


Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Kebene Wodajo

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WORK EXPERIENCE

01/2024 – Present

ETH Zürich, Ethics, Technology and Society (Switzerland)

Senior Scientific Assistant (Oberassistentin) and Lecturer

- Research and teaching

01/2021 – 12/2023

University of St. Gallen, Institute for Business Ethics, St. Gallen (Switzerland)

Senior research fellow (post-doc) and Lecturer

- Research and teaching
- Project title: Regulating Structural Injustice in the Digital Space

12/2022 – 01/2024

Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels School of Governance (Belgium)

Adjunct Assistant Prof., European and International Human Rights Protection at the LLM in International and European Law Program

01/2020 – 12/2020

University of St. Gallen, Institute for Business Ethics, St. Gallen (Switzerland)

Visiting research fellow at Institute of Business Ethics

- Research and teaching
- Project title: Potentials and Limits of Emerging Technologies for the Development in Sub-Saharan Africa. From socio-legal, BHR and philosophy perspectives.

11/2019 – 8/2020

Embody Consultancy, Hong Kong & Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)

National Consultant and researcher (Part-time)

- Consulted on International Organization for Migration's (IOM) project on irregular migration and social stigma and discrimination against migrants

04/2019 – 12/2019

Ambo University, Ambo & Addis Ababa University, School of Law, AA (Ethiopia)

Junior Lecturer & visiting lecturer of law

- Teaching, research and student supervision

04/2017 – 07/2017

University of California at Berkeley, School of Law, Berkeley (USA)

Visiting student researcher (part of European Master in Law and Economics program), at Center for Law and Economics under the supervision of Prof. Daniel Rubinfeld and Prof. Robert Cooter

- Research on law and economic analysis of multinational enterprises' tort liability

08/2013 – 08/2014

Ambo University, School of Law, Ambo (Ethiopia)

Junior Lecturer of law

- Teaching, research and student supervision

01/2011 – 08/2011

Ambo University, School of Law, Ambo (Ethiopia)

Graduate assistant

04/2010 – 12/2010

Oromia Regional Gov't Industry & Urban Development Bureau, Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)

Assistant office consultant

09/2008 – 03/2010

Wollega University, School of Law, Wollega (Ethiopia)

Graduate assistant at the intersection of law, and community service

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- 09/2014 – 03/2019 **Doctor of Laws**
Shanghai Jiao Tong University, School of Law, Shanghai (China)
Major: International law, Business and Human Rights and Corporate Governance
- Thesis title: Social responsibility of multinational enterprises and regulatory challenges: socio-legal and economic analyses.
- 10/2016 – 09/2017 **European Master in Law and Economics (Triple degree – LLM, LLM & MA)**
Universität Hamburg (Germany) with University of California at Berkeley (USA), Ghent University (Belgium), and Aix-Marseille Université (France)
- Major: Economic analysis of law
- Thesis title: Multinational Enterprises Tort Liability: Opportunities and Challenges under Limited Liability Rule.
- 09/2011 – 07/2013 **Master of International Law**
Wuhan University, School of law, Wuhan (China)
- Major: Public and Private International law, Law of the Sea seminar, and Environmental Law
- Thesis title: The EU Emission Trading System on Aviation under the Doctrine of Sovereignty and GATT Rules.
- 09/2004 – 07/2008 **Bachelor of Laws**
Mekelle University, Mekelle (Ethiopia)
- Major: Public and Private laws (Legal History, Public International law, Human Rights Law, Contract law, Property Law, Tort Law, Criminal Law, Constitutional law)
- Thesis title: Human Rights Violation against Ethiopian Women Migrant Workers in the Gulf and the Responsibility of state under International Law.

Summer Training/Programs

- 07/1– 07/13/2022 **Oxford Media Law and Society Summer Institute**
Participated and presented on the role of digital platforms in conflict zones.
- 08/20 – 08/26/2023 **Harvard University STS Summer Program**
Participation on the Expertise, Trust and Democracy in a technological society.

SERVICE TO SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY

Editorial Roles

- 01/2021 – Present **[African Journal of Business Ethics](#), (South Africa)**
Assistant editor, Review interdisciplinary research papers on business ethics with focus on Africa.
- 11/2014 – 11/2017 **[Asian Journal of Law and Society](#), Shanghai (China)**
Assistant editor, Review interdisciplinary socio-legal research papers and mentor junior editors.

