

RCSL NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION RESEARCH COMMITTEE ON SOCIOLOGY OF LAW

<http://rcsl.iscte.pt/>

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PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Dear friends and colleagues,

I hope you had a good start to a healthy, happy and successful new year.

We have two important international conferences ahead of us in 2020 as well as many regional meetings, workshops and also international socio-legal meetings on special subjects.

The **ISA World Forum in Porto Alegre from 14th to 18th of July 2020**, where we were offered 10 slots for sessions, had so many paper proposals that we could have had twice as many sessions.

The annual **RCSL Conference** will take place in **Lund/Sweden from the 24th to the 26th of August 2020**. The Conference has the very timely subject **Law and Digital Society: Re-Imagining the Futures**. I hope that many of you can manage to come. The website for paper proposals and registration is open. www.rcsl2020.se

From 24-26 of June the University Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne, the University of Reading and the RCSL Working Groups on Gender, Law and Society and on Comparative Studies of the Legal Professions are organising a congress in Paris on "**Feminism, Law and Citizenship**" which has met with high interest and received well over 100 paper proposals.

Many of us will also attend the Law and Society Meeting in Denver from the 28th to the 31st of May 2020. I have been involved in organising six panels on questions of women and gender in the legal profession and legal education, and two sessions on **Lawyers in 21st Century Societies**.

The first book resulting from this project which was launched at the Legal Profession Group Meeting in July 2014 in Frauenchiemsee/Germany will be published by Hart, Bloomsbury in Oxford, in February 2020 (edited by Richard Abel, Ole Hammerslev, Hilary Sommerlad, and Ulrike Schultz). The book has brought together 78 authors who have composed 42

national reports from countries all around the world plus two comprehensive contributions comparing and analysing the results and putting them into a common framework. The second volume which has a focus on the overarching theoretical issues will go into print at the end of the year.

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This year's Legal Profession Group Meeting will take place in Onati in the first week of July 2020. For details contact the current chair of the group Lisa Webley L.C.Webley@bham.ac.uk.

Let me also remind you of all the wonderful possibilities the **International Institute for the Sociology of Law IISL in Onati** offers for international comparative work. Please, motivate students to apply for our master, think about cooperating with the IISL- we are cooperating with the socio-legal program in Milan and will cooperate with the socio-legal master in Lund – and apply for workshops and come as visiting scholars. <http://www.iisj.net/>.

I am happy to report that we have very active socio-legal associations and networks in Latin America, East Asia and a new blossoming group in Africa. In October I had the pleasure to take part in the **annual meeting of the Brazilian association ABraSD in Recife** in October 2019 and was impressed by the richness of interesting and important subjects presented, of projects and work being done in Brazil. The size of this conference, and the number of participants was impressive, overwhelming. Brazil has become a strong pillar in our international socio-legal world. The network of scholars is very active, vibrant, and inspiring for our community. Recife is a beautiful city and the meeting took place in the oldest law school of the country in a pleasant historical building. Our RC SL member Renata Almeida Costa who many of you will have met already, was elected at the meeting as the first female President of ABraSD.

Let me add some general remarks of hope and concern.

At the beginning of this decade sociology of law is as important as ever or even more. We, the socio-legal critical community, are more needed than ever. We face a terrible crisis of democracy throughout the world. State power is related to capital, the economy, people wonder if they are still heard, if it is their voice which matters. The political leadership in many countries appears unworthy, playing with emotions, lying to people, twittering nonsense, taking their countries to the verge of military conflict or straight into it, risking or destroying the lives of many people, annihilating treasures collected by generations, personal property as well as precious monuments, and destroying natural resources and beauties. A scaring scenario. I think I do not have to mention all the countries I mean. Turkey is fuelling the conflict with the Kurds and Syria, more refugees, more migrants. Many countries of the world are aching from the masses of pitiful people who try to move in to find a better life, but governments keep on allowing weapons to be sold. Crazy egotists in Europe and at the other sides of the oceans endanger prosperity. The gap between poor and rich goes on widening. The underprivileged, the others, are unheard and in danger to be forgotten.

