

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTEREST GROUP ON SOCIAL SCIENCES AND INTERNATIONAL LAW 2022/2023

## **Past activities (2022/2023)**

- *Pre-conference workshop ESIL2023, 'The De-Legalization of International Law', Aix-en-Provence, 30 August 2023*

At our third pre-conference workshop at the Annual Conference, the IG discussed different dimensions of de-legalization trends across different branches of international law. The workshop had a conference-style format, with 16 paper presentations. The workshop was very successful with lively and in-depth discussions and in particular due to the excellent contributions by the speakers: Monica Hakimi, William Hamilton Byrne (presenting the paper with Thomas Gammeltoft-Hansen), Rafael Carrano Lelis, Jean-Michel Marcoux (presenting the paper with Ksenia Polonskaya), Sophie Duroy, Ying Sun, Fabian Simon Eichbercher, Cláudio Cerqueria B. Netto, Nico Krisch, Jaye Ellis, Jelena Protic, Elissavet Tsioumani, Harlan G Cohen, Huaxia Lai, Kennedy Mbeva, and Tomáš Morochovič.

- *The Aesthetics of International Law', Central European University, Vienna, 12-13 May 2023*

On 12-13 May 2023, we held a conference on 'The Aesthetics of International Law' at Central European University in Vienna. This interdisciplinary event brought together some 40 scholars from all continents, exploring various ways to visualize international law across contexts and media and reflecting on how such visualizations affect our perceptions and understanding of the system. The conference was webcasted and the full footage is available [here](#). We are currently exploring avenues for publication of the most promising conference papers.

- *Methods course*

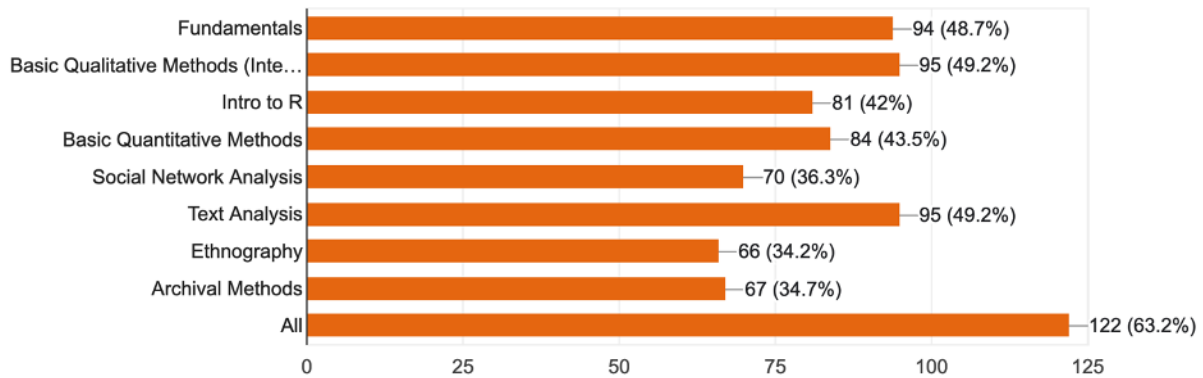
We held an online social science methods workshop series in Fall 2022. Each session was about 3-4 hours and gathered around 20-30 students. The methods series were co-organized by Ezgi Yildiz, Umut Yüksel, and Chanya Punyakumpol. The sessions were taught by the following instructors:

- 14 October – Fundamentals (Ezgi Yildiz, Umut Yüksel)
- 21 October – Basic Qualitative Methods (interviews and content analysis) (Ezgi Yildiz)
- 28 October – Intro to R (Umut Yüksel, Chanya Punyakumpol, Josh Fjelstul)
- 4 November – Basic Quantitative Methods (Umut Yüksel)
- 11 November – Social Network Analysis (Chanya Punyakumpol)
- 18 November – Ethnography (Tommaso Soave)
- 25 November – Text Analysis (Josh Fjelstul)
- 2 December – Archival Methods (León Castellanos Jankiewicz)

We had nearly 200 applications with detailed explanations as to why they wanted to learn social science methods. This is the distribution of interests across different course offerings:

## Which sessions(s) are you interested in?

193 responses



### Future activities

- *Speaker series*

We are developing a new initiative with the ASIL IG on International Law and Social Sciences (ILASS). We will run a joint speaker series featuring interdisciplinary scholars whose research is at the intersection of International Law and Social Sciences. We plan to hold monthly sessions starting from October 2023 and schedule 3-4 sessions per semester. The members of the coordinating committee of both IGs will take turns in hosting/moderating the sessions. The series will be held online, and each session will last about an hour. We created a long list of speakers that reflects the diversity of theoretical and methodological approaches and includes a mix of junior and senior scholars. We also paid attention to gender balance and geographical representation. Of that long list, each semester we will select speakers. Our purpose is to create a platform for interdisciplinary scholars to share their research and for students to gain insights into how to carry out research at the intersection of international law and social sciences. The list of confirmed speakers for the Fall 2023, include Sergio Puig, Anthea Robers, Taylor Johnson, Erik Voeten, and Shiri Krebs.

- *Organization of the 2024 ESIL Annual Conference Workshop*

### Membership

The current list of members is held by the ESIL Secretariat, and it counts 267 persons (as of September 2023).

We welcome proposals from our Members for the organization of conferences, seminar, research fora and other similar events concerning social sciences and international law.

### Governance

The IG is governed by five co-chairs, Zuzanna Godzimirksa (Copenhagen University), Moshe Hirsch (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem), Tommaso Soave (Central European University), Ezgi Yildiz (California State University, Long Beach), and Eva van der Zee (Hamburg University). They run the IG, administer its webpage and organize regular events. The co-chairs meet regularly on Zoom.