

2021 Sustainability Report

5.c

Gender Equality & Military Service Forum----Beyond Gender and Age

Amid the mounting international tension, more and more countries are increasing their budgets for military defense. Hence, issues around military service have attracted more attention from the public. On March 16, 2021, NTU's Human Rights and Jurisprudence Center, Women's Research Program of Population and Gender Studies Center, and Basic Legal Studies Council of Taiwan Law Society held the keynote speech "Support Each Other: National Defense Beyond Gender and Age." Besides the keynote speaker Enoch Wu, founder of Forward Alliance, several legal experts were also invited to talk about national defense issues, such as female compulsory participation in military service, improvements needed for our current military service system, and the general impression of women serving in the military. Mr. Wu took Sweden as an example to explain that national defense was more than arms and weapons and that national defense education was equally important. From the ideas shared and exchanged between the experts and scholars, the participants were guided to think in a more comprehensive way about gender equality and national defense issues.



NTU Professor Helps Promote the “Most Relatable Legal Reform”

NTU’s Distinguished Professor Kuan-Ling Shen of the College of Law participated in the legislation for labor-related legal incidents and served as a committee member on the “Committee of the Draft Act of Labor Litigation Procedures,” where she incorporated the results of her research and helped create a mechanism for resolving labor-related disputes. The draft was passed as the “Labor Incident Act”, and the committee helped the Ministry of Labor explain the applicability of the act to unions around Taiwan (e.g. Taiwan Federation of Industry, Keelung Federation of Labor, and Formosa Plastics Group Union). Trade unions have acknowledged the formulation of the Act as “the most relatable legal reform.” The Act not only enhances the position and rights of employees in civil disputes, but it will also reduce the money and time spent on litigation for the employees. According to Judicial Yuan’s statistics of 2021, in the two years since its promulgation, the Act successfully removed the barriers of litigation for employees, the settlement rate of labor disputes increased to 60%, and the number of days spent on labor cases were fewer than general civil cases. The temporary status quo injunction allows employees to continue working during litigation, protecting their rights as a person and rights to survival by maintaining professional skills and source of income.

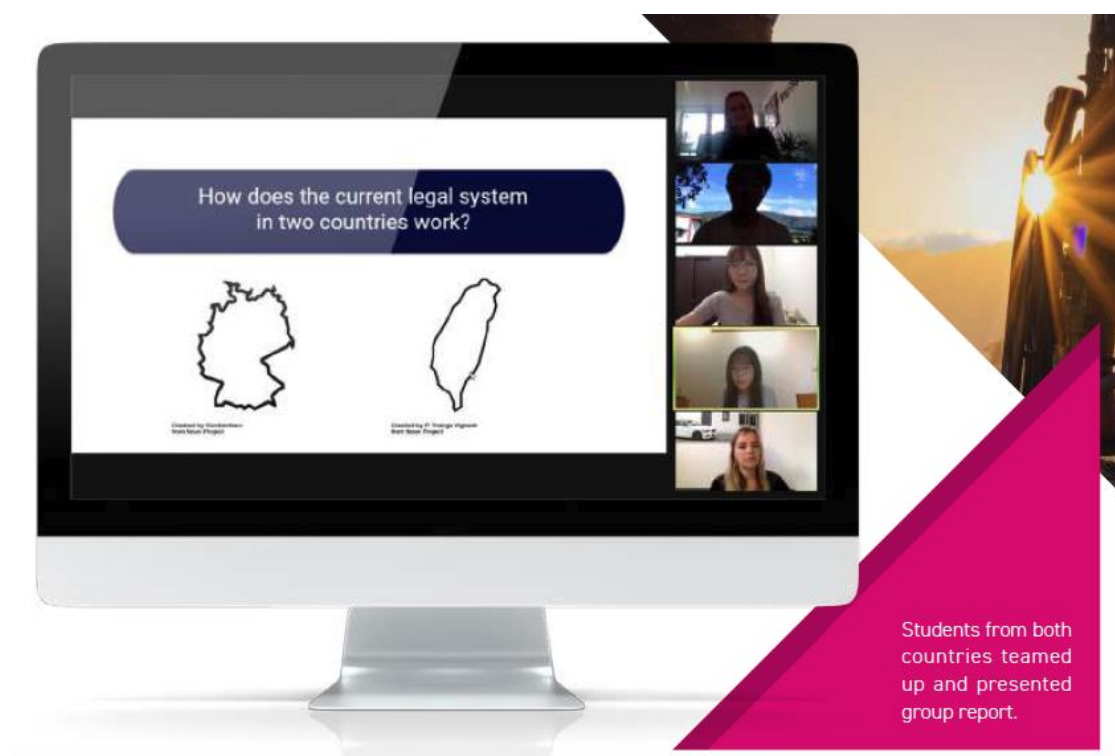


10.2 10.3

NTU Helps Protect Human Rights by Promoting CRPD

Since the CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) took effect in Taiwan, the government has had the obligation to ensure the full and equal enjoyment

of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities (PWD). Article 12 of CRPD “Equal recognition before the law” provides that PWD enjoy legal capacity on an equal basis and have the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law. When NTU’s Professor Sieh-Chuen Huang of the College of Law lectured at the Judge Academy in 2021, she discussed Article 12 in detail to help the judges understand the rights and interests of persons with disabilities. Professor Huang also worked with professors of Cologne University of Applied Sciences and opened a cross-country, crossdisciplinary course, called “Interdisciplinary Seminar on Decision-Making in Persons with Disabilities.” The course focuses on improving PWD’s legal capacity and decision making and how to implement “supported decision making” stressed in the Convention from both legal and psychological perspectives.



https://homepage.ntu.edu.tw/~schhuang/PWD_Seminar/index.html

16.3

NTU’s “Exonerate Wrongful Convictions” Course

While the judicial system is supposed to bring wrongdoers to justice, in real-life situations, structural defects and man-made negligence may result in miscarriages of justice. One of the best ways to avoid such incidents and improve criminal defense strategies and techniques is to examine missteps in criminal proceedings and reenact the proceedings in a mock trial. Taiwan Association for Innocence (TAFI) has been devoted to rescuing innocent people who were wrongfully convicted. NTU’s College

of Law and TAFI offer a course called “Exonerate Wrongful Convictions,” where TAFI provides actual cases for the students to analyze. They will need to study the key points, formulate defense strategies, and defend in a mock trial. In addition, to participate in promoting judicial reform for criminal cases, Distinguished Professor Mau-Sheng Lee and Professor Yu-Wei Hsieh took up the posts of TAFI’s President and Director respectively in 2021.