What has happened to our legal systems, to the protection of our legal rights by the state, the balance of state power and the people?

What to do?

It is our role as sociologists to collect data and evidence in order to be able to analyse the causes

and the effects, embed it into theory and discuss remedies. With our legal expertise we help strengthen the legal systems, take actions for adequate legal regulations. Let me remind you that sociology of law has two sides, the scholarly work and activism, we have to connect both. And we need strong, independent lawyers, strong independent judiciaries – and sound governments following the rule of law.

Let me wish all of you to keep the patience to do research, the strength to act and let us not lose our optimism to create a better world.

Best wishes,

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VINCENZO FERRARI RECOGNIZED WITH AN HONORIS CAUSA BY UNAM, MÉXICO

The RC SL would like to congratulate Vincenzo Ferrari on being awarded an Honoris Causa by the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM).

The UNAM is the biggest and one of the most prestigious public universities in Latin America, and perhaps the most important institution for higher education in México; home to three Nobel laureates along with many other important academics. The Honoris Causa is granted in recognition of exceptional merits and contribution to the development of different fields of science, humanities and culture. For over one hundred years, the UNAM has granted this honor to men and women who have excelled in their fields.

This year, the UNAM recognizes and celebrates the illustrious career of a great sociologist of law, Prof. Vincenzo Ferrari. Vincenzo Ferrari has been one of the most celebrated RC SL members, serving as president (1990-1994) and vice-president (1986-1990), he was also a member of the ISA Executive Committee (1994-2002). Recently (2016-2017) he acted as Scientific Director of the Oñati International Institute for the Sociology of Law (IISL). He was also dean of the Law School, director of the Doctoral School of Law, president of the University's Committee of Ethics and rector's delegate at international relations at the University of Milan, his alma mater.

Vincenzo Ferrari is an influential academic both in Italy and internationally, as the latest recognition from UNAM shows. Aside from Milan, he worked in the universities of Cagliari and Bologna, in Italy; and is honorary professor of the Universidad Externado de Colombia and the Universidad Metropolitana in Caracas, Venezuela. Previously, he was also granted Honoris Causa from the Universities of Rosario, Buenos Aires and Zaragoza. He was proposed for this recognition at UNAM by another outstanding member of the RC SL, Angélica Cuéllar Vázquez.

The ceremony for the Honoris Causa was carried out in the Nezahualcóyotl Hall on September 26, 2018, where Vincenzo Ferrari gave a speech in representation of the laureates from different parts of the world. His speech highlighted the important role of social sciences to deal with the biggest problems that

society faces, and also how cooperation and interdisciplinarity are essential for this mission. As Vincenzo indicated, current times demand from us a bigger commitment with social justice. The ceremony itself was marked by the demands for justice in the case of the 43 students missing from the Ayotzinapa normal school, on the fifth anniversary of their disappearance.

We also wish to congratulate this years' laureates for the UNAM Honoris Causa, Rolando Cordera Campos, Alejandro González Iñárritu, Alicia Bárcena Ibarra, Julia Carabias Lillo, José Antonio de la Peña Mena, Donald Bruce Dingwell, María Elena Medina-Mora Icaza, Roberto Meli Piralla and Sandra Moore Faber.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

At the end of 2019 we could celebrate special birthdays of two of our very eminent scholars.

Johannes Feest was 80 in November, Bill Felstiner 90 in December.

JOHANNES FEEST: BILL FELSTINER TURNS 90 ON DECEMBER 14

Bill is not one of your everyday, run-of-the-mill, sociolegal scholars.

Over the decades, he has practiced law, conducted empirical research, taught law, political science and sociology. He held positions at the Rand Corporation, the American Bar Foundation, at Cardiff University, Northwestern University, UCLA, UC Santa Barbara and Yale. He published in fields as diverse as dispute resolution, divorce lawyering, asbestos litigation and the legal culture of global business transactions. In the words of one of his children, he seemed "unable to hold a job for very long".

In 1991, he organised the first International conference of the Law&Society Association in Amsterdam, together with Erhard Blankenburg from the RCSL. For the RCSL he ran the influential Working Group of Legal Professions from 1994-2000. With this background, he was the obvious choice for becoming Scientific Director of the International Institute for the Sociology of Law in Onati. He is still the only one, to have held this job jointly, alternating with another colleague (Manolo Calvo), for three years.

