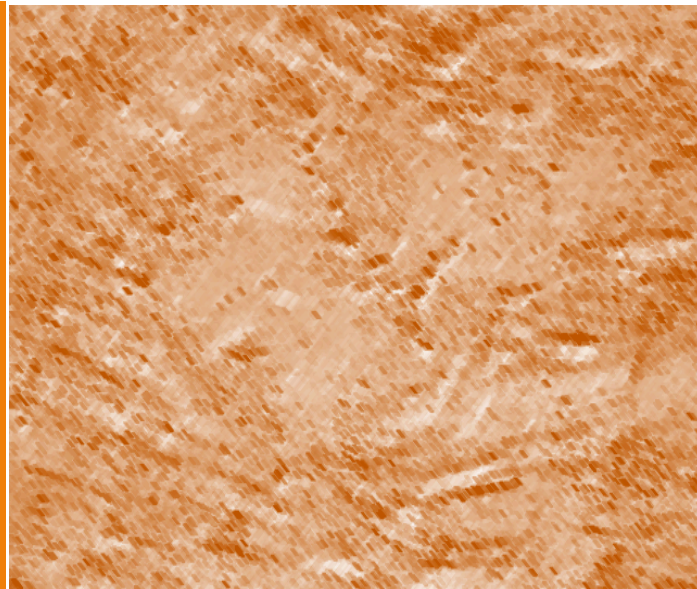


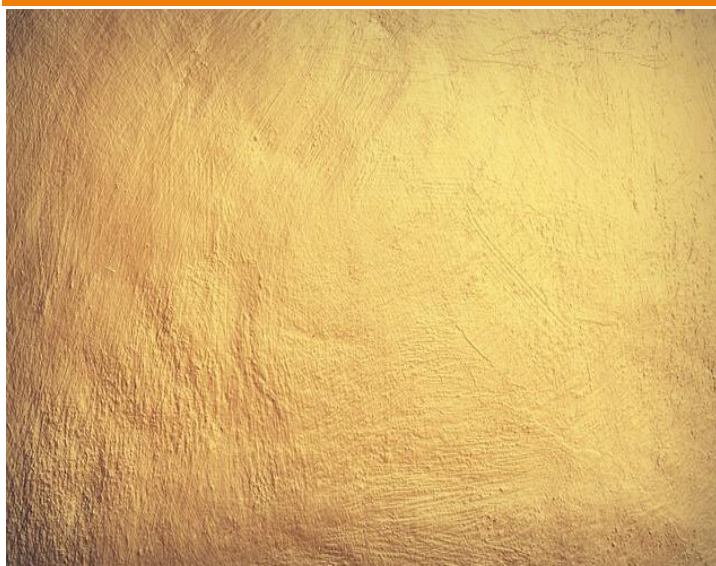
SEMAINE DOCTORALE INTENSIVE

14th edition



16 – 20 JUIN 2025

EVENT LINEUP AND
INFORMATION



SciencesPo
ÉCOLE DE DROIT

 Université
Paris Nanterre

LUNDI 16 JUIN / MONDAY 16 JUNE
Sciences Po, 13 Rue de l'Université, 75007 Paris

ONE-DAY CONFERENCE

9:00 – 17:00

GENDER, LAW AND POLITICAL ECONOMY (EN)

Convenor: Helena Alviar (SciencesPo) – Speakers: Maj Grasten (Copenhagen Business School), Miriam Bak McKenna (Roskilde University), Bianca Gardella Tedeschi (Università del Piemonte Orientale), Chantal Thomas (Cornell University Law School), Camilla Crea (Università Degli Studi Del Sannio), Natalia Ramírez Bustamante (Universidad de los Andes), Mathilde Cohen (University of Connecticut), Serena Natile (University of Warwick), Paola Zichi (Queen Mary University of London)

Amphi Erignac

This daylong conference will have as its goal to explore the intersection between gender, law and political economy, through the work of scholars from Europe and the Americas. Some questions that will be discussed include: How do economic conditions relate to, or frame laws and legal institutions? How are gender, law and economic conditions co-constructed? What are some salient distributive outcomes? Which are appropriate sites to explore the intersection between gender, political economy and law? What ideologies are in the background of specific legal and economic configurations that distribute resources across gender lines? How do law and economic regulation shape class, race and gender? What are useful interdisciplinary tools to explore the intersection between gender, law and political economy?

10:30 OFFICIAL WELCOME TO THE SDI

Mot de bienvenue par le Comité organisateur

11:30 – 13:30 **WRITING WORKSHOPS**

13:30 – 14:30

LUNCH

14:30 – 16:30

LECTURES, WORKSHOPS, DISCUSSIONS

POLITICS OF ACADEMIC WRITING (EN)

Speakers: Prof. Surabhi Ranganathan (University of Cambridge), Jean d'Aspremont (Sciences Po) Rashmi Dharia (Sciences Po), moderated by Lokesh Vyas (Sciences Po)

Room S08

This panel begins from the premise that academic writing is not neutral. It disciplines. It subjectivises. It polices. It silences. Importantly, it shapes who can speak, in what form, and with what consequence. Drawing on lived experiences and theory, the panel will examine how academic writing is taught, performed, and policed through pedagogy, peer review, citation norms, and editorial gatekeeping, among other mechanisms. The panel includes scholars reflecting on how they've navigated or resisted these structures. Personal experiences will be central, not as anecdotes, but as theory-in-practice. Because at stake is not just writing style, but the power to think, to speak, and to be heard.

