



ESIL Interest Group on International Courts and Tribunals
Call for papers

Skype-based doctoral workshop on:

Contemporary digital technologies and international courts and tribunals

The Interest Group on International Courts and Tribunals is organizing its first online Skype-based doctoral workshop to discuss the impact of new technologies in the work and analysis of international courts and tribunals. The Workshop will take place on **10 February, 2020, at 2-4 pm**, Central European Time.

Theme of the workshop

Technology affects and transforms the way scholars and practitioners engage in and with international law. The work and study of international courts and tribunals are no exception in this regard. When the International Court of Justice rendered its *Nicaragua* judgment on the merits in 1986, the World Wide Web did not exist and the size of data to be processed by ordinary computers was significantly small. Should the judgment be delivered in 2019, by a group of judges whose reasoning is constructed in a different information age, it would be immediately communicated and deliberated via blogs and social media across the globe, and, over time, be subject to computational analysis.

International courts and tribunals are using these digital tools in order to respond to various contemporary means, be it to filter cases and decide on their admissibility in a more efficient manner, or to have a more direct access to their past decisions. At this age of 'datafication' of justice, many different paths can still be explored, each coming with their own risks and potentials.

Against this background, the Interest Group invites paper proposals regarding the use of various digital technologies which influences the practices of international courts and tribunals—and our understanding about them. The Interest Group welcomes papers addressing, for instance, the following topics. However, other innovative topics are equally welcome.

- Statistical analysis based on a large set of data, to analyze and predict the judgments of particular courts and tribunals
- Computational analysis of the reasoning of specific international courts and tribunals, such as the analysis of cited cases
- Potential relevance of blockchain technology in facilitating the effective enforcement of arbitral judgments

Submission of proposals and the timeline

The members of the Interest Group who are enrolled in doctoral programs are invited to submit abstracts of up to 500 words.

Deadline for submitting abstracts: November 15, 2019.

Abstracts should be sent to esil.igict@mpi.lu

The following information must be provided with each abstract:

- The author's name and affiliation
- The author's CV, including a list of relevant publications
- The author's contact details, including email address

Authors of selected abstracts will be notified by November 30, 2019.

Authors of accepted abstracts should submit their draft papers by January 20, 2020. The draft will be circulated among the workshop participants.

For substantive questions, please contact the Interest Group convenors: Edouard Fromageau (edouard.fromageau@mpi.lu); Andrea Gattini (andrea.gattini@unipd.it); Machiko Kanetake (m.kanetake@uu.nl); and Stephan Wittich (stephan.wittich@univie.ac.at).

We are looking forward to receiving your abstracts!