'l & Comp. L. Rev. 35 (2020).

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Who cares about the rights of indigenous children? The problem of infanticide in Brazilian Indian tribes. Winter issue, Volume 22, of the Hastings Women's Law Journal –Hastings University, CA, U.S. v. 22, p. 17-54, 2011.

CONFERENCES, COURSES, AND SEMINARS TAUGHT

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Table of discussion with André Leitão, President of Compassiva NGO: The Turkish legislative framework protective of refugees: A comparison with the Brazilian framework. April 27th, 2022. (UFOB) Federal University of Western Bahia, Luís Eduardo Magalhães, Brazil.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Please, set me free! The right to challenge an unlawful detention: Scrutinizing the practice of the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary detention. Paper presentation, panelist. AHRI Conference 2019. The Association of Human Rights Institutes (AHRI). September 7th, 2019. University of Potsdam, The Human Rights Centre. Potsdam, Germany.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. A Hostile World for Children: An Assessment of Security Council Resolutions and Reports on Children and Armed Conflict. Paper presentation, panelist. 3rd Postgraduate Conference in International Law and

Human Rights. June 17th, 2019, the University of Liverpool, School of Law and Social Justice, Liverpool, United Kingdom.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Please, Hear My Cry: Judicial Interpretation of Children's Human Rights under the Jurisprudence of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. Paper presentation, panelist. 8th International Students Symposium on Law and Global Issues: Law and Global Contemporary Challenges. April 26th, 2019, Koç University, Law School, Istanbul, Turkey.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Terrorism in the international agenda: new challenges, old problems. III Semana Jurídica do Curso de Direito da Pontifícia Universidade Católica – PUC Faculty of Law. August 26th, 2016, Poços de Caldas, Brazil.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Public International Law Lecture. Guest Professor. *Lato sensu* postgraduate course. Pontifícia Universidade Católica – PUC Faculty of Law. May 16th, 2016, Poços de Caldas, Brazil.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Refugee crisis: a Brazilian perspective. I Jornada Temática de Relações Internacionais. Pontifícia Universidade Católica – PUC Faculty of International Relations, March 17th, 2016, Poços de Caldas, Brazil.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Addressing the issue of Syrian refugees. II Semana Jurídica do Curso de Direito da Pontifícia Universidade Católica – PUC Faculty of Law. February 26th, 2016, Poços de Caldas, Brazil.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Legal issues concerning migrants in Brazil. T.V. interview. AMAGIS - Associação dos Magistrados Mineiros. May 26th, 2015, Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. The International Criminal Court: perspectives and current challenges. TV Atualidades do Direito, February 12th, 2014, São Paulo, Brazil.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. The American Convention on Human Rights: Garantism and the Inter-American System of protection of human rights. LFG, February 13th, 2014, São Paulo, Brazil.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. The Inter-American System of protection of human rights. VI TV Atualidades do Direito, October 14th, 2013, São Paulo, Brazil.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. The International Criminal Court the challenge of global justice: from Nuremberg to the ICC – Quo Vadis? VI Congresso de Direito do Sudoeste da Bahia, September, 24th, 2013, Vitória da Conquista, Brazil.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. United Nations System of International Protection of Human Rights. Mesa de debates sobre Direitos Humanos. Instituto Metodista Izabela Hendrix, October 2nd, 2012, Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Ways of applying the Inter-American System of human rights protection in Brazil's judicial system. V Congresso de Direito do Sudoeste da Bahia, September 27th, 2012, Vitória da Conquista, Brazil.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Crimes of Torture and the Truth Commission in Brazil. Instituto IOB, July 5th, 2012, Campinas, Brazil.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Human rights, globalization, and social movements. XIII Semana Jurídica das Faculdades Estácio de Sá, April 24th, 2012, Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. The mechanism of treaty incorporation in Brazil: the case of human rights. Escritório de Direitos Humanos do Estado de Minas Gerais. Federal University of Minas Gerais. Faculty of Law. Programa Pólos de Cidadania, March 2012, Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. International human rights system: incorporation in Brazil. Escritório de Direitos Humanos do Estado de Minas Gerais. Federal University of Minas Gerais. Faculty of Law. Programa Pólos de Cidadania, March 30th 2011, Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

MAZZINGHY, Áquila. Law behind enemy lines: the general view of international humanitarian law. Universidade Presidente Antônio Carlos. Campus II, May 5th 2010, Ubá, Brazil.