LIBERTÉS EXPRESSIVES ET CAPTURE IDÉOLOGIQUE DES UNIVERSITÉS (FR)

Conférence-discussion de Jean-François Gaudreault-Desbiens, (Université de Montréal), avec Fabrice Melleray (Sciences Po)

Room S09

Ce qui peut être dit ou non dans les universités a rarement attiré autant l'attention des médias, du grand public, mais surtout des milieux politiques. Quels sont les cadres juridiques applicables à l'analyse des débats suscités par l'exercice des libertés expressives dans les universités? Et au-delà des paramètres que pose le droit formel, quels sont les enjeux éthiques que cet exercice soulève? Ces questions se posent à un moment où de multiples revendications, souvent divergentes, s'expriment à propos

de ce qu'est et de ce que devrait être l'université en tant qu'institution du savoir. Se mêlent dans ce contexte des revendications l'appréhendant comme une structure de production et de reproduction d'inégalités sociales, qu'il faut réformer pour permettre la pleine participation de groupes minoritaires, et d'autres la mettant au service de récits nationaux idéalisés. En toute hypothèse, l'université est plus que jamais la cible de tentatives de capture idéologique, l'exercice des libertés expressives en son sein servant de tremplin ou de prétexte à ces tentatives. Dans la foulée des actions prises par Erdogan en Turquie et Orban en Hongrie, l'administration Trump se livre à la plus grande attaque contre les universités de l'histoire des États-Unis. On peut toutefois faire l'hypothèse que celles-ci ne sont que le canari dans la mine et que leur affaiblissement n'est qu'une étape d'un programme plus vaste d'affaiblissement de l'État de droit et de la démocratie. Pour y résister, les universités doivent renouveler le pacte qu'elles ont avec la société civile, de laquelle elles se sont considérablement éloignées au fil des ans.

LES DÉONTOLOGIES : HISTOIRE D'UN OBJET DE RECHERCHE, DE L'IDÉE HÉTÉRODOXE A LA COLLECTION

Joël Moret-Bailly (Université Jean Monnet de Saint-Etienne), Vincent Forray (Sciences Po)

Room S12

La question des règles déontologiques est passée, en 30 ans, de suspecte en ce qui concerne la possibilité d'une étude juridique à son propos, ici une thèse, à une collection d'aujourd'hui six ouvrages aux Presses Universitaires de France, que je dirige. Il s'agira de proposer des éléments de réflexions et de compréhension à ce propos, ainsi que de poser des questions et d'échanger en ce qui concerne les objets de recherche et carrière de chercheur.

LEGAL DYNAMICS OF DEMOCRATIC BACKSLIDING (EN)

Speakers: Renato Beneduzi (Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro) & Sofia Cabarcas (Sciences Po)

Room S10

Democratic backsliding has become a widespread phenomenon in recent years, attracting significant scholarly attention — for instance, in the fields of political science and sociology. Less examined, however, are the legal dynamics that underpin this process. Which specific changes in a given constitutional architecture can be identified as markers of democratic backsliding? How does democratic backsliding relate to other forms of political transition? How do social, economic, and ideological contexts influence this process? Finally, the panellists will explore how transitional justice can serve either as a means to strengthen democracy or as a pretext to undermine it.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND DEMOCRACY: A CONVERSATION WITH NATE PERSILY (EN)

Nate Persily (Stanford Law School) & Rebecca Mignot-Mahdavi (Sciences Po)

Room S11

How is artificial intelligence reshaping the foundations of democratic societies? What role should law and legal scholars play as AI technologies increasingly influence elections, public discourse, and the integrity of democratic institutions? Join us for a timely conversation with Professor Nate Persily (Stanford Law School), a leading authority on law, democracy, and technology. In this interactive event, Professor Persily will discuss the opportunities and challenges posed by AI for democratic governance, drawing on his extensive research and policy experience. Chaired by Rebecca Mignot-Mahdavi (Sciences Po Law School), this event will be of particular interest to scholars in Science and Technology Studies (STS), law and technology, and anyone interested in reflecting more broadly on the different functions performed by the law. While focusing on AI, the conversation will also offer a platform for reflecting more generally on the responsibilities of legal scholars in a rapidly changing world.