TEACHING

Selected Independently Taught Courses

- Fall 2024 – AI Personhood and Social Justice in Cross-cultural Perspective (3 credits seminar for undergraduate and graduate students) (independently developed)
- Spring 2024 – Afrocentric Perspective to Human Rights and Justice in Cyberspace (3 credits undergraduate and graduate students, lecture & seminar) (independently developed)
- Spring 2024 – Protection of International and European Human Rights Law (3 credits for LL.M students, lecture)
- Spring 2023 – Practice of Human Rights Protection (3 credits for LL.M students lecture, seminar & practice)
- Fall 2019 – Corporate Law and Business and Human Rights (6 credits for LL.M students, lecture)
- Fall 2019 – Public International Law and Legal Research Method (6 credits LL.M students, lecture)

Co-taught Courses

- Spring 2024 – AI and Human Values (3 credits seminar for undergraduate and graduate students)
- Spring & Fall 2020 – Corporate Responsibility in Sub-Saharan Africa and Technology (3 credits seminar for undergraduate and graduate students)

Guest Lectures up on Invitation

- Fall 2024 – The Societal Dimensions to Freedom of Thought in the Digital Age and Strategic Litigation. Lecture delivered to J.D. students at Western New England University, School of Law.
- Fall 2023 – The State Role and Duty in the Age of Platformized Harm. Lecture delivered to J.D. students at Western New England University, School of Law.
- Spring 2023 – Business and Human Rights in the Global South. Lecture delivered to M.A. students at University of St.Gallen.
- Spring 2022 – Business and Human Rights in the Global South. Lecture delivered to M.A. students at University of St.Gallen.

GRANTS AND FUNDINGS

- Research grant by Swiss National Science Foundation, Project title: *Potentials and Limits of Emerging Technologies for the Development in Africa* (2020-2021) – 34,725 \$.
- International Postdoctoral Fellowship Grant by University of St. Gallen, Project title: *Regulating Structural Injustice in the Digital Space* (2021-2023) – 181,124 \$.
- Joint research fund by ICAR, Frank Bold, Institute for Business Ethics at University of St. Gallen & NYU Stern Center for Business & Human Rights, Project tile: *The Economic Case for Protecting Human Right* (2018) – 900 \$.
- Erasmus + Scholarship funding for the study of European Master in Law and Economics (2016-2017) – 22,930 \$.
- Chinese Government Scholarship funding for the study of Doctor of Juridical Science (2014-2018) – 13, 913 \$.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Selected Articles and Reports

1. Kebene Wodajo, The user state: an alternative reading of the state role and duty in the age of platformized harm, *International Journal of Law and Information Technology*, Vol. 31:1, (Spring 2023):1–21, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ijlit/eaad009>
2. Dorothea Endres, Luisa Hedler & Kebene Wodajo, Bias in Social Media Content Management: What Do Human Rights Have To Do With It?, *AJIL Unbound* Vol.117 (2023): 139-144, doi:10.1017/aju.2023.23.

3. Kebene Wodajo, Societal and Structural Risks of Biometric ID: Towards People's Right to Privacy, *Journal Science, Technology and Society* (forthcoming 2024).
4. Kebene Wodajo, Mapping (in)visibility and structural injustice in the digital space, *Journal of Responsible Technology*, Vol.9: 100024 (2022), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jrt.2022.100024>.
5. Kebene Wodajo, Contested Space and Self-determination: The Dynamics of Ethiopia's Digital Space, *Northeast African Studies*, Vol. 21:2 (2021) 227-264.
6. Başak Bağlayan, Ingrid Landau, Marisa McVey & Kebene Wodajo, *Good Business: the Economic Case for Protecting Human Rights* (2018) Report.
7. Kebene Wodajo, Multinational Enterprise Tort Liability and Limited Liability Rule: An Economic Analysis, *International Company and Commercial Law Review*, 4 (2018): 283-300.

