

Erick da Luz Scherf

The University of Alabama,
School of Social Work, Little Hall, 670 Judy
Bonner Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401.

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Research interests

Health equity. Social determinants of health (SDOH). Minority and immigrant health. Macro SW practice. Human rights-based approaches to SW practice.

Education

- ❖ Aug. 2023- Aug. 2028 (expected) | The University of Alabama, School of Social Work

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Social Work

Dissertation: TBD

- ❖ Aug. 2021 – Aug. 2023 | The University of Stavanger, Norway (coordinating institution)

Master of Science in Social Work, Families and Children concentration

Thesis: Challenging the colorblind curriculum: addressing race, ethnicity, and diversity in Social Work education in Portugal <http://dx.doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.23517.79840>

- ❖ Feb. 2016 – Dec. 2019 | University of Vale do Itajaí, Brazil

Bachelor of Arts (BA) in International Relations and Politics

Thesis: Childhoods and dreams behind bars in the promised land: an analysis of human rights violations of migrant children held in detention centers in Canada from 2010 to 2016 (translated from Portuguese)

Certifications

- ❖ Jan. 2020 – Sep. 2020 – Brazilian School of Law / Una University Center, Brazil

Graduate Certificate in International Law with a Human Rights focus

Research experience

- ❖ Sep. 2023 – Present | Sleep Health Equity Research Group. The University of Alabama, School of Social Work.

PI: Dr Luciana Giorgio Cosenzo, PhD

Role: Volunteer Research Assistant (RA)

- ❖ Jan. 2022 – Present | University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Law. ERC Human Rights Nudge (Redesigning the Architecture of Human Rights Remedies)

PI: Dr Veronika Fikfak, PhD

Role: Affiliated Researcher, Research Assistant (RA)

- ❖ Mar. 2018 – Feb. 2021 | The University of Vale do Itajaí, School of Legal and Social Sciences. “Human Rights & Citizenship” Research Group.

PI: Dr Maria de Lourdes Alves Lima Zanatta, PhD

Role: Junior Research Fellow, Research Assistant (RA)

Publications I (in English)

Peer-reviewed journal articles

17. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (Forthcoming 2023/2024). Discriminatory practices in healthcare affecting Sexual and Gender Minorities in South Africa: implications for health and human rights. *Journal of Health Management*. SAGE Journals.
16. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Viana da Silva, M. V. (2023). Brazil's Yanomami Health Disaster: Addressing the public health emergency requires advancing criminal accountability. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 11, 01–05. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2023.1166167>
15. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Viana da Silva, M. V. (2023). Oil giant, climate savior, or somewhere in between? Human rights and the Norwegian climate paradox. *International Journal of Public Law and Policy, Online First*. <https://doi.org/10.1504/ijplap.2023.10054627>
14. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2022). Latin American perspectives on Indigenous Social Work: In search of mind, body, and soul. *AlterNative: An International Journal of Indigenous Peoples*, 19(1), 155–165. <https://doi.org/10.1177/11771801221140460>
13. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, Alves Lima Zanatta, M. de, Viana da Silva, M. V., & Da Silva, J. E. (2022). Health Care Access by Transgender Persons in South Africa: Gender-based Discrimination, Human Rights Violations, and the Role of the African Human Rights System. *Journal Health and Technology - JHT*, 1(4), 01–22. <https://doi.org/10.47820/jht.v1i4.25>
12. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2021). Challenges in making school social work a reality in Brazilian schools. *International Social Work*, 66(2), 590–596. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00208728211031965>
11. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, Viana da Silva, M., & S. Fachini, J. (2021). The management (or lack thereof) of COVID-19 in Brazil: implications for human rights and public health. *International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare*, 14(2), 158-174. <https://doi.org/10.1108/ijhrh-09-2020-0085>
10. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, Alves Lima Zanatta, M. de L., & Tumenas Mello, E. (2020). Gender-Awareness amongst Brazilian Children Enrolled in Primary Education: Implications for Women's Rights & Equality. *Multidisciplinary Journal of Gender Studies*, 9(1), 25–50. <https://doi.org/10.17583/generos.2020.4865>
9. Zanatta, M.L.A.L., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2019). The Role of Rights-Based Social Work in Contemporary Latin American Diasporas: The Case of Venezuelan Migrant Children. *Journal of Human Rights and Social Work*, 4(4), 238-247. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41134-019-00104-1>
8. Viana da Silva, M.V., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2020). Dream the impossible dream? An ecosocialist account of the human right to a healthy environment. *Direito Ambiental & Sociedade* [Environmental Law & Society], 10(2), 35-60. <https://doi.org/10.18226/22370021.v10.n2.02>
7. Viana da Silva, M.V, **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & da Silva, J.E. (2020). The Right to Data Protection Versus “Security”: Contradictions of the Rights-Discourse in the Brazilian General Personal Data Protection Act (LGPD). *Revista Direitos Culturais* [Cultural Rights Review], 15(36), 209-232. <https://doi.org/10.20912/rdc.v15i36.18>

