

Associate Prof. Dr. Janna Wessels**Education**

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| 2018 | PhD in international and comparative refugee law, University of Technology Sydney (Adviser: Prof. Dr. Jenni Millbank) and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (Adviser: Prof. Dr. Thomas Spijkerboer) (joint degree) |
| 2010 | Master of Science in Forced Migration, Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford (Supervisor: Dr. Alice Edwards) |
| 2005–2010 | Degrees in Political and Social Science from Institut d’Etudes Politiques (“Sciences Po”) Lille and Westfälische Wilhelms University Münster (double degree, Dipl.-Soz. and Diplôme de l’IEP) |

Academic Positions

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| Since 2024 | Associate Professor, Amsterdam Centre for Migration and Refugee Law, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam |
| 2020–2023 | Assistant Professor (tenured since 2021), Amsterdam Centre for Migration and Refugee Law, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam |
| 2020–2023 | Research Associate, EU Horizon 2020 project “PROTECT – The Right to International Protection. A Pendulum between Globalization and Nativization”, Justus Liebig-University (JLU) Giessen |
| 2016–2020 | Postdoctoral researcher, Chair of Public Law and European Law, JLU Giessen |
| 2014–2016 | Associated Researcher, Amsterdam Centre for Migration and Refugee Law, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam |
| 2012–2016 | Research Associate, Australian Research Council (ARC) Project “Gender-Related Harms in Forced Migration”, Faculty of Law, University of Technology Sydney |

Academic Activities

- Director, Research Programme Migration Law, Faculty of Law, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (since 2024)
- Secretary of the Examination Committee, Faculty of Law, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (since 2023)
- Board Member, Section Migration Law, Department of Constitutional and Administrative Law, Faculty of Law, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (2023–2025)
- Member, Meijers Committee – Standing Committee of Experts in International Immigration, Refugee and Criminal Law (since 2021)
- Fellow, Young Policy Network on Migration (YPNM), Swiss Forum for Migration and Population Studies, Universität Neuchâtel and German Marshall Fund (2017–2021)
- Co-Founder, Oxford Monitor of Forced Migration (OxMo), editor of the Policy Monitor (2010–2012) and Vice Chair of the Board (2010–2017)
- Member of the Editorial Board, International Journal of Refugee Law (since 2024); editor, *Fluchtforschungsblog* (since 2016); editor, series “Feminist Theory in Legal Displacement Research”, Refugee Law Initiative (RLI) Blog (since 2023)
- Ad hoc reviewer, among others for European Journal of International Law, European Journal of Migration and Law, Hart Publishing, International Journal of Refugee Law, International Journal of Constitutional Law, Leiden Journal of International Law, Alternative Law Journal, Refugee Survey Quar-

- terly, Journal of Social Policy, Journal of International Migration and Integration, Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies, Netherlands Quarterly of Human Rights, Canadian Journal of Human Rights, The Age of Human Rights Journal, Zeitschrift für Flucht- und Flüchtlingsforschung
- Organisation of international conferences on refugee law in Bergen aan Zee (2015 & 2022), Lund (2015) and Amsterdam (2016), the annual conference of the Netzwerk Migrationsrecht [German Network Migration Law] 2021 and the first German conference on refugee studies (2016), as well as the conference "The Migration-Human Rights Nexus" of the research network migration and human rights at JLU Giessen (2016)
 - Member, Refugee Law Initiative, London; German Network for Forced Migration Studies; Netzwerk Migrationsrecht [German Network Migration Law]

Awards and Prizes

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| 2012–16 | Quentin Bryce Law Doctoral Scholarship, University of Technology Sydney |
| 2012–16 | International Postgraduate Research Scholarship, University of Technology Sydney |
| 2009 | Fulbright Scholarship (rejected; accepted offer of Oxford University instead) |
| 2009–2010 | Hölderlin Scholarship, German Academic Scholarship Foundation |
| 2005–2010 | Stipend-holder, German Academic Scholarship Foundation |
| 2005–2010 | Mobility scholarship of the German-French University |
| 2013 & 2015 | Tönisstein Award for the project series "Fortress Europe – Migration at Europe's External Borders" |

