



European Society of International Law Interest Group on *International Organisations*

Annual Report 2022-23

For the year 2022-2023, the Organising Committee of the ESIL Interest Group on International Organizations consisted of Lorenzo Gasbarri, Gail Lythgoe, Negar Mansouri, Laura Huici Sancho and Miša Zgonec-Rozej.

On 16 November 2022, we are organised a book launched for Dimitri van den Meerssche of his recent book "[The World Bank's Lawyers: The Life of International Law as Institutional Practice](#)" (OUP 2023) in coordination with the ESIL Interest Group on the History of International Law and Völkerrechtsblog. This was recorded and [can be viewed online](#). There was also an [accompanying symposium](#) hosted by the blog.

In cooperation with the ESIL Interest Group on the Law of the Sea, we co-hosted a Congress at the Law Faculty of the University of Barcelona on 19 December 2022 on the topic '[Sustainability in the sea: a view from the Mediterranean Barcelona](#)'.

In June 2023, a special issue of the International Organizations Law Review was published based on an event sponsored by the interest group the previous year. Volume 20 (2023): Issue 1 (Jun 2023) [Special Issue on Contested Fundamentals](#) featured articles by:

- Lorenzo Gasbarri '[Introduction: Contested Fundamentals of the Law of International Organizations: Repositioning Legal Theory](#)';
- Catherine Brölmann '[Transparency as a Contested Fundamental in the Law of International Organizations](#)';
- Richard Collins '[Beyond Binary Oppositions? The Elusive Identity of the International Organization in Contemporary International Law](#)';
- Martina Buscemi '[Institutional Sanctions and Functionalism: Insights from the Most Recent Practice](#)';

- and Jan Klabbers ‘[Towards a Political Economy of International Organizations Law](#)’.

In July 2023, the Interest Group conducted a book talk with Jan Klabbers on his book [Virtues of Global Governance: Judgment and Discretion](#) (CUP, 2022), shared with the public via the IG’s [website](#) and the interest group’s [podcast](#) platform.

For the Aix-en-Provence ESIL Annual Conference in September 2023, we organized a workshop with the theme of ‘[Whataboutism, Reciprocity, Double Standards: Towards a Theory of Fairness in International Organizations](#)’. Seven papers were discussed at the workshops with presenters coming from different institutional backgrounds, career stages, and from within and outside Europe.

The Interest Group is finalizing the publication of its initiative for a publicly accessible [syllabus for international organizations law](#), where students and teachers of international law share resources they have found useful in understanding IOs and global governance with the broader public. The idea is to help lecturers of such courses diversify their teaching materials and introduce less-known resources to scholars from the Global South. We are hoping to finalize the document by December 2023 and share it on the IG website.