



**ESIL INTEREST GROUP ON
INTERNATIONAL BIO LAW**

Report on the activities

(October 2022-September 2023)

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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, Utrecht and Aix-en-Provence).

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

After a complicated period due to the Covid-19 pandemia, the will of the IG Committee was to convene in presence in the next occasion, if possible. This took place with the organization of the ESIL-SEDI annual conference in Aix-en-Provence, France.

For that reason, an IG International Workshop was organized as pre-conference event of the 2023 ESIL Annual Conference in Aix-en-Provence. The format chosen was onsite to come back to normality in face-to-face academic events. This does not impede a great participation among the

members of the IG. The title of the event was “Is International Bio Law Fair? Reflections on recent developments and future paths on their principles and their application”. The program of the event is reproduced below:

ESIL Interest Group Pre-Conference International Workshop

“Is International Bio Law Fair? Reflections on recent developments and future paths on their principles and their application”

Wednesday 30 August 2023 (on-site)

*Venue: Aix-Marseille Université. Faculty of Law and Political Sciences,
3 avenue Robert Schuman (Aix-en-Marseille, France).*

PROGRAMME

16:00 — 16:20 **Welcome and Opening Keynote “Fairness and International Bio Law: Revisiting Subjects and Functions?”**

Andrés Bautista-Hernández. *Assistant Professor of Public International Law, Universidad de Málaga.*

FIRST PANEL: Principles and Application related with Genome

16:20 — 16:35 **Diego Zannoni.** *Researcher, Dpt. of Political Science, Law and International Studies, University of Padua.*

Cloning under International Law

16:35 — 16:50 **Tsung-Ling Lee.** *Associate Professor of Law, Taipei Medical University.*

Recent developments in Human Genome editing: the precautionary principle, access and international obligations under the international human rights law

16:50 — 17:05 **Elissavet Tsioumani.** *Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow, School of International Studies, University of Trento.*

New genomic technologies in international environmental law: falling through the cracks?

SECOND PANEL: Fairness related to different areas of Bio Law

17:05 — 17:20 **María Isabel Torres Cazorla.** *Associate Professor of Public International Law and International Relations, Universidad de Málaga.*

Fairness in response to pandemics: lessons from COVID-19 “Human Rights in Stressful Times: A collateral Damage of COVID-19?”

17:20 — 17:35 **Simona Fanni.** *Postdoctoral researcher Fellowship Programme “Margarita Salas”, University of Seville.*

The Encyclopedia of Tomorrow and Indigenous Peoples: theorizing a fair future for biobanks in Latin America under international bio law

17:35 — 17:50 **Justo Corti Varela.** *Associate Professor of Public International Law, Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia.*

Is it fair that International Law would be human beings only? The Nature and other non-human potential subjects of International Law

17:50 — 18:05 **Lena Helińska.** *PhD Student, Jagiellonian University, Krakow (Poland)* and **Piotr Szwedo.** *Chair of Public International Law Jagiellonian University, Krakow (Poland).*

Justice for hedgehogs, fairness for rivers? Costs and benefits of potential International Rights of Nature

18:05 — 18:20 **Elisabeth Hoffberger-Pippan.** *Lawyer and Associate at the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt.*

Nemo iudex in re sua. The concept of obligatory abstention and procedural fairness under the Biological Weapons Convention

18:20 — 19:00 **Debate and closing remarks**

Further information: esiligbiolaw@us.es, <http://grupo.us.es/esiligbiolaw>

Dr. Andrés Bautista-Hernández
Interest Group Chair

Dr. Justo Corti Varela
Dr. Chamundeeswari Kuppaswamy
Dr. Rumiana Yotova
Dr. Ilja Richard Pavone

Scientific Committee

3. Future activities

It is planned to have an international seminar during the second semester of 2024 along with the ESIL-SEDI annual conference to which the Coordinating Committee will meet for organising it.

4. Website

In order to synthesize all the information related to the interest group in one single space, and the stop of running of the specific IG website due to technical and budgetary reasons, all the information will be located in the IG Biolaw section within the ESIL-SEDI website (<https://esil-sedi.eu/interest-groups/bio-law/>). Here, all the relevant information about the IG will be uploaded, including the names of the members of the Coordinating Committee members, the Group's past and future activities and information about how to become an ESIL member.

5. Contact

If you have any questions regarding the Interest Group do not hesitate to contact to any of the members of the Coordinating Committee:

- 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

Last elections took place in February 2022, when Prof. Kuppuswamy and Dr Rumiana Yotova were elected as Coordinating Committee members for a 4 year term.

Next elections will take place in February 2024 as Dr. Justo Corti Varela, Dr. Andrés Bautista-Hernández and Dr. Ilja Richard Pavone ends their 4-year term.

CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

- **Andrés Bautista-Hernández** (elected for a 4-year term in February 2020)
- **Justo Corti Varela** (elected for a 4-year term in February 2020)
- **Chamu Kuppuswamy** (elected for a 4-year term in February 2022)
- **Ilja Richard Pavone** (elected for a 4-year term in February 2020)
- **Rumiana Yotova** (elected for a 4-year term in February 2022)

Since February 2022, Prof. Andrés Bautista-Hernández was appointed by acclamation as chairperson (*primus inter pares*) by the members of the Committee.