



Critical Methodologies for Reconstructing International Law

**Pre-Conference Workshop & Official
Launch of Interest Group
ESIL 2025 Annual Conference**

**11 September 2025
FU Berlin**

Workshop Format

Departing from conventional academic formats, this workshop is designed to generate conversations that engage not only individual papers but broader thematic and methodological questions. The workshop will include brief mini-presentations from each panelist, followed by a conversation elicited by thematic questions that connect the papers with each other and broader themes under international law. A central thread running through the workshop is a shared concern with the genocide in Gaza and the broader occupation of Palestine. The event asks how the genocide and occupation press on every aspect of international legal thought and practice, and what they reveal about (the failures and promises) of international law, including the potential and value of critical approaches in the field today. The workshop will move towards and conclude with a roundtable on how the genocide in and the occupation of Palestine reveal international law's structural limitations in addressing colonialism, racialized violence, and gross human rights violations. It will reflect on what we, as international lawyers and members of professional institutions such as ESIL and universities, could and ought to do in response to genocide in Gaza, including how we might critically reconsider our scholarship and professional practice.

8:45

Hellos & Welcome by the Coordinating Committee

9:00 – 10:00 Reconstructing International Law: A Critical Appraisal

Chair: Tim Lindgren (EUI)

Julia Galera Oliva (EUI), *Figures of Friendship: Critical Methodologies for a Better Attached International Law*

René Urueña (MPIL/Los Andes) & Ignacio Perotti Pinciroli (MPIL/Universidad Europea Madrid), *Resisting Hegemony: Latin American Lessons for Reconstructing International Law*

Margaretha Wewerinke-Singh (UvA/University of Fiji), *Interrogating the Possibilities and Limits of Transforming International Law “From Within”*

10:00 – 11:10 Critical Methodologies for Restructuring Human Rights, Environment, and War

Chair: Julia Emtseva (HEC Paris)

Nina Prusac (Cambridge University), *A Dialectical Materialist Approach to Human Rights*

Juan Auz (Tilburg University), *A Juridical Minga for Climate Justice: A Latin American Methodology for Polycentric Crises*

Itamar Mann (University of Haifa), *Towards a Critical Legal Metaphorology of the Sea*

Andreas Piperides (University of Glasgow), *The Imperialist Structure of International Humanitarian Law*

11:10 – 12:00 Roundtable: International Law and the Genocide in Palestine: Legal Frameworks, Failures, and Complicity

Chair: Kanad Bagchi (UvA)

Khaled Elmahmoud (Potsdam)

Christine Schwöbel-Patel (Warwick)

Zeina Jallad (American University of Beirut) – TBC

Alonso Gurmendi (LSE)