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The International Council on Human Rights Policy (ICHRP) was first conceived in 1994 by a group of eminent human rights advocates, scholars and policy makers, and was established in Geneva in 1998 to conduct applied research into current human rights issues. Its research was designed to be of practical relevance to policy makers in international and regional organisations, in governments and inter-governmental agencies, and in voluntary organisations of all kinds. The ICHR was independent, international in its membership, and participatory in its approach. It was registered as a non-profit foundation under Swiss law. Between 1998 and 2012, it undertook 35 major research projects addressing a wide range of policy questions and providing a forum for applied research, reflection and forward thinking. In February 2012, the decision was taken to close the ICHR as a result of the difficult economic conditions. Its reports and related materials can be found on-line.

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