17:00 – 19:00 COCKTAIL DE BIENVENUE - *Time to connect!*
(Saint-Thomas, Cloister)

MARDI 17 JUIN / TUESDAY 17 JUNE
Sciences Po, 13 Rue de l'Université, 75007 Paris

9:30 **ACCUEIL DES PARTICIPANT.E.S**

10:00 – 12:00 [WRITING WORKSHOPS](#)

11:00 – 12:30 **RACE AND CAPITAL (EN/FR)**

Speakers: Sylvie Laurent & Jean d'Aspremont (Sciences Po)

Amphi Erignac

This panel will feature Professor Sylvie Laurent and discuss her groundbreaking 2024 book "Capital et Race: Histoire d'une hydre moderne" (Capital and Race: History of a Modern Hydra). In this illuminating session, Professor Laurent will explore the intricate historical relationship between capitalism and racial hierarchies, what scholars now term "racial capitalism" - a two-headed creature that has been described and fought against throughout history. The discussion will examine how Laurent's work connects race not merely with the apparent hierarchies of capitalism and racial division of labor in workplaces, but with its deeper metaphysical foundations and systemic manifestations. This panel will provide a unique opportunity to engage with Laurent's perspective on how these intertwined forces continue to operate in contemporary social and economic structures across the globe.

13:30 – 14:25 **LUNCH**

14:30 – 16:30 **LECTURES, WORKSHOPS, DISCUSSIONS**

EMANCIPATORY APPROACHES TO TIME AND SPACE IN LEGAL THOUGHT (EN)

Speakers: Eliana Cusato (University of Amsterdam), Anne Saab (Graduate Institute, Geneva), Gail Lythgoe (University of Edinburgh), Rebecca Mignot-Mahdavi (Sciences Po Law School). Chair: Aditya Sharma (Sciences Po Law School)

Room S07

This event invites legal scholars to critically reflect on how legal thought constructs time and space, and how these constructions shape the possibilities and limits of legal ordering. Conventional legal frameworks often rely on fixed temporal and spatial assumptions, which can entrench particular power relations and restrict the imagination of alternative legal futures. Emancipatory approaches challenge these conventions by interrogating the narratives, categories, and boundaries that structure legal reasoning. The discussion will illustrate these themes through examples such as the persistence of colonial temporalities, the framing of crisis and progress in resource governance, the representation of future generations in law, the affective dimensions of legal time in climate litigation, and the rethinking of territoriality in legal geography. By engaging with these diverse perspectives, the event aims to open up new ways of thinking about time and space in law, and to consider their emancipatory potential.

METHODS WORKSHOP: TURNING FILINGS AND FOUND DOCUMENTS INTO ARCHIVES (ENG/FRA)

Gustav Kalm (Sciences Po Law School)

Room S08

Most legal research takes court rulings as their final material. Many cases are settled and a lot happens on the side of the official proceedings. How to offer an account of that movement happening on the sides of the official proceedings and place the final ruling in the context of the wider dispute or setting of social relations? Crucially, how to gather data to offer this wider account? In this workshop, we will look at how to use official filings to provide such context. As a case study we will look at the investor-state arbitration with the most publicly available documents, the ICSID dispute between BSGR and Guinea. We will see how emails, text

messages, letters and Powerpoint presentations provided as evidence can be combined with other secondary sources to reconstruct a narrative of the dispute that goes beyond the more narrow ambit of the parties' submissions and situates the case within the wider "saga."

CODIFYING INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION UNDER THE SHADOW OF WAR AND COMMERCE (EN)

Speakers: Bruno Sousa Rodrigues & Helena Alviar (Sciences Po)

Room S09

This panel explores the agents and ideas involved in a long-term project of procedural codification of international arbitration. Since the late 19th century there has been a progressive convergence of procedural techniques of public and private forms of international arbitration, motivated by an ambition to govern war, peace and commerce. This took place first in relation to interstate disputes, then it was expanded to cross-border commercial disputes, and finally reached disputes involving States and private parties. In all stances, great cross-fertilization existed among the most diverse codification projects, which was not just a fortuitous situation. The intertextuality was intentional, often implemented by people circulating across the many fora labouring for the transnational codification of arbitral authority. Within this framework, this panel offers an insight on the historical construction of international arbitration as a mechanism of dispute settlement vested with transnational authority.

MÉTHODOLOGIE ET RAISONNEMENT JURIDIQUE (FR)

Frédéric Rouvière (Université d'Aix Marseille)

Room S10

L'atelier propose d'exposer les méthodes de conceptualisation, c'est-à-dire de formation des catégories du droit qui décident de la structuration des données. Cet exposé sera accompagné d'une réflexion sur les modes de raisonnement savant (de nature doctrinale) visant à établir des nouvelles propositions dans le droit positif. L'enjeu est de rendre explicite les modes d'émergence de nouveaux concepts juridiques. L'objectif de l'atelier est ainsi de rendre conscience chez le ou la doctorante(e) ses propres processus de pensée et son appréhension de son objet de recherche dans une perspective épistémologique. L'atelier sera structuré en deux temps. D'abord, un exposé d'éléments théoriques

et pratiques sur la question de la conceptualisation et du raisonnement; ensuite des études de cas à partir d'exemples proposés par les doctorant(e)s ou issus de thèses déjà soutenues.

