

[National Human Rights Cities Alliance,](#)  
[American Friends Service Committee-DC Peace & Economic Justice](#)  
& Human rights on the Hill Institute Present:

## **Workshop on Human Rights Cities and Today's Political Context**

**Friday July 27, 2018, Washington DC**

**9:00am-5:00pm**

**Location: University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law  
4340 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20008  
Room 505**

This workshop convenes human rights activists, scholars, and policy practitioners to consider lessons learned from a growing global “human rights cities” movement. Participants will learn about global and national trends, opportunities, and challenges to “bringing human rights home” here in the United States. We also will consider the question of whether and how human rights advocacy might be strengthened through the efforts of the National Human Rights Cities Alliance, which grew from previous such convenings in the Human Rights Cities of Pittsburgh and Washington DC. This is a space for sustained dialogue to promote understanding of human rights cities/communities and to advance ideas and models for local human rights practice. Particular attention is paid to disparities in race, class, gender, and environmental health, and we will explore how people-centered human rights cities can help to address these structural injustices. Lessons from the workshop will shape the ongoing work of the National Human Rights Cities Alliance and its support for local human rights organizers and movements providing leadership and advocacy to secure, protect, and promote human rights for all people.

### ***Please tweet the forum at***

- #HumanRightsCities
- #BringHumanRightsHome

### **PROGRAM**

#### **Human Rights Cities and Today's Political Context**

**Thursday, July 26**

6:00PM-9:00PM	<b>OPTIONAL Happy Hour</b> Mission Dupont Circle, Front Bar Area 1606 20th Street NW, Washington, DC 20009 Point of Contact: Rachel Bergsieker, <a href="mailto:rbergsieker@afsc.org">rbergsieker@afsc.org</a> , 202-544-0324
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**Friday, July 27**

9:00AM	Welcome & Introductions
9:30AM-10:45AM	<p><b>The Global Movement of Human Rights Cities</b>  <i>This panel provides an overview of the emerging global human rights cities movement. It offers perspectives from different world regions and insights into how UN human rights institutions can be resources for local human rights enforcers.</i></p> <p><b>Jackie Smith &amp; Joshua Cooper</b>, National Human Rights Cities Alliance-- <i>The Global Human Rights Cities Movement and <a href="#">People-Centered Human Rights</a></i>  <b>Frederique Hanotler</b>, <i>Human rights in the European Union context</i>  <b>Anna Lindström</b>, <a href="#">Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions</a> (SALAR)-- <i>Human Rights &amp; Municipalities in Europe</i>  <b>Thandabantu Iverson</b>, USHRN National Human Rights Cities Alliance-- <i>Human Rights Cities and International HR Mechanisms, Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination, Shadow report process</i></p>
10:45-11:00AM	Coffee break
11:00AM-12:15PM	<p><b>Human Rights Cities in the United States: Background &amp; Highlights/Lessons</b>  <i>This panel shares accounts from several human rights cities, offering perspectives on different models of human rights cities and projects that help build local human rights coalitions.</i></p> <p><b>Rachel Bergsieker</b>, Human Rights Learning Associate American Friends Service Committee DC Peace and Economic Justice-- <i>Washington, DC</i>  <b>Jackie Smith</b>, Co-coordinator-Pittsburgh Human Rights City Alliance-- <i>Pittsburgh</i>  <b>Joshua Cooper</b>, National Human Rights Cities Alliance-- <i>Hawaii/ Human Rights State</i></p>
12:15PM-1:30PM	Lunch break
1:30PM-2:45PM	<p><b>Human Rights Cities Models and Campaigns</b>  <i>Continuing themes from the preceding panel, this session lifts up key struggles common to all cities and reflects on possibilities for mobilizing local human rights cities around alternative models for community emerging from various national and international campaigns.</i></p> <p><b>Cathy Albisa</b>, Executive Director <a href="#">National Economic and Social Rights Initiative</a>-- <i>The New Social Contract and Health and Human Rights</i>  <b>Rob Robinson</b>, <a href="#">National Economic and Social Rights Initiative</a>-- <a href="#">National Coalition on the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation</a>  <b>Vickie Casanova-Willis</b>, USHRN, National Human Rights Cities Alliance &amp; <b>Stephanie Franklin, Esq.</b>-- <i>Historical Truth-Telling: Indigenous Peoples Day &amp; the International Decade on People of African Descent</i>  <b>David Schwartzman</b>, DC Human Rights City Steering Committee &amp; ONE DC-- <i>One DC &amp; the People's Platform</i>  <b>Karen Mulhauser</b>, Mulhauser and Associates-- <i>Cities for CEDAW</i></p>
2:45PM-3:00PM	Break
3:00PM-4:15PM	<b>Today's Challenges: Trumpism, Corporate Power and Local Resistance</b>

	<p><i>Why Cities? What possibilities exist for using human rights frameworks to mobilize resistance to right-wing populism? Drawing from recent struggles around the rights of immigrant residents and to resist corporate-led local development such as that seen in cities vying to host Amazon's 2<sup>nd</sup> headquarters, panelists reflect on the lessons and strategies needed to defend human rights amid current challenges.</i></p> <p><b>Jacqueline Patterson</b>, Coordinator NAACP Climate Justice Program-- <i>Climate Justice Intersections: Centering Race, Gender and Immigrant Rights Amid Urgent Local Struggles</i></p> <p><b>Tammy Morales</b>, Co-Chair Seattle Human Rights Commission-- <i>The Corporation and Local Government: Lessons from Seattle</i></p> <p><b>Whitney Shepard</b>, <a href="#">Obviously Not DC</a>-- <i>Lessons from Washington DC vs. Amazon HQ2</i></p> <p><b>Jackie Smith</b>, Pittsburgh Human Rights City Alliance-- <i>Lessons from Pittsburgh PA vs. Amazon HQ2</i></p>
4:15PM-5:00PM	<p><b>Concluding Dialogue</b></p> <p><i>Participants will engage in dialogue and Q&amp;A around ideas that emerge in the workshop, including the following possible themes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lessons from Human Rights Cities—Key models and initiatives</li> <li>- Identifying critical needs for US human rights advocates</li> <li>- Expanding international alliances and strategic use of international mechanisms</li> </ul>
5:00PM	Adjourn