



ESIL BOARD ELECTIONS 2026
ÉLECTIONS DU COMITÉ DE LA SEDI 2026



**JUSTO
CORTI VARELA**

SHORT BIOGRAPHY IN ENGLISH

Justo CORTI VARELA is Professor of Public International Law at UNED (Spain). His research focuses on international and EU law, with particular expertise in climate governance, migration, and the regulation of science and technology. He has been an active member of the European Society of International Law (ESIL) since 2009, serving on the Coordinating Committee of the Interest Group on BioLaw (2019–2023) and regularly contributing to ESIL conferences and initiatives. His work combines strong academic engagement with extensive experience in international collaboration, including research stays in France, Italy, and the United Kingdom, and partnerships with institutions in Latin America and North Africa. He has also held academic management roles and led several competitive research projects, coordinating interdisciplinary and international teams. He is committed to fostering inclusive and globally connected academic communities and to strengthening ESIL's role as a leading forum for critical and forward-looking international legal scholarship.

COURTE BIOGRAPHIE IN FRENCH

Justo CORTI VARELA est professeur de droit international à l'UNED (Espagne). Ses recherches portent sur les relations entre droit international et droit de l'Union européenne, avec un intérêt pour la gouvernance climatique, les migrations et la régulation des sciences et des technologies.

Membre actif de la SEDI depuis 2009, il a participé au comité de coordination de groupes d'intérêt et prend régulièrement part aux activités de la Société.

Son parcours se caractérise par une dimension internationale, incluant des séjours de recherche en France, en Italie et au Royaume-Uni, ainsi que des collaborations avec des institutions en Amérique latine et en Afrique du Nord. Il dispose d'une expérience en gestion académique et dans la coordination de projets de recherche et d'équipes internationales.

Il s'engage en faveur d'une communauté académique inclusive et connectée à l'échelle globale, et souhaite contribuer au renforcement du rôle de la SEDI comme forum central du droit international.



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STATEMENT

I am honoured to stand as a candidate for the ESIL Board. Having been part of the Society since 2009, I approach this candidature as a natural continuation of a long-standing engagement.

International law is currently facing a period of significant challenge. Its principles and institutional settings are increasingly being called into question in complex and, at times, unfamiliar ways, in a context marked by growing pressure on the rule of law. At the same time, for a large part of the international community, the continued existence of a stable and reliable legal framework remains essential. This calls, in my view, for both caution and intellectual openness: a readiness to reflect on how international law may evolve, while preserving its core functions and commitments.

Within this broader landscape, ESIL seems particularly well placed to contribute. As a forum in which a plurality of legal traditions and perspectives converge, it offers a setting in which different strands of international legal thought can be brought into relation. In this regard, the work already carried out by the Society and its governing bodies provides a valuable basis on which to build and further develop. Strengthening more structured forms of cooperation with international law societies beyond Europe may contribute to sustained and mutually enriching exchanges. At the same time, maintaining a strong commitment to inclusiveness and diversity within the Society's activities remains essential.

If elected, I would seek to contribute to this understanding of ESIL as a space for exchange and intellectual dialogue. My involvement in Interest Groups has provided insight into the Society's activities, including the organisation of workshops and collaborative initiatives. My research, situated at the intersection of climate governance and the regulation of technology, engages with a range of perspectives and methodological approaches that may be relevant to ongoing discussions within the Society.

At the same time, many of the challenges currently faced by international law cannot be satisfactorily addressed from within the discipline alone. Fields such as climate change or emerging technologies show how legal analysis benefits from interaction with scientific, social and empirical approaches. In this respect, ESIL can encourage such exchanges and support methodological openness through its Interest Groups and related academic activities.

Finally, I would seek to support the organisational work of the Society in a constructive and collegial manner. Experience in coordinating research projects, leading interdisciplinary teams and assuming academic management responsibilities may be of practical use in this regard.

I see ESIL, above all, as a community. Its strength lies in its openness, its intellectual diversity and its capacity to sustain dialogue across different traditions and perspectives. I would be grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the continued development of this shared space.

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