6. da Silva, J.E., **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Viana da Silva, M.V. (2019). In Tech We Trust? Some General Remarks on Law in the Technological Era from a Third World Perspective. *Journal Juridical Opinion*, 17(25), 107-123. <https://doi.org/10.12662/2447-6641oj.v17i25.p107-123.2019>
5. Souza, I.F., Leme, L.R., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2018). Creating bridges between international relations theory and international human rights law: constructivism and the role of Brazil in the Inter-American system of human rights. *Brazilian Journal of International Law*, 15(3), 179-197. <https://doi.org/10.5102/rdi.v15i3.5653>

Book chapters

4. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2022). Critical Perspectives on Social Work and Social Policy Practice with Vulnerable Migrants in an Era of Emergencies. In Andy Jolly, Ruggero Cefalo, and Marco Pomati (Eds.), *Social Policy Review 34*, Bristol University Press/Policy Press, UK (pp. 134-157). <http://dx.doi.org/10.46692/9781447365815.008>
3. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, Viana da Silva, M.V., & da Silva, J.E. (2021). Indigenous Rights, Necropolitics and the 'Daily Genocides' of Brazil's Native and Traditional Peoples. In T. Ribeiro Teles (Ed.), *Língua(gens), Literaturas, Culturas, Identidades e Direitos Indígenas no Brasil* [Languages, Literature, Culture, Identity, and Indigenous Rights in Brazil] (1st ed., pp. 172-180). Curitiba: BAGAI. <http://dx.doi.org/10.37008/978-65-89499-57-2.23.04.21>
2. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2018). Manaus' massacre as a result of the crisis in the Brazilian penitentiary system: an analysis in the light of international human rights law. In A. Jobim do Amaral et al (Eds.), *Anais do 8º Congresso Internacional de Ciências Criminais – PUCRS* [Proceedings of the 8th International Congress on Criminal Sciences – Global Criminology Section], Vol. 3 (1st ed., pp. 121-140). Brazil: Tirant lo Blanch.

Book reviews

1. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2020). Mary Mee-Yin Yuen, *Solidarity and Reciprocity with Migrants in Asia: Catholic and Confucian Ethics in Dialogue*. *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal*, 29(4), 553-555. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0117196820983983>

Manuscripts under review:

1. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (Submitted in September 2023). “We Tend to Leave that Past Behind, Kept Away In a Drawer”: Addressing Racism and Discrimination in the BSW Curriculum in Portugal. Under review in *Advances in Social Work*.

Manuscripts under preparation:

1. **da Luz Scherf, E.** In Progress. Hunger and Climate (In)Justice in Latin America and the Caribbean: Challenges for the Social Work Profession in an Era of Intersecting Emergencies.
2. **da Luz Scherf, E.** In Progress. International and Comparative Social Work Research in Latin America: Tapping into the Untapped Potentials.

Publications II (in Portuguese)