TRADITIONS AND LANGUAGES OF CRITIQUE (EN)

*Diego Mejía-Lemos (Xi'an Jiaotong University School of Law),
Qiandai Wang (Sciences Po), Jean d'Aspremont (Sciences Po) &
Elif Gökşen (Bilkent Law School, Turkey)*

Room S11

This panel examines the diverse intellectual lineages and methodological approaches to critique across academic traditions. Participants will explore how the imperative to engage critically with texts, ideas, and social phenomena has evolved differently within various scholarly communities—from the Frankfurt School's systematic critique of modernity to postcolonial theory's interrogation of Western epistemologies, from feminist standpoint theory to deconstructionist approaches. The discussion will address key questions: How do different academic traditions conceptualize the purpose and practice of critique? What assumptions about knowledge, power, and scholarly responsibility underlie these various critical traditions? How might cross-disciplinary engagement with different critical methodologies enrich contemporary scholarship? By mapping these diverse traditions of critique, the panel aims to foster dialogue across disciplinary boundaries and encourage reflection on how critical approaches might respond to contemporary intellectual and social challenges.

SE POSITIONNER FACE À LA NORME : DE LA FRENCH THEORY (BARTHES, FOUCAULT, DELEUZE, DERRIDA) AU QUIDAM

Emeric Nicolas (Université de Picardie Jules Verne) et Cyril Sintez (Université d'Orléans)

Room S12

L'atelier vise à présenter un ensemble de travaux et de concepts juridiques sur le thème des rapports au droit et plus largement aux normes - thème généralement délaissé aux sociologues. Il se déroulera en trois temps, sur un mode interactif : 1/Présentation de la série (de colloques et d'ouvrages publiés chez Mare et Martin) intitulée « Face à la Norme », consistant à questionner un philosophe français de la *French Theory* dans

son rapport à la norme à travers son œuvre. Ce premier temps est l'occasion de revenir sur la philosophie de Barthes, Foucault, Deleuze et Derrida pour dégager leur notion de norme, leur rapport à la normativité, et leur "posture normative" - un concept créé pour l'occasion et également publié chez Mare et Martin 2/ Réactions « à chaud » sur les rapports des participants aux normes et de leur positionnement face à la normativité afin de questionner de manière réflexive leur propre posture normative (ou à une ou un ensemble de normes de leurs choix qui « excitent », en ce moment ou de manière récurrente, leur sensibilité) 3/ Réflexion sur la mobilisation de cette perspective dans une recherche doctorale inspirée d'une démarche d'« égo-histoire » ou de « narration subjective de la norme », ou, tout simplement dans la thèse des participants à l'atelier.

17h00 - 19h00

PLENARY SESSION: THE GRADUATE CONFERENCE

WHO'S AFRAID OF CRITICAL METHODOLOGIES?

Speakers: Alonso Gurmendi (LSE), Pauline Trouillard (Université de Nanterre), Lisa Carayon (Université Sorbonne Paris Nord,) & Frédéric Mégret (McGill University)

Amphi Erignac

Critical methodologies are in the center of an academic upheaval. For many decades, critical studies, particularly in the law curriculum, aimed to challenge traditional formalism, focusing on the neutrality of the law and to introduce social stakes in legal thinking. However, the global resurgence of anti-intellectualism is bringing with it a rejection or co-optation of critical thinking. The current crisis is multi-layered. It involves financial cuts to research programs, vilification in mass media, and hostility to out-of-the-box thinking. In many instances, the academic environment found itself to be a place of control and repression. Critical methodologies should help analyse and understand this current situation. But their language and objectives are being reclaimed by anti-intellectualist actors operating outside of the traditional fields and limits of political and legal discourses. On the other hand, the tools of critical thinking are disconnected from the communities from which they emanated and which they intended to help. It is time to reassess the purpose and methods of critical methodologies to figure how to keep it in line with its social goals. Against this background, we, the first-year doctoral students at Sciences Po, take this opportunity, through this Plenary Discussion, to confront ourselves and law schools in an

open, non-constrained dialogue that acknowledges the who in this question.

MERCREDI 18 JUIN / WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE
Université Paris Nanterre
200 avenue de la République, 92000 Nanterre

9 :15-11 :10 : Writing Workshop

11:15-12:45

LECTURES, WORKSHOPS, DISCUSSIONS

HOHFELD : AUTOUR D'UN CLASSIQUE MECONNU EN FRANCE (FR)

Véronique Champeil-Desplats (Université Paris Nanterre), Guillaume Tusseau (Sciences Po)

CONSTITUTIONAL LIQUIDITY (EN)

José Maria Sauca (Université Carlos III)

LES DROITS HUMAINS AU DÉFI DE L'ETAT NUMERIQUE (FR)

Elise Degrave (Université de Namur)

12:45 – 14:00

LUNCH AT LA TERRASSE

14:15 – 16:15

LECTURES, WORKSHOPS, DISCUSSIONS

WORKSHOP AT 'LA CONTEMPORAINE'

