



International Bio Law Interest Group

ESIL INTEREST GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL BIO LAW

**Report on the activities of the ESIL Interest Group on International Bio
Law
(October 2019 - September 2020)**

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1. Introduction

The ESIL IG on International Bio Law was founded in 2012, under the initiative of one of the most active members of the group (Prof. Daniel García San José, from the University of Seville, Spain). The first meeting of the IG was developed in Valencia (September 2012), the city where the General Conference took place in that occasion. After that first meeting, a “customary rule” of the IG is to have a meeting per year –one together with the General Conference every two years, and another one in one city designed by the MC Committee of the Group. Following this practice, several meetings have taken place since 2012 (in Valencia, Seville, Vienna, Valencia, Riga, Málaga, Manchester, Göttingen and Athens).

Since its creation, the IG has developed the aforementioned meetings and, after the event, the results have been published, by monographs or academic journals containing the contributions of the participants. Some examples of these publications are the following: *Bioderecho Internacional y Universalización: El papel de las Organizaciones y los Tribunales Internacionales/ International Biolaw and Universality: the Role of International Organizations and International Courts*, Tirant lo Blanch, Valencia, 2020; *Bioderecho Internacional: Derechos Humanos, Salud Pública y Medioambiente/International Biolaw: Human Rights, Public Security and Environment*, Tirant lo Blanch, Valencia, 2018; *Bioderecho, Seguridad y Medioambiente/Biolaw, Security and Environment*, Tirant lo Blanch, Valencia, 2015; *Bioderecho internacional y europeo. Desafíos actuales*, Tirant lo Blanch, Valencia, 2014.

2. Activities of the IG on International Bio Law during this period

- 1) An IG event, co-organized with the Interest Group on International Health Law, which initially was supposed to take place in Salerno, Italy, finally was switched to a Webinar due to the COVID crisis. The title of the event was “Bio Law, Health, Innovation and COVID-19’ and the program was the following:

Joint ESIL IG on International Bio Law and Health Law Event

Bio Law, Health, Innovation and COVID-19

ONLINE EVENT (12-13.30 pm. Madrid)

FRIDAY, 25th September 2020

The discussion will deal on innovation on Bio Law and Health, together with the changes experienced on these fields as a consequence of COVID-19. Biomedical research, data protection, vaccines and the effects of this pandemic on the fields of Bio Law and International Health will be discussed.

The webinar will be held on Google Meet (meet.google.com/rvg-hfwh-rws).

PROGRAMME

12.00 pm.

Welcome and Introduction. *Stefania Negri (Università degli Studi di Salerno, Italy)*

Moderator *Maribel Torres Cazorla (Universidad de Málaga, Spain)*

Speakers

Ilja Richard Pavone *(National Research Council of Italy, Biolaw Unit)*

Simona Fanni *(University of Cagliari (Italy) and Univ. of Seville, Spain)*

Valeria Eboli *(Italian Naval Academy; University of Pisa, Italy)*

José Manuel Sánchez Patrón *(University of Valencia, Spain)*

Luciano Bottini Filho *(Bristol University, United Kingdom).*

13.15 **Debate and final conclusions**

2) During the period covered by this report a book was published, including main contributions of the IG event at Manchester Annual Meeting in 2018 (“International Biolaw and Universality: the Role of International Organizations and International Courts, Tirant lo Blanch, 2020). It is coordinated by Prof. Maria Isabel Torres Cazorla, member of the IG Coordinating Committee and chairperson of the meeting.

The table of contents is available at:

<https://editorial.tirant.com/es/libro/bioderecho-internacional-y-universalizacion-el-papel-de-las-organizaciones-y-los-tribunales-internacionales-maria-isabel-torres-cazorla-9788413363868?busqueda=torres+cazorla&>

3. Future activities

As it happens in the past, the IG will actively participate (proposing Agoras and pre-events) in the annual meeting in Stockholm, in 2021. In particular, Agora 11: “The Making of International Biomedical Law: Actors, Processes, Legitimacy and Implementation, on the morning of Saturday” (11 September 2021) has been approved.

Additionally, joint events co-organised by the IG on International Bio Law and other IGs (International Health Law, International Environmental Law and International Economic Law) are envisaged. In particular, it is expected a face-to-face event with the IG on International Health Law in Salerno, once the COVID permits it; and another on “The legal issues surrounding wet-markets and the spread of the Covid-19 Pandemic”, jointly organized with the IG on International Environmental Law, in the first semester of 2021.

On the other hand, a book with main contributions of the event that took place in Gottingen in 2019 (“Sound Science-Based Regulation in the Post-Truth Era: Domestic and International Rule of Law Under Fire”) is in its last editing stages. It is expected to be printed at the beginning of 2021 by Routledge.

4. Website

In accordance with paragraphs 9 and 10 of the ESIL Interest Groups Policy Guidance, each Interest Group is required to set up a website which includes information about the group's activities, the names of the members of the Coordinating Committee members (including their contact details), the Group's past and future activities and information about how to become an ESIL member. The website of the Interest Group, together with the general information is provided at <https://esil-sedi.eu/interest-groups/bio-law/>.

5. Contact

If you have any questions regarding the Interest Group do not hesitate to contact us:

- Justo Corti Varela (jcorti@uned.der.es) - Chairperson
- María Isabel Torres Cazorla (mtorres@uma.es)
- Andrés Bautista-Hernández (abautista@uma.es)
- Ilja Richard Pavone (iljarichard.pavone@cnr.it)
- Chamu Kuppuswamy (c.kuppuswamy@herts.ac.uk)

6. Elections

This year Coordinating Committee elections were expected. Five candidates appeared to call to four positions. The ESIL Board decided to extend the committee to five people so all of them were automatically elected:

- Andrés Bautista-Hernández (4 years)
- Justo Corti Varela (4 years)
- Chamu Kuppuswamy (2 years)
- Ilja Richard Pavone (4 years)
- María Isabel Torres Cazorla (2 years)

The first decision of the Committee was to appoint Justo Corti as chairperson as a *primus inter pares*.

November 2020