In Onati, he left his mark by initiating rather revolutionary changes, e.g. depriving the teachers of the Masters Program of their stipends, in order to provide scholarships and thereby attracting students from poorer parts of the world to the Masters Program. He also managed to transform the publications coming out of Onati workshops from a rather amateurish affair into an internationally recognized, duly peer-reviewed, series published in Oxford, England.

His extra-curricular activities span boating, fishing, golfing, mountain climbing, voter registration (for

Obama), organising shelters for the homeless (after Katrina), the founding and funding of a non-profit NGO (to aid refugees in Africa). In his late eighties, Bill brought together and edited an admirable collection of narratives from his Yale School class of 1958 (What Lawyers Do). Still in the Pipeline is his long-standing work on the highest and lowest places on earth.

In Germany you would call a guy like him a *Tausendsassa*. In Spanish this untranslatable term is rendered as *hombre habil para todo*, in English as *man of all trades* (but without catching the artistic and adventurous flamboyance indicated by the suffix "sassa"). Maybe the French dictionaries come close, when they suggest as translation "*diable d'homme*".

Bill has survived anti-submarine-warfare during the Korean War and several floods and fires in California. There is no way of predicting what he will come up with and survive next. We can only wait in awe and admiration and wish him the best of luck.

For more details cf. the Wikipedia articles in English, Euskera, French, German and Spanish.

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TERENCE HALLIDAY: BILL'S MID-WESTERN YEARS

Bill swept into the American Bar Foundation (ABF) as Director in 1986 and things were never the same again. Decisive, forward-looking, gregarious, smart, adventurous, sociable, mischievous - Bill has it all and the ABF got his all in full measure.

The ABF was at a decisive moment. Jack Heinz, the outgoing director, had commissioned an external review that declared the institution needed a sharp turn if it were to become a world class research center. Yet, at the very moment when resources were critical a Supreme Court case led to a radical drop in funding at the ABF. Undaunted, Bill treated this as an opportunity. This former US navy officer began to clear the decks, an unenviable task that had to be done if the ABF were to survive and thrive.

Bill had a terrific nose for first-class sociolegal scholarship, being a first-class scholar himself. He loved Oxford and immensely admired Wolfson's Centre for Sociolegal Studies. He determined the ABF would set its sights on similar glory.

Bill being Bill of course required that a new vision for the ABF required travel—a fact-finding mission that took his polyglot stellar wife, Gray, and me to London, Oxford and Paris, somehow involved the Orient Express, and took us via Vienna and Bucharest eventually to Sofia, Bulgaria. Maybe this was Bill's maiden voyage with the Research Committee on the Sociology of Law and the Working Group on the Legal Profession.

Bill's enthusiasm was contagious, and it spread fast at the ABF. Ever sociable, Bill would walk the hallways at lunchtime, dragging us out of our offices to enjoy community meals together.

His sense of mischief and great humor seeded ABF events where he shamelessly dressed in outrageous

costumes, found any excuse for a party, and cooked up fun schemes with complicit grad students.

Broken fingers. Yes, we can blame Bill for those too. He decided ABFers should play softball weekly during the summer in a park just across the road from our offices. The softball was surprisingly hard and about the size, it seemed, of a soccer ball. Funnily enough it turned out quite a few of us were competitive. Injuries followed, but the game went on.

Bill, educated in America's most elite institutions, has a splendid egalitarian impulse. He decided the ABF needed doctoral students to inject their creative energy into the place. He took grad students seriously as intellectuals. He didn't play normal status hierarchies. Bright ideas, first-rate research was what mattered from whomever it originated.

I loved our walks and talks. The ABF overlooks Lake Michigan and Bill and I discovered we could have a delightful midday walk along the shore to a small lighthouse. I soon learnt that Bill was open to any idea under the sun and if he liked it he would move with blinding speed to make it happen.

