



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 2021-September 2022)

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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 one meeting per year, one together with the General Conference every two years, and another one in a 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, Athens and Utrecht).

Since its creation, the IG has developed the aforementioned meetings and, after the event, the results have been published in collected volumes 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 International Workshop was organized as pre-conference event of the 2022 ESIL Annual Conference in Utrecht. The format chosen was hybrid (online and onsite) to foster participation. The title of the event was “In/Ex-clusiveness of International Bio Law: Actors, Processes and Outcomes”

9:00-9:15

*Welcome and Opening Keynote
“In/Ex-clusiveness in International Biolaw: Human Rights
Concerns in a Post-Covid Era”
Dr. Andrés Bautista-Hernández
Assistant Professor of Public International Law. University
of Málaga*

FIRST PANEL: ACTORS AND GOVERNANCE

9:15-9:45

*“Dual-use research in biology: academia and EU export
controls”
Dr. Ana Sanchez Cobaleda
Postdoctoral researcher. Public International Law Dept.*

Universitat de Barcelona

- 9:45-10:15 *“Global governance of science: the rise of international scientific elites, knowledge production, and the World Health Organization”*
Dr. Tsung-Ling, Lee
Associate Professor of Law, Taipei Medical University
- 10:15-10:45 *“Who fuels global science governance? Public money, private profit”*
Dr. Justo Corti Varela
Professor of Public International Law. Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia

SECOND PANEL: APPLICATIONS, PROCESSES AND OUTCOMES

- 10:45-11:15 *“Emergencies and the inclusiveness of International Biolaw: using the lessons learned in times of COVID-19 pandemic to tackle the Ukrainian health emergency in wartime”*
Dr. Simona Fanni
Postdoctoral researcher University of Seville, Spain, on the Fellowship Programme “Margarita Salas”
- 11:15-11:45 *“The Future Application of Neurotechniques to the Human Brain: What International Human Rights should be Respected?”*
Dr. José Manuel Sánchez Patrón
Professor of Public International Law. University of Valencia
- 11:45-12:00 *Debate and Closing Remarks*

3. Future activities

It is planned to have an international seminar during the first semester of 2023 to which the Coordinating Committee will meet for organising it.

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:

- Andrés Bautista-Hernández (abautista@uma.es) - Chairperson
- Justo Corti Varela (jcorti@uned.der.es)
- Ilja Richard Pavone (iljarichard.pavone@cnr.it)
- Chamu Kuppuswamy (c.kuppuswamy@herts.ac.uk)
- Rumiana Yotova (rvy21@cam.ac.uk)

6. Elections

In February 2022 we celebrated elections for Coordinating Committee members position. Prof. Kuppuswamy and Prof. Torres Cazorla 2-year-term ended. According to ESIL Policy guidance two positions for a 4-year-term could be elected. Prof. Kuppuswamy run for re-election for a new period and Prof. Torres Cazorla decided not to run for re-election. The Committee expressed its gratitude to former member Prof. Maribel Torres Cazorla for her endless well-mannered job as Chair of the Committee. Dr Rumiana Yotova ran for election. Both were elected for a new 4-year-term:

- **Chamu Kuppuswamy:** 4 years (c.kuppuswamy@herts.ac.uk) – re-elected
- **Rumiana Yotova:** 4 years (rvy21@cam.ac.uk)

The members of the Committee appointed by acclamation to Prof. Andrés Bautista-Hernández in February 2022 as chairperson as a *primus inter pares*.

September 2022.