

ESIL Interest Group on Feminism and International Law

**Call for Papers | ESIL Annual Conference 2023 | Aix-en-Provence
30th August - 2 September 2023**

Diversity as Fairness: Narratives, Relationships, and the Path Forward

Feminist approaches to international law have played a significant role in advancing the woman's question in both scholarly discourse and policymaking. The Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing addressed the problems of gender inequality and became a significant turning point for the feminist movement internationally. Prominent scholars such as Hilary Charlesworth, Christine Chinkin, Shelley Wright among others tirelessly sought to formulate, frame, and advance feminist methodology in international law. Others focused their efforts on rewriting the most significant international law judgements from the perspective of feminist approaches to show what kind of international law we could have had. The volume "Feminist Judgements in International Law" is on point. In international criminal law, the scholars offered gender perspectives on crimes against humanity and genocide. In international economic law, the issue of trade and gender and diversity of the adjudicators became particularly prominent.

For this upcoming workshop, we propose to focus on the conceptual boundaries of the feminist approaches in international law. How do feminist legal approaches contribute to our understanding of fairness in international law? What kinds of narratives can feminist outlook upon fairness in international law generate? We are also interested in the works-in-progress that explore the relationships between diversity and fairness, a theme of the ESIL Annual Conference in 2023. For instance, should the future conversations on diversity be limited to head counting counsel, judges, and arbitrators, or can we imagine a concept of diversity as an interpretative method along with fairness?

Practical questions are plenty and require answers, particularly in light of global challenges that humanity is facing. The war in Ukraine threatens global security. Climate change is upon us and will impact everyone and importantly, the least advantaged economies. The prospect of a just transition, the one that accounts for inequalities is grim. In this context, we suggest a reflection on the following questions: can feminist approaches to international law offer any novel solutions to climate negotiations and climate change litigation (internationally but also transnationally)? What potential do feminist approaches in international law have to address structural inequalities produced by the global technologies? How can feminist approaches contribute to understanding environmental damage in the context of armed conflict?

Submissions

The deadline for submission of the abstracts is the 29th of April 2023.

Please submit your abstract to feminismesil2023@gmail.com

The abstracts should be between 500 and 600 words and be submitted, alongside a short biography of 300 words maximum in the same document.

The following information must be provided with each abstract:

- The author's name and affiliation
- A short biography (300 words max; should be included in the same document)
- The author's contact details
- Whether the author is a current ESIL member
- Whether the author wishes to participate online or in person

The workshop will be organized on the 30th of August 2023 (1-4 pm) in a hybrid format. Participants will be expected to submit an extended abstract of 3,000 words ahead of the Conference. The co-conveners intend to publish selected submissions as a part of edited volume. Please indicate if you are interested in publishing your work with the Interest Group.

Given the aims and format of the panels adopted by ESIL, the Interest Group will select abstracts pursuant to the following criteria:

- Originality and innovativeness of the work
- Relevance to the Panel theme
- Geographical and gender balance

The early career scholars as well as senior scholars are welcome! We would like to encourage everyone to apply to ensure intra-generational participation of scholars.

Organising Committee

Dr Ksenia Polonskaya, Dr Carolina Jiménez Sánchez, Dr Maria Panezi, Delaney Stymiest-Losier

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 to attend the IG workshops; however, all participants are warmly invited to attend the entire event. Selected speakers should 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.