Innovations blossomed under Bill's leadership. The ABF Research Journal published by the ABF became Law and Social Inquiry published by the University of Chicago Press. A predoctoral program brought the best and brightest future sociolegal scholars to the ABF. Bill had a vision for minority undergrads and he instituted a diversity program for promising students, a program that endures with great success to this day.

Bill had a global sensibility before it was fashionable. India, the headwaters of the Euphrates River, the high seas, Bill had lived there or passed by or wanted to pass by. This true cosmopolitan invested the ABF heavily in the first joint international conference of the LSA and RCSL in Amsterdam.

I once asked him what was the secret that somehow had him doing good works and fine research in all sorts of appealing foreign places. His superb advice: first, think of places you want to go, then, figure out a project that gets you there! I've tried to follow in his footsteps ever since.

His notion of exotic spots was a bit warped though. For me it would have involved beaches and exotic food or at least elegant charm, Aix-en-Provence, for example. For Bill no place was more wonderful than Peyresq. I still recall his great triumph at finding this once deserted, now rebuilt village, in about as remote a place as it's possible to be in the mountains of France.

And speaking of travel, later in his time at the ABF Bill noticed that I spent a lot of time at an unknown place called Onati. It had it all—hiking, great food, wonderful people, unique language, young scholars. For Bill Onati became his great new adventure. Now the ABF had been propelled into hyper-Bill-speed, the Basque Country awaited. And the rest, as Johannes tells us, is history!

Congratulations to Bill on his 90th from his many Mid-Western friends, past and present!

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ULRIKE SCHULTZ: JOHANNES FEEST, 80 ON THE 21ST OF NOVEMBER 2019

If I should describe Johannes in a few words, I would use the attributes: upright, positive, optimistic, active. He is a left wing pragmatic and realist, as a child of his times critical of institutions, fighting for reforms. And he is an all time accessible good friend and adviser.

He is one of the eminent socio-legal scholars in Germany. Many of us know him well. From 2000-2003 he was RCSL President and from 1995-1997 the fifth Scientific Director of the IISL in Onati.

He was borne on the 21st of November 1939 in Berlin, has studied law in Vienna and Munich and sociology in Tübingen and the University of California in Berkeley. Influenced by the US criminology which swept over to Germany in the 1960s and 1970s and gained in influence at the time of the students' movement in 1968, he has become a critical voice in German criminology, deconstructing parts of the existing criminal justice machinery, an abolitionist, in favour of the abolishment of prisons which hardly serve the expectations set on them. His doctoral dissertation is dealing with the "definitional power of the police", the police authority to define crimes. He has published in 1972 together with the late Erhard Blankenburg, another important German socio-legal scholar of his generation, a book on the labelling approach, strategies of prosecution and social selection.⁽¹⁾ From 1974 till his retirement in 2005 he held a Chair in Law Enforcement, Corrections, Criminal Law at the law faculty of the university of Bremen which had started with a new model of legal education in the early 1970s.

He has kept close connections to the IISL as a teacher in the master programme, workshop organiser and he has helped to restructure the library, is weeding out obsolete publications, and is overall accompanying modernisation processes. Together with David Nelken he has edited the book "Adapting Legal Cultures", volume 5 of the Onati International Series in Law and Society. Oxford: Hart 2001, a corner stone of international comparative socio-legal studies.

1977 to 2011 he headed the German Prison Archive. He has been and still is active in many functions of criminological and socio-legal projects, journals and associations and also activist groups, amongst the latter one on the legalising of drugs. He also has a strong interest in literature, is member of a jury for a literature prize for prisoners and one of the founders of the Bremen "Reading Theatre".

In June 2019 Brunilda Pali, head of the project "Restorative utopias in dystopian times: The shaping of restorative justice in the European penal systems and policies" had a "conversation" with Johannes Feest for the project website Restorotopias which gives more details on Johannes' socio-legal and criminological work.

<https://www.restorotopias.com/2019/06/02/a-conversation-with-johannes-feest/>

Cheers Johannes, keep going, with many more years of a fruitful cooperation!

NOTES

(1) Feest, Johannes (1972) *Die Definitionsmacht der Polizei. Strategien der Strafverfolgung und soziale Selektion* (with Erhard Blankenburg). Düsseldorf: Bertelmann Universitätsverlag.

