

# Highlights 2019

## **Nudge! New ERC project**

With the recruitment of associate professor Veronika Fikfak from Cambridge University, iCourts became host to yet another ERC Starting grant. The centre now hosts three ERC projects in total, which runs until 2023/24. The new ERC project – nudge – examines the impact of specific remedies on states' compliance practices and the internalisation of human rights into their domestic legal systems. The project aims to expose the dynamics of the (non)compliant state and the efficacy of different types of remedies in changing the behaviour of human rights violators. The goal is to find new solutions, nudges and incentives for better human rights protection in Europe and beyond. To do that, the project builds on insights from behavioural economics and psychology to analyse how money, language and shaming affect state behaviour in the area of human rights.

## **iCourts 2.0 Launch: The Power of International Courts**

In the spring of 2019, iCourts held a large joint 2-day conference (May 20-21) at The Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters with 150 participants from around the world. The keynote address was delivered by Professor Joseph Weiler, an authority on international law and member of the centre's board. Unlike the many specialized conferences that has been held over the years by iCourts, this conference marked an attempt at bringing together all units, themes and research groups under the same roof and reflect on the new iCourts research plan: The Power of International Courts. The conference was a success and brought together both past and future collaborators of the centre.

## **Prizes: Carlsberg and ICON-S Prize**

In 2019, the PI of iCourts, Mikael Rask Madsen, won the Carlsberg Research Prize for his groundbreaking work on international courts. The Prize ceremony was held at the Carlsberg Glyptotek and conducted by Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Mary, Mogens Høgh, President of The Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters and Flemming Besenbacher, Chair of the Carlsberg Foundation. Together with his co-author, Professor Alexandra Huneus, University of Wisconsin Law School, Mikael Rask Madsen also won the prize for the best article published in in the top journal *ICON – International Journal of Constitutional Law*. In their article, 'Between universalism and regional law and politics: A comparative history of the American, European, and African human rights systems', the authors provide a first ever systematic analysis of how the three regional human rights systems have emerged and developed as part of a common global script.