Book Chapters (peer reviewed)

8. Kebene Wodajo, Realizing the Societal Dimensions to Freedom of Thought in the Digital Age through Strategic Litigation in Shiner, Bethany & O'Callaghan, Patrick (eds.) *The Cambridge Handbook of the Right to Freedom of Thought* (forthcoming on Cambridge University Press).
9. Kebene Wodajo & Dalia Palombo, Cross-cultural Perspectives on Business and Human Rights: Insights from African Perspective. in *Handbook on Business and Human Rights in Africa* (forthcoming on Springer).
10. Kebene Wodajo & Florian Wettstein, The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) in Thomas Cottier & Krista Nadakavukaren Schefer (eds.) *Elgar Encyclopedia of International Economic Law* (forthcoming on Elgar)

Op-ed/Policy Papers and Short Essay

1. Kebene Wodajo & Catherine MacDonald, Platform Enabled Structural Harms & The Limits of the Current Accountability Regime, *TechPolicy.Press* (June 19, 2024).
2. Kebene Wodajo, Digitalizing Identity: Precautionary Thoughts on Ethiopia's "Fayda" Number, *OpinioJuris* (Feb. 10, 2022).
3. Kebene Wodajo & Isabel Ebert, Reimagining responsibility for structural (in)justice in the digital ecosystem: A perspective from African ethics of duty, *AfronomicsLAW* (September, 2021).
4. Kebene Wodajo & Dawit Ayana, Tech-mediated Tracking: A Viable Tool to Contain COVID-19 in Ethiopia?, *AfronomicsLAW* (June 2, 2020).
5. Kebene Wodajo, Social Audit Reform Options: Towards Auditor Liability and Multi-stakeholder Oversight, *Business and Human Rights Resource Centre* (Mar. 12, 2019).
6. Teferi Mergo & Kebene Wodajo, Ethiopia's Breakup Doesn't Have to Be Violent, *Foreign Policy Magazine* (Nov. 27, 2021)
7. Kebene K. Wodajo, Making Extraordinary Power Part of the Ordinary Discourse? The Case of Ethiopia's State of Emergency Declared on February 16 *Abyssinia Law* (Feb. 26, 2018).

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. Kebene Wodajo, "Race as Technology / Technologies of Racialisation in International Law" chair at *European Society of International Law Annual Conference*, 5-6 Sep. 2024, Lithuania.
2. Kebene Wodajo, "Law as a Structure: the Politics of Rights Discourse in AI Governance" presented at the *ICON-S*, 8-10 Jul. 2024, Spain.

3. Kebene Wodajo, "The regulated capacity of the state and state violence on digital platforms" presented at the *American Society of International Law Midyear meeting*, 12 Nov. 2022, US.
4. Kebene Wodajo, "The Responsibility of Victims: Towards Pluralistic People-centered Digital Justice" presented at *European Society of International Law Annual Conference*, 31 Aug. 2022, The Netherlands.
5. Kebene Wodajo, "Platform governance during conflict: the case of Ethiopia" presented at *Oxford Media Law and Policy Summer Institute*, 8 Aug. 2022, UK.
6. Kebene Wodajo, "Contested space and self-determination: The Dynamics of Ethiopia's digital space" presented at *VAD conference*, 10 Jun. 2022, Germany.
7. Kebene Wodajo, "[Remedying adverse human rights impacts arising from Digital Technologies: a bird's eye view](#)" presented at OHCHR Multi-stakeholder Consultation on Access to Remedy in the Tech Sector, 23-24 September 2021, Geneva, Switzerland.
8. Ebert, Isabel & Wodajo, Kebene, "[Algorithms in the making - Addressing structural injustices in the data economy.](#)" Women in Big Data. November 2021.
9. Kebene Wodajo, "The Role of Tech-companies in Addressing Human Rights Risks in Africa," Oral presentation at CCAR Launch, January 14-15, 2020, St.Gallen, Switzerland.
10. Kebene Wodajo, "Handling the Costs of Litigation over Corporate Abuses," in The Economic case for Promoting Human Right, Oral presentation at the 7th UN Forum on Business and Human Rights, November 26-28, 2018, UN Geneva, Switzerland.
11. Kebene Wodajo, "Multinational Enterprises' Social Responsibility and Liability Rules: An Economic Analysis," Oral presentation at The 3rd Business and Human Rights Young Researchers Summit in, April 19-20, 2018, New York University, New York, USA.

MEMBERSHIPS IN SOCIETIES AND SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES

- 2021. Member of the European Society of International Law (ESIL)
- 2021. Member of the American Society of International Law (ASIL)
- 2023. Member of the International Society of Public Law (ICON-S)
- 2022. Member of the Swiss Network for Law and Society (lawandsociety.ch)
- 2019. Member of the Global Business and Human Rights (BR2R)
- 2017. Member of the European Association of Law and Economics