Peer-reviewed journal articles

13. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, Viana da Silva, M.V., & da Silva, J.E. (2021). A Few Considerations on Human Rights in the Biotechnological Era: Normativity Versus Dignity. *Revista Direito e Justiça: Reflexões Sociojurídicas* [Journal Law and Justice: Sociolegal Reflections], 21(41), 195-210. <https://doi.org/10.31512/rdj.v21i41.636>
12. Viana da Silva, M.V., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2020). Advances and Challenges in Implementing Public Policies for the Protection of the Social Rights of Older Migrants in Brazil. *Revista Eletrônica da Faculdade de Direito de Franca* [Journal of the Franca Law School], 15(1), 215-228. <https://doi.org/10.21207/1983.4225.951>
11. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Viana da Silva, M.V. (2020). "The Canadian Citizenship is a Privilege, Not a Right": Migration and Securitization in the Promised Land. *Interfaces Brasil/Canadá* [Brazilian Review of Canadian Studies], 20, 1-36. <https://doi.org/10.15210/interfaces.v20i0.19069>
10. Viana da Silva, M.V., da Silva, J.E., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2020). The Role of the Canadian Supreme Court in Defending the Rights of Migrant Persons: Subverting the State of Exception by the Routes of Judicial Activism. *Journal of Contemporary Public Law*, 1(2), 85-110. <http://www.rdpc.com.br/index.php/rdpc/article/view/124>
9. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Viana da Silva, M.V. (2020). Child Migration and International Relations: Theoretical Neglect versus Child Protagonism. *Revista Relações Internacionais no Mundo Atual* [International Relations in the Actual World], 28(3), 269-297. <http://revista.unicuritiba.edu.br/index.php/RIMA/article/view/4138>
8. Viana da Silva, M.V., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2020). The Justiciability of the Right to Education in the Inter-American System of Human Rights: A Possible Way Out for the Dismantling of the Brazilian Public Education System?. *Revista Humanidades & Inovação* [Journal Humanities & Innovation], 7(7), 350-367. <https://revista.unitins.br/index.php/humanidadeseinovacao/article/view/2574>
7. Zanatta, M.L.A.L., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2019). Child Migration and the United Nations Regime for the Protection of Human Rights. *Caderno de Relações Internacionais* [Card of International Relations], 9(17), 105-134. <https://doi.org/10.22293/2179-1376.v9i17.989>
6. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Zanatta, M.L.A.L. (2019). Human rights and corporate social responsibility in the context of international commerce: the Barrick Gold miner and sexual violence against women in Papua New Guinea between 2006 and 2010. *Revista Vertentes do Direito* [Journal Strings of the Law], 6(1), 161-181. <https://doi.org/10.20873/uft.2359-0106.2019.v6n1.p161-181>
5. de Oliveira, A.C.D.C., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2019). Rights-Based Social Work as a Tool for Realizing the Human Rights of Venezuelan Migrant Children in Latin American Countries. *Revista TOMO* [TOMO Journal of Sociology], 34, 241-286. <https://doi.org/10.21669/tomo.v0i34.9933>
4. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Milindre Gonzalez, R. (2018). Civil society and the fight for the recognition of fundamental liberties during peace negotiation processes: lessons from the civil war in Sierra Leone and from the Lomé Peace Accord. *Conjuntura Global* [Global Conjecture], 7(2), 170-188. <https://doi.org/10.5380/cg.v7i2.59393>
3. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Milindre Gonzalez, R. (2018). Forced migration and humanitarian crisis in Myanmar: Rohingya – no territory, nation, or rights. *Revista de Iniciação Científica em Relações Internacionais* [Journal of Scientific Initiation in International Relations], 5(10), 37-73. <https://doi.org/10.22478/ufpb.2318-9452.2018v5n10.37368> [research article]
2. de Souza, M.C.S.A., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2017). Business Management Towards Sustainable Development: The Dialogue Between Climate Change and Human Rights. *Revista Jurídica da Escola Superior do MP-SP* [Law Journal of the Sao Paulo Public Prosecutor's Office], 12(2), 68-86. https://es.mpsp.mp.br/revista_esmp/index.php/RJESMPSP/article/view/337

Book chapters

1. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Rocha Leme, L. (2019). A theory of international justice for whom? Failures in the restrictive concept of human rights in Rawls' The Law of Peoples. In M. Leal & A. Custódio (Eds.), *Fundamentos Constitucionais das Políticas Públicas* [Constitutional Foundations of Public Policy], Vol. 1 (1st ed., pp. 186-198). Brazil: EDUNISC. <http://hdl.handle.net/11624/2723>

Presentations at academic conferences

12. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (Forthcoming April 2024). International and Comparative Social Work Research in Latin America: Tapping into the Untapped Potentials. In *SWSD 2024 – Joint Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development*. Sponsored by the International Association of Schools of Social Work, the International Council on Social Welfare and the International Federation of Social Workers. Panama City, Panama.

11. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (May 2023). Challenging the colorblind curriculum: addressing race, ethnicity, and diversity in Social Work education in Portugal. In *European Social Work Conference 2023: Against all odds, a social Europe is possible where no one is left behind!* Organized by IFSW – European Chapter. Prague, Czech Republic.

10. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (March 2023). Climate Change and Green Social Work: An Ecosocialist Critique. In *Injustice in a World of Uncertainty: Finland World Convention 2023*. Stream 1: Climate Change, Insecurity, and Danger. South-Eastern Finland University (Xamk). Mikkeli, Finland. <https://youtu.be/jTP36bdXy3M>

9. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (June 2022). Climate Litigation, Human Rights, and the Norwegian Oil Industry: An Early Assessment of Greenpeace Nordic and Others against Norway. In *Conference on the Intersection between Human Rights and Sustainability as an Evolving and Justiciable Concept*. Oslo, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights at University of Oslo. <https://youtu.be/reGJggtW-pk>

8. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (April 2022). Critical perspectives on social work and social policy practice with vulnerable migrants: exploring anticolonial human rights narratives. In *CCNY's Second Critical Perspectives on Human Rights Conference*. New York; CCNY's Division of Interdisciplinary Studies, City University of New York.

7. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (September 2021). Unwanted and overlooked: barriers to transgender persons' access to health care in South Africa and the role of the African human rights system. In *Conference on Responsiveness of the African human rights system to sexual and gender-based violence*. Stellenbosch, SA; Stellenbosch University.

6. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (November 2020). Judicialization of the Right to Mental Health: A Pathway to Mental Health Care in Brazil?. In *Global Mental Health: Today and Tomorrow*, First Edition. Michigan, USA; University of Michigan.

5. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (October 2020). Impunity and Human Rights Violations Amid and After the Covid-19 Pandemic: Questioning the Future of State Responsibility under International Human Rights Law. In *Pandemic & International Responsibility Conference*. Porto, PT; Portucalense University.

4. da Silva, M.V.V., **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & da Silva, J.E. (October 2019). The unconventionality of the dismantling of public education policies in Brazil and the jurisdiction of the Inter-American Human Rights System (translated from Portuguese). In *II Congresso Internacional de Políticas Públicas para a América Latina* [II International Conference on Public Policies for Latin America]. Itajaí, BR; University of Vale do Itajaí. <http://dx.doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.14208.05123>

3. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Morales, P.A. (2018). Human rights, corporate social responsibility and international business: looking for coherence through the experience of Papua New Guinea (translated from Portuguese). In *XIII Congresso Direito UFSC* [XIII Law Conference at the Federal University of Santa Catarina]. Florianópolis, BR; Federal University of Santa Catarina (UFSC).

2. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2017). Manaus' massacre as a result of the crisis in the Brazilian penitentiary system: an analysis in the light of international human rights law. In *8th International Conference on Criminal Sciences – Global Criminology Section*. Porto Alegre, BR; Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS).

1. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Morales, P.A. (2016). Reform of the judiciary and the democratization of access to justice: an analysis on the influence of the judicial reform secretariat and its contributions to the realization of fundamental rights (translated from Portuguese). In *XIII Seminário Internacional Demandas Sociais e Políticas Públicas na*

Invited talks, lectures and speaking engagements

2. (August 2023). Speaking engagement about *Pathways to an International Research Career*, at the University of Vale do Itajai, School of Legal and Social Sciences (Brazil).

1. (November 2022). Alumni Session on Ph.D. Opportunities for Erasmus Mundus graduates in Social Work. Role: Moderator. Hosted by Gothenburg University (Sweden), Department of Social Work.

Awards and distinctions

❖ April 2023 – **Capstone Graduate Council Fellowship**. The University of Alabama Graduate School. This is UA's most competitive fellowship at the graduate level, and it offers 5 years of funding for outstanding incoming Ph.D. students.

❖ August 2020 – **Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's Degree Scholarship Recipient**, European Commission/European Union (<https://shorturl.at/ILQW1>)

❖ January 2016 - **University for All Program Recipient** (ProUni), Brazilian Ministry of Education (<https://shorturl.at/gQ137>)

Funding

- ❖ 2023/2024 | USD 58,492.00 | Graduate Council Fellowship
- ❖ 2021-2023 | EUR 49,000 | Erasmus Mundus Mobility Program Scholarship
- ❖ June 2023 | USD 441.00 | Open Access fee (paid for by the University of Stavanger)
- ❖ June 2022 | EUR 70 | Round trip ticket for Conference (paid for by the University of Stavanger)
- ❖ April 2022 | USD 60 | Conference Registration Fee (paid for by the University of Stavanger)
- ❖ 2016-2019 | BRL ≈57,600.00 | Full Undergraduate Tuition Scholarship

Volunteering and civic engagement

❖ Jul. 2021 – Aug. 2021 (Online). Aurora Institute for Human Rights Education (Curitiba, Brazil). Role: Writing contributor. I helped the Institute strengthen its mission by providing short articles for its online blog platform.