Program & Speakers TBD

**IS THE SUPREME COURT ANNOYED WITH THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION?
(EN)**

Eleonora Bottini (Université de Caen)

**ACTUALITE DES ETUDES BENTHAMIANNES EN FRANCE /
FRENCH BENTHAM STUDIES TODAY (FR/EN)**

Convenor : Guillaume Tusseau (Sciencespo), autour des travaux de Emmanuelle de Champs (Cergy Paris Université), Anne Brunon-Ernst (Université Paris Panthéon-Assas), Benjamin Bourcier (Université Catholique de Lille), Jean-Pierre Cléro (Université de Rouen), Malik Bozzo-Rey (Institut catholique de Lille)

This workshop presents the latest research carried out at the Bentham Centre over the last few months as part of the COLBENTHAM and PANBENTHAM projects. It addresses a variety of topics and media, which help to shed light on the wide range of issues that Benthamian utilitarianism invites us to consider in an original way. While Bentham's theory of imprisonment is embodied in a classic such as The Panopticon, it also allows us to consider the most recent developments in surveillance capitalism. As demonstrated in the latest issues of the Revue d'études benthamiennes, the trajectory of this thinking allows it to remain relevant to our present day. His way of thinking about international relations closely links law, economics and politics. As much as a substantial theory of justice, Benthamian utilitarianism, specifically in its legal dimension, appears as a demanding methodology for public discussion about the challenges posed by our political modernity. Calculation, nomography and democracy are thus all part of the grammar of contemporary societies.

16:30 – 18:30

PLENARY SESSION

THE PLOT AGAINST AMERICA

Anne-Marie Paquet-Deyris (Université Paris Nanterre), and the Paris Nanterre University doctoral students : Clément Lanier, Louis Catteau, Luis-fernando Oliveira, Anna Doumbia, Emre Buyukgullu

JEUDI 19 JUIN / THURSDAY 19 JUNE
Sciences Po, 13 Rue de l'Université, 75007 Paris

ONE-DAY & HALF-DAY CONFERENCES

10:00 – 16:00

LAW & SOUND – LE DROIT, LE SON, L'ÉCOUTE (EN) - Part I

Convenors: Thibaut Mechler (SciencesPo) et Pierre Thevenin (Université Paris Saclay), Speakers & Chairs: Jesus R. Velasco (Yale University), Alexandre Vincent (Université Lyon II, Boris Bernabé (Université Paris Saclay), Naomi Toth (Université Paris Nanterre), James Parker (Melbourne Law School), Sara Ramshaw, (University of Victoria), Vincent Forray (SciencesPo) - [Details here](#)

Room S14

*Is law an acoustic phenomenon? On the one hand, it seems immersed in sounds that it shapes or produces: it contributes to the composition of our soundscapes by regulating decibels or designating certain sounds—rather than others—as nuisances; it is proclaimed in solemn spaces whose acoustic dimensions cannot be ignored, making listening an essential part of the trials' unfolding. On the other hand, it often presents itself as an anesthetizing enterprise: it belongs to the culture of files and writing, to the Text in which the voice fades away. This tension has proven to be fertile ground for legal scholarship and artistic practice. In an attempt to grasp the new approaches emerging from this tension, this symposium will bring together twelve researchers and artists from across the fields of procedural law, legal theory, history, and sound studies. Designed as a mirror reflexively held up to law and its sensory orders, this symposium is structured around three threads. First, a reflection on the scripturality and orality of law, questioning the foundations of the judicial institution as *iuris dictio*; second, a study of the aesthetic dimension of law, evoking the sensoriality of its enactment; and finally, an exploration of forensic sound art practices, engaging with the question of how law is inscribed in society.*

9:00 – 17 :00

REVISITING UTOPIA AND LAW (EN)

Convenor: *Helena Alviar García*, Speakers: *Norman Spaulding (Stanford Law School)*, *Clelia Bartoli (University of Palermo)*, *Esteban Restrepo (CNRS)*, *Patricia Zalamea (Universidad de los Andes)*, *Claudia Montilla (Universidad de los Andes)*, *Laura Betancur (Universidad de los Andes)*, *Gabriela Echeverría (IE University)*, *Matias Guilloff (Universidad Diego Portales)*, *Guillermo García (Texas A&M School of Law)*, *Camilla Crea (Università Degli Studi Del Sannio)*

Amphi Erignac

This one-day conference will have as its goal to revisit and rethink trajectories of utopian thinking, something that is very much needed in the world right now. These trajectories include (but are not limited to) attempts to re-center indigenous thinking, foreground eco-feminism, redefine growth beyond economic development; strengthen South-South cooperation at political, economic and epistemological levels, as well as more experimental attempts of relating law to science fiction literature or contemporary representations of nature in art.