Third-party Funding

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| 2022–2026 | Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Research Group "Menschenrechtsdiskurse in der Migrationsgesellschaft/Human Rights Discourse in Migration Societies" (MeDiMi) (FOR 5321);
Principal Investigator of subproject A.1: "Who is empowered by Strasbourg? Migrants and States before the ECtHR" |
| 2022–2026 | NWO (Dutch Research Council), Veni-Project "Countering Human Rights From Within: Framing State Interests in Human Rights Language in Migration-related Jurisprudence"; project leader |
| 2018–2021 | Stiftung Mercator, research study "Human Rights Challenges to European Migration Policy"; Applicant, with Jürgen Bast (project leader) and Frederik von Harbou |
| 2018–2019 | Forschungscampus Mittelhessen (Flexi-Funds), project development "Human Rights Discourse in Migration Societies"; Applicant, with Jürgen Bast (project leader) and eight other applicants |
| 2016 | Amsterdam Centre for Contemporary European Studies (ACCESS Europe), Workshop "Converted Christians, Closeted Gays"; project leader |
| 2013–2014 | Robert-Bosch-Stiftung, project series "Migration at Europe's External Borders" (Funding for phase 3: Italy – "Voices from the Border"); project leader |

Publications

a) Representative publications

- (2024) Reverse Strategic Litigation by Governments? Negotiating Sovereignty and Migration Control before the European Court of Human Rights, AJIL Unbound, 118(6), 214–218.

- (2024) The Dynamic Relationship Between the Global Compact for Migration and Human Rights Law, *MenschenRechtsMagazin*, 29(1), 23–43 (mit Jürgen Bast und Anuscheh Farahat).
- (2024) Enhancing the Rights of Protection-Seeking Migrants through the Global Compact for Migration: the Case of EU Asylum Policy, *International Journal of Refugee Law*, 35(4), 461–474 (mit Jürgen Bast und Pauline Endres de Oliveira).
- (2023) Gaps in Human Rights Law? Detention and Area-Based Restrictions in the Proposed Border Procedures in the EU, *European Journal of Migration and Law*, 25(3), 275–300.
- (2023) Deconstructing Doctrinal Struggles through Legal Discourse Analysis. The Example of 'Discretion' Reasoning in Refugee Law, *Zeitschrift für Flucht- und Flüchtlingsforschung (Z'Flucht)*, 7(1), 136–150.
- (2022) Human Rights Challenges to European Migration Policy. The REMAP Study, Baden-Baden and Oxford: Nomos and Hart (with Jürgen Bast and Frederik von Harbou).
- (2021) The Concealment Controversy. Sexual Orientation, 'Discretion' Reasoning and the Scope of Refugee Protection, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (paperback 2023).
- (2019) The Boundaries of Universality. Migrant Women and Domestic Violence before the Strasbourg Court, *Netherlands Quarterly of Human Rights*, 37(4), 336–358.
- (2019) The Art of Drawing Lines. Future Behaviour and Refugee Status, in: Juss, Satvinder Singh (ed.) *The Research Handbook on International Refugee Law*, Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 268–280.
- (2017) Waste of Paper or Useful Tool. The Role of the Temporary Protection Directive in the "Refugee Crisis", *Refugee Survey Quarterly*, 36(2), 57–83 (with Danielle Gluns).
- (2012) HJ (Iran) and HT (Cameroon). Reflections on a New Test for Sexuality-based Asylum Claims in Britain, *International Journal of Refugee Law*, 24(4), 815–839.

b) Further project-related publications

- (2025) The Absolute Prohibition of Torture and Exceptional Circumstances: Third Party Intervention in the Case of *C.O.C.G. and Others v Lithuania* before the European Court of Human Rights, *Bonaverio Reports Series*, 1 (with Nora Markard et al.).
- (2023) Review of Amanda Spalding (2021) *The Treatment of Immigrants in the European Court of Human Rights. Moving Beyond Criminalisation*, Oxford: Hart Publishing, *The European Convention on Human Rights Law Review*, 4(3), 280–284.
- (2023) Europäische Migrationspolitik im Lichte der Menschenrechte. Ergebnisse der REMAP-Studie, *Zeitschrift für Ausländerrecht und Ausländerpolitik (ZAR)*, 43(3), 118–124 (mit Jürgen Bast und Frederik von Harbou).
- (2023) Planned Destitution as a Policy Tool to Control Migration in the EU. Socio-economic Deprivation and International Human Rights Law, *Odysseus EU Migration Law Blog*, 17 March 2023, <https://eumigrationlawblog.eu/planned-destitution-as-a-policy-tool-to-control-migration-in-the-eu-socio-economic-deprivation-and-international-human-rights-law/#more-8649>.
- (2020) Imag(in)ing Human Rights. Deindividualizing, Victimizing, and Universalizing Images of Refugees in the United States and Germany, in: Schmidt, Kirsten/Schweiger-Wilhelm, Margaretha (ed.) *The State of Human Rights*, Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter, 249–264 (with Greta Olson).