❖ May 2021 – July 2021 (Online). Eshet Children and Youth Development (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia) Role: Project proposal and grant writing volunteer. I was responsible for identifying potential donor organizations and for revising funding proposals.

Professional and training experience

- ❖ Sep. 2022 – Oct. 2022. Internationella Engelska Skolan (Gothenburg, Sweden)
Role: Social work intern. Part-time.
- ❖ Dec. 2021 – Dec. 2021. Mandatory Placement at Different Organizations (Lisbon, Portugal)
Role: Social work intern. Full-time.
- ❖ Mar. 2021 – Aug. 2021. Prontmed Health Data Technology S.A (Sao Paulo, Brazil)
Role: Commercial Analyst. Full-time.
- ❖ Jul. 2019 – Jan. 2021. Viana & Silva Attorneys at Law (Itajai, Brazil)
Role: Legal and Admin. Assistant. Part-time.
- ❖ Dec. 2020 – Jan. 2021. Taglog - Trust Group (Itajai, Brazil)
Role: Customer Support Representative. Full-time.
- ❖ Jan. 2020 – Oct. 2020. Nelson Heusi Group (Itajai, Brazil)
Role: Commercial Assistant. Full-time.
- ❖ Feb. 2017 – Dec. 2017. KNN Languages (Camboriu, Brazil)
Role: English as a Second Language Teacher. Full-time.

Academic and professional memberships

1. Social Policy Association, UK. International early scholar membership. Member since February 2022.
2. Erasmus Mundus Association (EMA). Erasmus Master Student. Member since August 2020.

Non-scholarly publications

Online blog

4. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (June 13, 2021). Re-Assessing the Promises and Possibilities of Human Rights. *The Wall of Justice*. Retrieved from <https://thewallofjustice.in/re-assessing-the-promises-and-possibilities-of-human-rights/>
3. da Luz Scherf, E. (August 2021). Lei Maria da Penha completa 15 anos com conquistas e desafios [Maria da Penha Law celebrates 15 years with achievements and challenges]. *Instituto Aurora*. Retrieved from <https://institutoaurora.org/lei-maria-da-penha-completa-15-anos-com-conquistas-e-desafios/>

Magazine

2. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2019). As liberdades fundamentais e o lugar das lutas por direitos no longa-metragem “Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri” [Fundamental freedoms and the place of struggles for rights in the movie Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri]. *Revista Avant*. Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/3KiwXou>
1. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (Winter 2018). Ought to kill or ought to heal? The importance of medicine in the history of warfare. *Hektoen International: A Journal of Medical Humanities*. <https://hekint.org/2018/03/05/kill-heal-importance-medicine-history-warfare/>

Languages spoken

Portuguese – Native Speaker, English – Advanced/Fluent, Spanish – Upper Intermediate, French – Basic/Beginner

Research skills

Qualitative: Strong writing skills, Semi-structured Interviewing, Focus Groups, People Skills, NVivo (Beginner)

Quantitative: Simple and Multiple Linear Regression (Beginner), Logistic Regression (Beginner), SPSS (Beginner)

Peer-review record

2020 - Asian Journal of Education and Social Sciences (SCIENCEDOMAIN International), *Ad hoc* reviewer

2022 - Globalizations (Taylor & Francis), *Ad hoc* reviewer

2022- International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy (Emerald Group Publishing), *Ad hoc* reviewer

2022 - Springer Book Series in International Social Work (Springer Nature), *Ad hoc* reviewer

2023 – International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare (Emerald Group Publishing), *Ad hoc* reviewer

2023 – European Social Work Research (Bristol University Press), *Ad hoc* reviewer

2023 – Critical and Radical Social Work (Bristol University Press), *Ad hoc* reviewer

2023 – Advances in Social Work (Indiana University School of Social Work), *Ad hoc* reviewer

References

Available upon request