10:00 -12:00 [WRITING WORKSHOPS](#)

12:00 -12:25

LUNCH

12:30 – 14:30

LECTURES, WORKSHOPS, DISCUSSIONS

ATELIER SUR LE CNU ET L'AGRÉGATION EN DROIT (FR)

Speakers: Régis Bismuth (Sciences Po)

Room S07

Cet atelier vise à présenter aux doctorants les deux voies principales d'entrée dans le milieu académique français que sont l'agrégation de droit et la qualification aux fonctions de "maître de conférences" par le Conseil national des Universités (CNU). Il traitera les questions du parcours attendu, des exigences formelles et substantielles et des difficultés à anticiper et à dépasser à partir des expériences des deux intervenants.

THE POLITICS OF TENURE : A COMPARATIVE CRITICAL ANALYSIS

OF ACADEMIC PROMOTION SYSTEMS WORLDWIDE (EN)

Speakers: Beatriz Botero Arcila (Sciences Po), Diego Mejia-Lemos (Xi'an Jiaotong University School of Law), Jean d'Aspremont (Sciences Po) & Vincent Forray (Sciences Po)

Room S09

This panel examines the complex political dimensions of tenure and promotion processes across global academic institutions. Drawing on diverse international perspectives, panelists will analyze how tenure systems function within different national, cultural, and institutional contexts, revealing both shared challenges and unique regional practices. The discussion will critically interrogate how power dynamics, institutional politics, and implicit biases influence tenure decisions beyond stated meritocratic ideals. Key areas of exploration include: the tension between research productivity metrics and teaching excellence; the impact of neoliberal university governance on tenure processes; disparities in tenure outcomes based on gender, race, and disciplinary background; and alternative models that address systemic inequities. By offering comparative insights from multiple academic traditions, this panel aims to identify both problematic aspects of current tenure systems and promising reform pathways that better serve the diverse needs of contemporary academic communities.

THE ENERGY TRANSITION UNDER PRESSURE: TRADE AND INVESTMENT LAW IN AN ERA OF UNILATERALISM (EN)

Speakers: Anna-Alexandra Marhold (Leiden University), David Gaukrodger (OECD), Guillermo J Garcia Sanchez (Texas A&M School of Law) Qiandai Wang (Sciences Po) & Sergio Puig (University of Arizona and Director of the Max Weber Program at the European University Institute)

Room S10

This panel will explore the challenges international economic agreements face in addressing the climate crisis and enabling a just energy transition. Drawing on perspectives from trade, energy, and investment law, panelists will present current research and projects tackling these complex issues. Key questions include: What are the trade-offs inherent in the energy transition, and how can they be balanced within trade and investment frameworks? What implications does the rise of a more

coercive and unilateral trade and investment regime hold for achieving climate and sustainability goals?

THE GRADUATE CONFERENCE

CRITICAL LEGAL STUDIES AND ANTI-INTELLECTUALISM (EN)

Speakers: Fuad Zarbiyev (Geneva Graduate Institute) & Lionel Zevounou (Université Paris Nanterre)

Room K.008

Anti-intellectualism, a wave of progressive skepticism towards, dismissal of, and attacks against intellectual thought and those (individuals and institutions) embodying it, has been recurrent across history (e.g. the US in 1950s and the US in the 2020s). Today, the rise of anti-intellectualism leaves an evident trace on academic thought and its proponents with current budget cuts, the closing of academic programs and multiple isolation strategies, aiming to silence voices labelled as 'disruptive', 'forward' or 'woke'. Additionally, the belief, significantly fostered by selective ignorance and the relevant rise of academic plausible deniability of harmful effects, in the impossibility of intellectual thought to keep up or connect to social reality, promotes further exclusion of those who embark on progressive endeavours. This panel looks to dive into the implications of the various forms of anti-intellectualism in legal scholars through their own voice and question methodologies like 'critical legal studies' use and challenges, especially in cases when dismissing critique comes from a posed "intellectual" purpose to produce "novel" legal thinking. The panel will look into resistance in a safe space, against current pressures to dismiss critical questions or look the other way in legal studies. In connection with the Graduate Conference's general topic, the panel will dive into the decision-making in academic research and the tensions that underlie it. It will discuss cases -both loud and discreet- of evolving anti-intellectualism today, what happens when scholars get rid of critique in legal studies or restructure it to cater for current narratives and expectations and the challenges faced specifically within the area of Critical Legal Studies. Beyond -and perhaps through- these troubling questions, the panel looks to find hope in resistance

strategies to secure freedom of speech and true inclusivity in legal academia.

14:45 – 16:45

LECTURES, WORKSHOPS, DISCUSSIONS – Part II

INTERSECTIONALITY AS LEGAL CRITIQUE (ENG)

(This panel will start at 15.15)

Speakers: Nozizwe Dubé (Maastricht University), Isabelle Rorive (ULB), and Raphaële Xenidis (Sciences Po)

Room S07

Critical vocabularies such as intersectionality have come under growing pressure through efforts to delegitimize and discredit their theoretical and political significance. Through the lens of the panellists' scholarly work, this roundtable explores the analytical potential of intersectionality in uncovering structural injustices and interrogating the role of law in perpetuating them.

