

ESIL IG on International Bio Law Workshop

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

Date: 30 August 2023, from 4pm to 7pm.

Venue: TBD

CALL FOR PAPERS

The ESIL Interest Group on Bio Law will hold a pre-conference Workshop on “Is International Bio Law Fair? Reflections on recent developments and future paths on their principles and their application”.

ESIL-SEDI members working on Bio Law and related areas are welcome to take part in this initiative. We encourage you to participate in this International Workshop.

The general topic of the conference allows us to reflect on the evolution of the concept of ‘fairness’ in the field of International Bio Law in recent decades, including by reference intergenerational equity. International Law in general, and Bio Law, in particular, have witnessed profound changes in matters that affect human health and life. In addition, it ought to face new challenges in the near future.

According to Salcedo Hernández, “Bio Law constitutes a new way of dealing with the search for a solution to conflicts posed by the modern era”¹. From that point of view, Bio Law has to deal with issues related to human rights and the progress of science and technology, including Artificial Intelligence and “neurorights”. Furthermore, in recent years the debate about the possibility but also the opportunity of manipulating the human genome for different purposes has emerged. In addition, old problems such as the access of vulnerable groups to the application of general standards or the regulation of euthanasia have to be considered in a fairer Bio Law. All this can be thought of against the backdrop of the necessity of giving specific responses by International Law.

Other topics arise in the recent years, such as Artificial Intelligence Biolaw, which opens the possibility to talk on Biolaw beyond biology; Animal Rights and the possibility of giving these biological non-human individuals/species rights and obligations, that is legal capacity in our legal systems; or even the recognition of bio-systems (oceans, forests, rivers, or even the Nature as a whole) as subjects of International Law

For these reasons, this workshop will allow us to stop and look back, to reflect on fair or unfair progress, as well as to analyze the near future of these matters that are of great importance to humanity as a whole.

¹ *Revista Bioderecho.es*, Vol. 1, núm. 1, 2014, p. 3.

We welcome submissions of abstracts from various subjects related to the general topic such as:

- Current debates in regulating or considering the alteration of the human genome.
- The ethical-legal framework applied to medical issues such as euthanasia.
- Neurorights and their fit into the current regulatory framework.
- Access of minorities or vulnerable groups, including indigenous peoples to Bio Law.
- Far/unfair responses of International Law, including Human Rights, to specific issues of Bio Law.
- Fairness in response to pandemics: lessons from COVID-19
- Artificial Intelligence and Bio Law beyond biology
- Animal Rights and the fairness of their recognition
- New Bio-Subjects in International Law

Please send all submissions (in word or PDF format, not exceeding 400 words), including a short CV via e-mail to esiligbiolaw@us.es.

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 20 April 2023

Submitters will be advised of outcome of selection procedure by end of April 2023.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Interest Group is unable to provide funding for travel and accommodation. Selected speakers will be expected to bear the costs of their own travel and accommodation. Some [ESIL travel grants](#) and [ESIL carers' grants](#) will be available to offer partial financial support to speakers who have exhausted other potential sources of funding.

Please see the [ESIL website](#) for all relevant information about the conference.

All participants at ESIL Interest Group workshops are required to register for the Annual Conference. There will be an option to register just for one day to attend the workshop; however, all participants are warmly invited to attend the entire event.

Speakers selected for this workshop can indicate their interest in being considered for the ESIL Young Scholar Prize, if they meet the [eligibility conditions](#) as stated on the ESIL website. The [ESIL Secretariat](#) must be informed of all selected speakers who wish to be considered for the Prize before 30 April.