



IGILTP Report for September 2024 - September 2025¹

1. Activities:

On 11 December 2024, in accordance with general theme of the 2025 ESIL Conference in Berlin, the Coordinating Committee of the IGILTP (hereinafter ‘CC’) issued a call for papers, whose content had been previously discussed among the five members of the CC. The goal of the IGILTP was to organize an Agora Panel during the 2025 ESIL Conference with the title ‘On What Basis can International Law be Reconstructed?’. The call attracted 28 submissions.

A three member committee, chosen within the CC, composed of Noora Arajärvi, Andrea Carcano, and Panos Merkouris (hereinafter ‘*ad hoc* committee’) jointly reviewed the submissions, selected 3 abstracts, and identified 6 possible replacements. The criteria adopted in the selection process included quality and originality of the abstract, equality of gender, and geographical representation. A proposal for an Agora Panel together with the three abstracts and CVs of the presenters was then sent to the organisers of the 2025 ESIL Conference. The proposal was, however, turned down by the beginning of April 2025.

That being so, the CC decided, unanimously, to make a positive out of a negative by agreeing to organise a pre-conference workshop, a possibility that had already been flagged in the original call for papers. Accordingly, in the course of April 2025, the *ad hoc* committee proceeded to identifying panellists for the pre-conference workshop starting with those who had been originally selected for the Agora proposal. Although some of the invitees turned down the offer due to family or financial constraints, six of them responded in the affirmative. The list of invitees was discussed with and approved by Patrycja Grzebyk and Machiko Kanetake in their capacity as ESIL IGs coordinators.

As a result, the IGILTP held a **pre-conference workshop on 11 September 2025** at the 20th ESIL Annual Conference at Freie Universität Berlin. It had the title ‘On What basis Should International Law be Reconstructed? Under the chairmanship of Noora Arajärvi and Andrea Carcano and divided into two distinct thematic sessions, six papers were presented by Xinyi PAN (China, Tsinghua University); Kostia GOROBETS (Ukraine, University of Groningen); Frederick COWELL (United Kingdom, Birkbeck College) – Gürkan ÇAPAR (Turkey, Maynooth University), Elena PRIBYTKOVA (Ukraine, National University of Singapore). and Nina MILEVA (Macedonia, University of Groningen). Some 20-30 people attended the event and numerous questions were asked. A lunch attended to by the members of the CC and the panelists followed the event.

2. Planned Events for the 2025-2026 reporting period:

- 1) The CC of the IGILTP will consider making an application for an Agora panel at the next annual conference, and prepare a call for papers for the event. Failing that, the CC shall strive to organise a pre-conference workshop.

¹ For questions and/or suggestions concerning this report, please write to andrea.carcano@unimore.it.

- 2) Having meetings of the IGILTP in presence in the cities closer to us, such as: Lund, Groningen and Modena. It would be a sort of '**IGILTP en tour**'.
- 3) Creating an “**IGTLIP Online Reading Club**” where members of the IGILTP, together with authors could meet and discuss new and interesting scholarship (articles and books) in the field of the theory of international law broadly interpreted.

3. Interest Group Governance

4. On May 2025, Kostia Gorobets, Valentin Jeutner, and Nina Mileva were elected to sit in the CC for a 4-year term. They replaced Ozlem Ulgen and Noora Arajjarvi whose mandate had come to an end, and Panos Merkouris who also stepped down due to work commitments. The CC wishes to express its appreciation and gratitude to Ozlem, Noora, and Panos for all the important work done by them. At a meeting held on 2 June 2025, Andrea Carcano was nominated **Acting Chair** of the Coordinating Committee formally replacing Ozlem Ulgen (the previous chair). On 15 August 2025, Andrea Carcano was elected by the CC, in its new composition, to be the **Chair of the Coordinating Committee** of the IGILTP.

5. The following distribution of functions have been agreed to in a meeting held on 22 September 2022: Nina Mileva will be the **Events Manager**, responsible for coordinating the organisation of the IG's events (such as pre-conference workshops or stand-alone seminars); Kostia Gorobets will be the **Communications Manager**, responsible for maintaining the social media accounts and communication with the ESIL board; Kevin Crow shall continue as **Website Manager**, responsible for keeping it running, updating the information, etc.; and Valentin Jeutner will be the **Deputy-Chair** of the CC.