

# Human Rights, International Law and CRPD

Tina Minkowitz

CRPD course Sp 2017



# Course housekeeping

- Welcome!
- Keep checking in with how you are finding the reading and assignments. Feedback welcome.
- Questions welcome during lectures, use chat function.



# What are human rights?

- Where do human rights come from?
- What is the UDHR?
- What is the significance of making treaties about human rights?
- What is the role of civil society in creating, asserting, and enforcing human rights?



# CRPD as human rights treaty

- What is the meaning of signature, ratification, accession?
- What is the Optional Protocol?
- What is the [Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#), and how does it work?



# CRPD structure and overview

- Let's look at the Convention
  - General provisions (arts 1-4, 31-33)
  - Specific rights (arts 5-30)
  - Committee (arts 34-39) and Conference of states parties (art 40)
  - Formalities (arts 41-50)



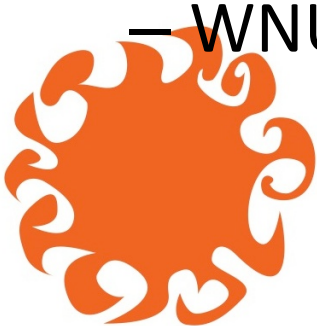
# CRPD structure and overview 2

- And the [Optional Protocol](#)
  - Communications (arts 1-5)
  - Inquiry procedure (arts 6-8)
  - Formalities (arts 9-18)



# CRPD drafting and negotiations

- ‘Constitutional moment’
- Hundreds of perspectives, personally involved
- [Negotiation archives](#)
- Text 80% civil society, DPOs
- My perspective
  - Working group Jan 2004 pivotal
  - WNUSP grass roots perspective accepted into law



# Transformative impact

- ‘Paradigm shift’ – footnote and beyond
- Influence on UN mechanisms
- Interpretations by CRPD Committee – expert body authorized to monitor compliance
  - Gen. Com. No. 1 (art 12), Guidelines art 14
- States parties, academia, NGOs
- DPOs/ user/survivor organizations

