

The judiciary has a pivotal role in shaping legislative development and reform, and this lecture delved into the mechanisms and dynamics through which judicial practice influences the legislative process in the context of human rights.

Firstly, we examined the concept of judicial activism and its impact on legislative reform in the field of human rights. Judicial activism refers to the proactive role played by the judiciary in interpreting and shaping the meaning of laws, particularly in instances where there are gaps or deficiencies in legislation pertaining to human rights. Through landmark decisions and rulings, courts have the ability to address lacunae in existing legislation and provide impetus for legislative action. By flexing their interpretive powers and engaging in progressive adjudication, courts can push for legislative reforms to align existing laws with evolving social values and international human rights standards.

This lecture also delved into the role of judicial review in the legislative process. Judicial review allows courts to assess the constitutionality and compatibility of legislation with human rights principles and safeguards. Through this mechanism, courts can invalidate laws or legislative provisions that are found to be inconsistent with human rights norms, thereby compelling the legislature to revisit and revise the legal framework. The process of judicial review serves as a crucial check on legislative power, ensuring that laws conform to human rights standards and do not infringe upon the rights of individuals or marginalized groups. Indeed, judicial review has been instrumental in catalyzing legislative action to address systemic human rights violations and discriminatory practices.