



# BERG OCEANA AUFKLÄRUNG FOUNDATION BERG INSTITUTE

## 1 | Presentation, values and objectives

The *Berg Institute* was founded in 2009 as an independent academic entity. As a non-governmental organization, it dedicates its work to capacity building and legal consulting in the fields of Human Rights promotion and protection, International Humanitarian Law, Governance, and Democratic Leadership.

Its principal activity is based on the creation and development of academic programs and providing advice and consultancies to both public and private institutions. These programs incorporate an international, on-the-field, realistic, and integrated perspective of Human Rights with a contemporary and practical approach, focusing on actual challenges faced by the international community. The experience of *Berg Institute* in this ground coupled with its commitment to victims of Human Rights violations has led us to define our principal objective as working for the recognition and reparation of victims of Human Rights violations. We believe that this can

be achieved through Human Rights education, through a civil and social commitment to people living in vulnerable situations, as well as by propagating a belief that the Law represents the most civil and equitable path for true progress of humanity when it serves to offer equal opportunities to every human being.

Since its foundation in 2009, the *Berg Institute* has trained and built capacities of more than 500 persons in Europe and the American continent as graduate and postgraduate students, including magistrates, judges, congressmen, politicians, members of police and military forces, as well as activists and workers of NGOs. Similarly, since 2010, the *Berg Institute* has conducted training programs for staff members of security forces and military institutions in the fields of Transitional Justice, Human Rights, strengthening of institutions, and development of the Rule of Law in post-conflict situations.

FUNDACIÓN  
BERG OCEANA AUFKLÄRUNG



*Berg Institute* is a non-profit Foundation, founded in October 2015 by an authorized notarial deed, and falls under the Protectorate of Foundations of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport of Spain. It is classified and registered in the Register of Foundations of that public body with the number 1,782 and under the name of *Fundación Berg Oceana Aufklärung*.

## 2 Academic programs

*Berg Institute's* work is developed through a rigorous and comprehensive theoretical and practical approach manifested in its innovative and realistic academic programs on Human Rights, International Relations, Public Democratic Leadership, Sustainability and Governance.



### A | *Berg Institute's* program on 'Human Rights in context: Europe'

The program "Human Rights in context: Europe" is imparted by the *Berg Institute* and the *European Academy of Otzenhausen* (EAO) and it takes place in seven European countries. The program includes an intense itinerary with academic visits to Human Rights institutions and organizations, and participation in seminars about political, cultural and geostrategic aspects.



### B | *Berg Institute's* program on 'Human Right in context: Israel and Palestine'

"Human Rights in context: Israel and Palestine" of the *Berg Institute* is imparted in cooperation with the *Hebrew University of Jerusalem* - an institution which holds 8 Nobel prizes and was founded by Albert Einstein and others in 1925.



### C | Specialization in International Human Rights Law

The online postgraduate program "Specialization in International Human Rights Law" (1,170 hours) of the *Universidad Alfonso X El Sabio*, in collaboration with the *Berg Institute*, allows its students to acquire a holistic and advanced knowledge of Human Rights in practical and professional terms, based on a strong conceptual development of strategies to defend Human Rights. This program of the *Universidad Alfonso X El Sabio* received the recognition of the Colombian Ministry of Education in July 2015 analogous to a specialization in Colombia.



### D | Master of Dynamics of Cooperation, Conflict and Negotiation in International Relations and Diplomacy (60 ECTS)

The Master's degree "Master of Dynamics of Cooperation, Conflict and Negotiation in International Relations and Diplomacy" is offered by the *Universidad Alfonso X El Sabio* in collaboration with the *Berg Institute* and the *University for Peace of the United Nations*.



### E | Master of International Protection of Human Rights, Public Policy and Sustainability (60 ECTS)

The Master's degree "Master of International Protection of Human Rights, Public Policy and Sustainability in the Context of the 21st Century" is offered by the *Universidad Alfonso X El Sabio* in collaboration with the *Berg Institute* and the *University for Peace of the United Nations*.



### F | Human Rights Insignia – International Program of Excellence of the *Berg Institute* Academy

Human Rights Insignia of the *Berg Institute* is an unprecedented academic innovation in Latin America and represents an institutional, academic, and leadership recognition, after having completed the academic programs on Human Rights imparted by the *Berg Institute* in collaboration with the *Universidad Alfonso X el Sabio*, the



*University for Peace of the United Nations*, the *University KU Leuven* and the *European Academy of Otzenhausen* (EAO). In 2016 for the first time, various public and private institutions in Colombia started participating in *Berg Institute's* 'International Program of Academic Excellence – Human Rights Insignia' with a commitment to recognizing the administrative impacts and merits, competence and capacity in the field of protection and promotion of Human Rights, for those who have obtained these academic and professional achievements.

### G | Recognition by the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) of *Berg Institute*

The programs of the *Berg Institute* were recognized for their quality, commitment and international impact by the United Nations program UNAI (United Nations Academic Impact). It recognizes the work of the *Berg Institute* because of its promotion of values, principles and objectives of the United Nations – especially in terms of the strengthening of the International Rule of Law, Human Rights and peace education.

## 3 Human Rights Library of the *Berg Institute*

*Berg Institute* has developed the first Human Rights Library in Spanish language and constitutes the creation of a solid and rigorous intellectual substratum in the field of the protection of Human Rights. Among others, this book collection includes the following works: "La trilogía de Auschwitz" by Primo Levi in collaboration with Aleph Editores; "Derecho Internacional y Terrorismo" by Juan Ramón Martínez Vargas; "La Corte Penal Internacional: una Perspectiva Latinoamericana", by Juan Carlos Sáinz-Borgo and Nicolás Boeglín (editors); "Justicia Transicional y Comisiones de la Verdad", by Jorge Enrique Ibáñez Najar, and "Derechos Humanos, Empresas Transnacionales y Responsabilidad Social Empresarial", by Andrea A. López-Francos de Busturia.



## 4 Scholarships awarded by the *Berg Institute*

The *Berg Institute* has worked since its foundation to support the victims of Human Rights. One example of this very commitment is the support of young students to get trained in International Law and Human Rights. Currently, the *Berg Institute* is offering the following scholarships: the academic scholarship *Profesor Darío Villarroel*, the academic scholarship *Mayor General Luis Mendieta*, the academic scholarship *Consuelo González de Perdomo*, the scholarship *Berg Institute Competencia Interuniversitaria del Instituto de Derechos Humanos de la Facultad de Ciencias Jurídicas y Sociales* of the *Universidad Nacional de La Plata*, Argentina and the scholarship *Berg Institute Competencia Nacional de Debate de Derechos Humanos de la Academia Interamericana de Derechos Humanos*, *Universidad de Coahuila*, Mexico.

**"A country is considered more developed the wiser and more efficient its laws are to prevent the miserable from becoming too miserable and the powerful from becoming too powerful"**

-If this is a man, **Primo Levi**

## Academic Committee

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