

Biographical data form of candidates to human rights treaty bodies

Name and first name: **Prof. Dr. Y.M. Donders (Yvonne Maria)**

Date and place of birth: **17 January 1972, Haarlem, the Netherlands**

Working languages: **Dutch, English, French**

Current position/function:

Yvonne Donders is [Professor International Human Rights and Cultural Diversity](#) (since November 2011) and Head of the Department of International and European Law (since September 2015) at the University of Amsterdam, Faculty of Law, the Netherlands. She is also Commissioner at the [Netherlands National Institute for Human Rights](#) (since July 2019).

Main professional activities :

Prof. Donders teaches courses on International Human Rights Law at various universities (Amsterdam, Tilburg, Barcelona, Florence, Rome). She conducts research on international human rights law, coordinates research projects on human rights and supervises PhD candidates at the University of Amsterdam. As a Commissioner she is involved in monitoring human rights at the national level, including advise to the Dutch government and parliament on the human rights dimensions and implications of legislation and policies. She also contributes to monitoring processes at international level, for instance the Universal Periodic Review and the reporting procedures for the United Nations Treaty Bodies. She further handles equal treatment cases where individuals can file a complaint concerning alleged discrimination in employment, services or education.

Educational background:

Prof. Donders holds a PhD from the University of Maastricht, Faculty of Law (2002). Her PhD is entitled “Towards a Right to Cultural Identity?” and is published by Intersentia, Antwerp, 2002. Supervisors were Prof. mr C. Flinterman and Prof. dr. A.P.M. Coomans. She graduated from Utrecht University in International Relations (1996) with a specialization in international organisations and human rights.

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

- Member of the International Law Association ([ILA](#)) International Committee on Participation in Global Cultural Heritage Governance (since May 2018)
- Chair of the Steering Committee of the Netherlands Network of Human Rights Research ([NNHRR](#)) (since January 2017)
- Member of the Human Rights Committee of the Advisory Council on International Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs ([AIV](#)) (since June 2013)
- Member of the Editorial Board and Executive Editor of the Netherlands Quarterly of Human Rights ([NQHR](#)) (since May 2013)
- Member of the Board of the Royal Netherlands Society of International Law ([KNVIR](#)) (since November 2012)
- Chair of the Advisory Board of the “[Shelter City](#)” project coordinated by Justice and Peace Netherlands (since 2012)

List of most recent publications in the field:

Yvonne M. Donders, "The right to science in practice: a proposed test in four stages". Book chapter with Sebastian Porsdam Mann and Helle Porsdam in [*The Right to Science. Then and Now*](#). (Cambridge University Press November 2021) <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108776301>

Yvonne M. Donders, "Diversity in Europe: From Pluralism to Populism?" in: J. Vidmar (ed.) *European Populism and Human Rights* (Koninklijke Brill NV Leiden January 2020) pp. 52-71. https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004416017_004
SSRN (last unedited version) https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3635996

Yvonne M. Donders, "Cultural Rights in International Human Rights Law: From Controversy to Celebration", *Japanese Yearbook of International Law*, Vol. 62 (2019) International Law Association of Japan (February 2020), pp. 61-84. SSRN (last unedited version) https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3635993

Yvonne M. Donders, "The Enjoyment of Cultural Rights by Women on an Equal Basis with Men" in: Lucky Belder and Helle Porsdam (eds.), *Negotiating Cultural Rights: Issues at Stake, Challenges and Recommendations* (Edward Elgar Publishing 2017), p. 100-120. <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781786435422>

Yvonne M. Donders, "Universality, Diversity and Legal Certainty: The Cultural Diversity Argument in the Dialogue between CEDAW and States Parties" (with Vincent Vleugel) in: Machiko Kanetake and André Nollkaemper (eds.), *The Rule of Law at the National and International Levels: Contestations and Deference* (Oxford: Hart Publishing March 2016) pp. 321-351. (Last unedited version: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2466894>).

Yvonne M. Donders and Tarlach McGonagle (eds), *The United Nations and Freedom of Expression and Information, Critical Perspectives* (Cambridge University Press June 2015). <https://doi.org/10.1017/CBO9781316018552>