FAUT-IL – ET ALORS COMMENT – TRAITER DES SUJETS CONTROVERSÉS DANS L'ENSEIGNEMENT SUPÉRIEUR ET LA RECHERCHE JURIDIQUES ?

RETOUR D'EXPÉRIENCE DEPUIS LES CHAMPS DES ÉTUDES JURIDIQUES SUR LE GENRE (FR)

Speaker: Pr. Benjamin Moron-Puech (Université Lumière Lyon 2 et Université Paris-Panthéon-Assas)

Room S11

Cet atelier abordera la question de savoir si, dans une société si polarisée que la nôtre, il est bien nécessaire – et le cas échéant selon quelles modalités – de mettre en péril son enseignement, sa recherche et parfois sa réputation et sa santé, en traitant en droit de sujets controversés, tant dans son enseignement que dans sa recherche et son développement.

FROM BAGHDAD TO HAVANA - REVISITING ECONOMIC SANCTIONS: LEGITIMACY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND HUMANITARIAN CONSEQUENCES (EN)

Speakers: Joy Gordon (Loyola University-Chicago), Pierre-Emmanuel Dupont (Free Faculty of Law, Economics and Management of Paris) & Fernando Saldivar, S.J. (Theology studies, Faculté Loyola Paris)
Moderator: Michael Strauss, Centre d'Etudes Diplomatiques et Stratégiques (Paris)

Room S08

This panel features some of the editors and authors of a new groundbreaking collective study on economic sanctions. From Baghdad to Havana: Revisiting Economic Sanctions: Legitimacy, Accountability, and Humanitarian Consequences is an edited volume that addresses aspects of economic sanctions that have been understudied; and also expands the discussion to include a broad range of scholars and practitioners, including many from sanctioned countries. The volume includes work by scholars living or working in Cuba, Iraq, Iran, Syria, North Korea, and Africa. There are contributions in the areas of health care, food security, banking and financial transfers, corporate risk assessment, listing of Specially Designated Nationals, international law, the impact of sanctions on trade, the effects of sanctions on human rights, secondary sanctions, and overcompliance. Contributors include leading scholars in the field of economic sanctions, as well as some of the preeminent sanctions attorneys and human rights practitioners who engage with many aspects of sanctions. This panel will be the opportunity to revisit the practice of economic sanctions, its limitations, and its future.

Explorations in Penal Metrics

Speaker: Sacha Raoult (Aix-Marseille Université)

Room S10

My presentation will focus on the use of quantitative methods in the analysis of penal law and criminal justice practices — from sentencing decisions to the evaluation of legal reforms. Drawing on empirical work conducted over the past decade in France and abroad, I will present a range of methods (from multivariate regressions to decision trees, sensitivity analyses, and forecasting) and discuss their respective strengths and limitations. Rather than proposing a general theory of penal institutions, the aim is to show how data-driven approaches can shed light on overlooked aspects of the criminal process: how social and procedural factors influence sentencing, how pretrial detention is actually decided,

how “confession” functions as a hidden key variable, and how external shocks (such as lockdowns or attorney strikes) affect penal output. The presentation will also highlight some epistemological challenges related to causal inference, model fragility, and the interpretation of correlations in judicial contexts — with examples from both the French and U.S. systems.

THE GRADUATE CONFERENCE

INTERNATIONAL LAW: A GRAMMAR OF CRISIS?

Speakers: Rebecca Mignot-Mahdavi (Sciences Po), Jean d’Aspremont (Sciences Po), Jochen von Bernstorff (University of Tübingen) Chairs: Qiandai Wang (Sciences Po), Jules Cosqueric (Sciences Po) & Aditya Sharma (Sciences Po)

Room K008

[Reading materials](#)

Etymologically, crisis overlays two different dimensions. The first one is analytical: a crisis is a moment where distinctions and separations are made. The second one is normative: these distinctions require a determination, a judgement. In other words, a crisis could be defined as a moment of separation between several possible outcomes. This panel aims to rethink international law’s involvement in this multi-layered process. A part of international law’s claim to legitimacy is the overlay of crises across domains that contribute to the argument for the necessity of its assemblage and usage. International law’s *raison d’être* hinges on a double bind: it must perpetually invoke crises to justify its existence, yet this very invocation risks entrenching the conditions it seeks to resolve. To what extent does international law, as a grammar, serve as a generator of crisis, and what are the consequences? Therefore, on the one hand, international law grants visibility to crises and emergencies to the international society and invests the necessity and legitimacy to act on it. By categorising an event as a crisis, it serves as a powerful tool to justify exceptional intervention and coercive measures. On the other hand, however, such an act of formalising a crisis into law is not neutral or benign. International law that we know of comes with its own biases and preferences - it serves as a catalyst for some situations to be taken seriously while

others are marginalised and overshadowed. Why are some crises more urgent than others? Crisis is socially and discursively constructed. While international law provides tools to resolve crises, the very language and narratives it engages to frame the way we understand crises deserve more scrutiny. In other words, being critical of critical situations seems a promising path to shed light on international law as a producer of crisis discourses, with their own material consequences. This panel will proceed following three main axes: ideology, temporality and rebellion in order to further explore the close relationship between international law and crisis.

