



ESIL Interest Group on Migration and Refugee Law

Pre-conference ESIL Interest Group Event

“Understanding solidarity under international and EU refugee law: between a rock and a hard place?”

Catania (Italy), 23 April 2020

-- CALL FOR PAPERS --

The European Society of International Law (ESIL) Interest Group (IG) on Migration and Refugee Law, in co-operation with the Academy of Law and Migration (ADiM) of the University of Tuscia (Viterbo), is organizing a side event on **23 April 2020 (Thursday)** in Catania (Italy) in the framework of this year’s ESIL Research Forum in Catania (“*Solidarity. The Quest for Founding Utopias of International Law*”). The IG side event targets scholars at an early stage of their careers.

This year’s theme of the ESIL Research Forum concerns the role of solidarity in the fabric of international law as well as in its different branches of law. The IG MigRefLaw will pick up this topic by focusing on solidarity in the context of migration, notably this concept’s meaning and functions under international and EU refugee law.

The IG MigRefLaw acting as the organising committee for this event, in partnership with ADiM, therefore welcomes proposals for papers addressing mainly (but not limited to) the following themes:

- Solidarity as a chameleon concept in refugee law: the relationship between fair burden-sharing, responsibility-sharing and solidarity;
- Balancing between sovereignty, responsibility and solidarity in migration and asylum: regional perspectives;
- Solidarity as a legal principle in the EU legal order: challenges in the migration/asylum context and the role of courts;

- The New York Declaration, the Global Compact on Refugees and fair burden-sharing: is there anything new under the sun?;
- Migration and solidarity in crisis situations: examples, narratives, and normative claims;
- Normative basis for solidarity with distant strangers: legal, ethical and philosophical considerations;
- Migration at sea and solidarity: an emerging *lex specialis*?;
- Criminalization of solidarity with migrants and refugees.

The IG MigRefLaw invites submissions of abstracts, written in English or French, of no more than **500 words**. Applications should be submitted to migreflaw@gmail.com by **20 February 2020 (Thursday)**, with a short curriculum vitae containing the author's name, institutional affiliation, contact information (e-mail and phone number), and whether the applicant is member of ESIL. Selected speakers will be notified by **28 February 2020** via e-mail.

Kindly note that the IG is unable to provide funding for travel and accommodation. Please see the [ESIL website](#) for information about [travel grants](#) and [carers' grants](#) offered to ESIL members, which are available to offer partial financial support to speakers who have exhausted other potential sources of funding.

Please visit the [ESIL website](#) for all relevant information about the Research Forum.

Kindly note also that the Interest Group workshop is open to ESIL members and all participants are required to register for the Research Forum.

After the selection process, we are not aiming for fully-fledged papers from the selected speakers but for contributions of up to 3000-3500 words (extended abstracts). The eventual short papers (extended abstracts) should be sent to the IG conveners by **10 April 2020** in order to circulate them amongst the panellists prior to the workshop.

IG MigRefLaw Coordinating Committee:

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The [Interest Group on Migration and Refugee Law](#) (MigRefLaw) is one of the interest groups of the [European Society of International Law](#). The IG focuses on the law and policy of states and international organisations with regard to people who seek entry to their communities. The movement of people across borders is a defining reality of our time. This IG aims to provide a forum for discussion on the legal principles and processes governing the movement of people as well as their reception in host communities. By doing so, the group hopes to build a shared knowledge base among ESIL members interested in migration and refugee law.