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KONSTANZE PLETT: MISS IN/JUSTICE AND JOHANNES' GERMAN PRISON ARCHIVE

Whoever enters the building which houses the University of Bremen law department passes a statue symbolizing Justitia at first sight. A closer look, however, reveals that it could be called rather "Miss Injustice" than "Miss Justice." It was given to the department about three decades ago, was first displayed in a different building, then spent many years in a broom closet, before it finally found its current location. Its history embodies Johannes' work.



Before I go into that story, I'd like to describe the little statue. While some well known statues symbolizing justice have blindfolds and some have not, ours has a blindfold covering only one eye. The scales she used to hold in her left hand have been lost. Originally one scale contained the Penal Code and the Prison Act, the other one the European Convention on Human Rights, the scales tipped to the disadvantage of human rights. Her right hand holds a big money bag as opposed to the sword in the traditional allegoric justice illustrations. Her right foot treads on the Penal Procedure Act and the Constitution. Her pedestal shows two phrases in Latin: "Jura novit curia, mundus

vult decepti" ("the court knows the law" and "the world wants to be deceived").



So how can this effigy diametrically opposed to the goals justice should strive for, characterize Johannes' work? Here is the backstory. The German Prison Archive (mentioned in Ulrike's text), founded by Johannes, did not start as a collection of documents but rather as a teaching project. The legal education at Bremen University was back then organized according to the so-called one-phase model which integrated theory and practice from the beginning, and followed a socio-legal approach. So Johannes did not teach only black-letter law in his field, but introduced the students to places where people lived who had to bear the consequences of law enforcement, in this case the local prison. The students were taught how to give legal and practical advice to the prisoners, inform them about their rights according to the (then newly enforced) Prison and Rehabilitation Act and, if appropriate, how to write a complaint for having a correctional measure be reviewed. The collection of laws, judgments, legislative material, books and articles Johannes had already gathered for writing a commentary on the Prison Act soon was expanded by the correspondence with the prisoners. The name 'Prison Archive' was only invented in 1983, six years after the beginnings when there was an opportunity to employ a very special person for a certain period of time (but that is yet another story).

The Archive thrived, and the exchange of information and advice with prisoners is not restricted to Bremen alone, but extends to prisoners all over the country, and occasionally even to Germans held in prisons abroad. But it was the Bremen prison, its sculpture workshop to be exact, where one prisoner created the statue described above and donated it to the Bremen University law department in return for the advice he had received, and that would not have been possible without Johannes.

So whenever I enter the building and set eyes on "our Miss In/Justice" I am reminded of Johannes and this story. And when I was still teaching, I liked to draw the attention of my students to "Miss In/Justice" as a caveat, showing the dangers for justice everywhere and at all times.

Postscriptum: The Prison Archive still exists even if it had to move from Bremen to Dortmund in 2012 (<https://strafvollzugsarchiv.de/?lang=en>), and with Johannes still working for it, now having devoted more than half of his lifetime to the observance and betterment of prisoners' rights. A collection of his texts around this Archive has been published only weeks ago under the title "Definitionsmacht, Renitenz und Abolitionismus: Texte rund um das Strafvollzugsarchiv" (<https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-658-28809-9>).

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"MAY I INTRODUCE MYSELF?" – MARTIN RAMSTEDT, INCOMING SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR OF THE IISL

I thank the Chief Editor of the RCSL Newsletter, Pablo Leandro Ciochini, for the opportunity to introduce myself to you. As far as I am aware, I have the honour of becoming the first Scientific Director (SD) of the International Institute for the Sociology of Law (IISL) in Oñati, who has contributed to the cross-disciplinary field of "law and society" (1) solely as a social and cultural anthropologist. The appointment of an anthropologist of law to help shape the scientific scope of the IISL at this juncture suggests, to my mind, an increasing pervasiveness of two interlinked trends in today's socio-legal scholarship:

- Acknowledgement of the theoretical and empirical salience of legal/normative pluralism; (2)
- Recognition of the validity of postcolonial and anthropological perspectives on "the rule of law" and competing notions of justice in the globalized world.