17:00 – 19:00

FINAL PLENARY SESSION ([U-TurnS Event](#))

THE END OF LAW

Fuad Zarbiyev (Geneva Graduate Institute), Hans Lindahl (Queen Mary University), Paulette Bermudez Jordana (Sciences Po)

Chair: Alex Burtscher (Sciences Po)

Amphi Erignac

This panel explores "The End of Law" through two complementary yet distinct analytical lenses that together illuminate fundamental challenges to our contemporary understanding of legal systems. The first presentation examines the dual meaning of "end" in relation to modern law, investigating both the completion and cessation of traditional human-centered lawmaking—understood as collective human activity situated within natural environments and oriented toward human purposes—and the emergence of a "more-than-human" conception of lawmaking that encompasses both cyborg dimensions of legal creation and orientation toward non-anthropocentric ends, situating this transformation within a broader critique of the Anthropocene. The second presentation turns to international law, arguing that recent crises including Ukraine and Gaza reveal the inadequacy of our existing conceptual vocabulary to comprehend challenges that extend beyond mere violations of international law's "surface norms" to fundamentally threaten what Wittgensteinian analysis reveals as the "deep norms" or grammatical structures that constitute international law's identity as a coherent social

practice. Together, these presentations demonstrate how contemporary legal crises—whether understood through post-anthropocentric transformation or through the breakdown of foundational normative structures—signal not merely reform or evolution within existing legal frameworks, but potentially their fundamental reconceptualization or conclusion.

VENDREDI 20 JUIN / FRIDAY 20 JUNE
Sciences Po, 13 Rue de l'Université, 75007 Paris

9:30

ACCUEIL DES PARTICIPANT.E.S

10:00 – 16 :00 :

LAW & SOUND – LE DROIT, LE SON, L'ÉCOUTE (EN) - Part II

Convenors: Thibaut Mechler (Sciences Po) et Pierre Thevenin (Université Paris Saclay). Speakers & Chairs : Julia Chrystostalis (Westminster Law School), Maria Paola Mittica (Università d'Urbino) Thibaut Mechler (Sciences Po), James Parker (Melbourne Law School), Susan Schuppli (Goldsmiths University of London with the special participation of Joel Stern (sound artist) and Franck Leibovici (poet) - [Details here](#)

Amphi Erignac

Is law an acoustic phenomenon? On the one hand, it seems immersed in sounds that it shapes or produces: it contributes to the composition of our soundscapes by regulating decibels or designating certain sounds—rather than others—as nuisances; it is proclaimed in solemn spaces whose acoustic dimensions cannot be ignored, making listening an essential part of the trials' unfolding. On the other hand, it often presents itself as an anesthetizing enterprise: it belongs to the culture of files and writing, to the Text in which the voice fades away. This tension has proven to be fertile ground for legal scholarship and artistic practice. In an attempt to grasp the new approaches emerging from this tension, this symposium will bring together twelve researchers and artists from across the fields of procedural law, legal theory, history, and sound studies. Designed as a mirror reflexively held up to law and its sensory orders, this symposium is structured around three threads. First, a reflection on the scripturality and orality of law, questioning the foundations of the judicial institution as iuris dictio; second, a study of the aesthetic dimension of law, evoking the sensoriality of its enactment; and finally, an exploration of forensic sound art practices, engaging with the question of how law is inscribed in society.

10:00 – 12:00 :

LEGAL SCHOLARSHIP AT THE TIME OF MAD MAX

Horatia Muir Watt (Sciences Po), Jean d'Aspremont (Sciences Po),

Vincent Forray (Sciences Po)

J 210

Contemporary legal scholarship confronts an unprecedented constellation of institutional and political pressures that collectively threaten the foundational premises of university-based intellectual inquiry. The erosion of academic freedom—manifested through increased surveillance, political interference in curriculum and research agendas, and the suppression of critical discourse—coincides with a systematic devaluation of fundamental and foundational research in favor of immediately applicable, economically viable knowledge production. This transformation occurs within a broader context of rising nationalism that has fundamentally altered the cosmopolitan character of academic institutions, as border closures and xenophobic policies undermine the international collaborations, scholarly exchanges, and cross-cultural dialogues that have historically defined the "world research university" as a transnational space of knowledge creation. The cumulative effect of these forces represents not merely a temporary constraint on scholarly activity, but rather the potential dismantling of intellectualism as a university value, replacing the pursuit of critical understanding with instrumentalized knowledge production that serves narrow political and economic interests. For legal scholars, these developments pose particular challenges to the discipline's capacity for critical reflection on law's foundational assumptions, its engagement with comparative and international perspectives, and its role in fostering the kind of independent intellectual inquiry essential to both legal education and the broader project of democratic governance.