

Annual Report 2025

ESIL Interest Group on International Criminal Justice

During the past twelve months, the ESIL Interest Group on International Criminal Justice organized and participated in a number of activities. Most notably, the Interest Group convened a pre-session workshop in conjunction with the ESIL Annual Conference in Berlin, while also supporting the publication of selected papers from last year's workshop. This was also an election year, in which two new members joined the Coordinating Committee and one was reappointed.

The Interest Group's Coordinating Committee is currently composed of Alexandre Skander Galand (chair), Claudio Pala, Franka Pues, Caleb Wheeler, and Kyra Wigard. Alexandre Skander Galand and Caleb Wheeler were elected for four-year mandates in November 2022. Wheeler served as chair from November 2022 until September 2025, when Galand was appointed to succeed him as chair. Claudio Pala, Franka Pues, and Kyra Wigard were elected for four-year mandates in November 2024. The next elections will take place in November 2026.

The IG worked with the Journal of International Criminal Justice to publish a symposium arising out of its 2024 pre-conference workshop. While not all papers were accepted, we are very proud that two of them have been accepted for publication. At the time of writing, both are available as advance articles on the journal's website, and the authors expressly acknowledged the work and comments provided by the IG in preparation for their submissions.

On 11 September 2025, the IG held its pre-conference workshop on the theme "Reconstructing International Criminal Justice as It Unfolds". The call for papers was issued in late February with a deadline of 1 April, and it attracted an impressive 46 abstracts, reflecting a diverse range of perspectives. The workshop was divided into two panels with six presentations (two co-authored). Four members of the Coordinating Committee were present: Alexandre Skander Galand delivered the Welcome and Introductory Remarks; Panel One, Reconstructing the Roles of Actors Within International Criminal Justice, was chaired by Kyra Wigard; Panel Two, Reconstructing International Criminal Justice Outside the ICC, was chaired by Caleb Wheeler; and Closing Remarks were delivered by Franka Pues.

The workshop was well attended, drawing around 25 participants in person and 22 online. Presenters were at different stages of their career, ranging from post-doctoral researchers to full professors, and included both men and women (three men and five women) from across Europe. The Coordinating Committee was pleased with the turnout and with the quality of the exchanges that took place during the panels.

Looking ahead, the IG is considering co-organizing an event with one of its members on the theme of international crimes in the digital age, continuing its effort to explore cutting-edge issues in the field.

The IG intends to remain active in the coming year, planning both in-person and online events. We continue to welcome suggestions from members about the type and subject of activities they would like the Interest Group to host.