Extensively trained in how to get their bearings in alien cultural logics through methodologically informed immersion into foreign idioms, emotional cultures and nonverbal communication styles, as well as a profound education in alien histories, geographical terrains, culturally embedded normativities and social orderings, anthropologists have shed important light on unintended effects as well as unforeseen conceptual, moral, and empirical limitations of existing state law both abroad and at home. Anthropologists have furthermore contributed valuable insights into what has been lost (and gained) in the translation of international (soft) law into local contexts all around the globe. Anthropological insights pertain to critical fields of law research, such as access to justice, law export, social security, restorative and transitional justice, the indigenous rights movement, constitutionalism, the functioning of local juridical systems, or the implementation of human rights in far-away and not so far-away places, not to mention legal consciousness research, war and conflict studies, and of course migration and refugees studies.

My own academic education started in 1981 at the Ludwig Maximilians University of Munich, where I studied, over a period of almost sixteen years (which I

survived on various stipends, inter alia by the German Academic Scholarship Foundation, as well as study-related professional work), social and cultural anthropology, European ethnology, social psychology, prehistory, and Indology. During these years, I acquired some language proficiency in Indonesian, Balinese, Old Javanese, Dutch, and Sanskrit, as well as a firm knowledge of, and training in a variety of philological, historiographical, archaeological, and social scientific theories and methods.

I had the opportunity to start carrying out fieldwork early on in my studies, when, in 1986, I investigated the influence of Indonesian state policies on the recent promotion of classical Balinese performing arts genres in Bali for my Magister Artium thesis. In the context of this research, I spent two months in Jakarta and Denpasar, where I learned to appreciate that my topic necessitated a good grounding in the history of Indonesian nation-building, including the politics of "national development", as well as the circumstances around the sudden proliferation of local religio-ethnic identity movements in the country. My project greatly benefitted from the fact that Indonesian academic interlocutors and civil servants pointed out to me national and international legal regulations pertinent to my topic.

In 1987, I set out on my doctoral research project, which was heavily influenced by the work of the sociologists Max Weber, Pierre Bourdieu, and Wolfgang Welsch, as well as the "nouvelle histoire"/"new history"/"total history" paradigm. (3) Dedicated to an analysis of descriptions of "good" and "bad" governance, that is, legitimate and illegitimate power, in Old Javanese and Balinese historiographical traditions, my project not only consisted of archival research and textual analysis. It also involved several months of fieldwork, during which I observed different dramatizations of relevant historiographical traditions. These dramatizations also entailed recurring instances of ethical (re-)interpretation, in which historical models were rendered applicable to present-day affairs by revered Balinese priest-performers. From the project I drew a fundamental insight into the conceptual interrelatedness of ontological, normative, political and ritual categories in indigenous traditions.

This insight stimulated an inquiry into the reasons why indigenous spiritualities had hitherto been strongly discouraged, at times forcefully suppressed, by Indonesian postcolonial governments, and why a variety of indigenous ethnic groups in Indonesia had opted to become officially registered "Hindus" and "Buddhists", rather than "Muslims" or "Christians", in the course of Indonesian postcolonial history. In 1997, I was granted a three-year postdoctoral European Science Foundation research fellowship at the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS) in Leiden, Netherlands, which included the funding for a further year of fieldwork in Indonesia. This project involved extensive stays in different Indonesian and Dutch archives, where I immersed myself into the history of the creation of the Indonesian Basic Law and pertinent follow-up national and regional legislation regulating the relationship between "religion and the state". These archival studies were

inter alia complemented by interviews with Indonesian lawyers and legal scholars regarding the history of the political interpretation of these legal texts.

This project gradually led to a fruitful collaboration with a senior colleague at the Non-Western Sociology Department of Leiden University, Coen Holtzappel. He finally invited me to become his co-editor for the proceedings of a research workshop on the contemporary Indonesian law and governance reform, and its socio-political ramifications, in the wake of the 1997 Asia Crisis. The concomitant breakdown of Suharto's "new order" regime had helped lift the lid off hitherto smothered grudges and aspirations of particular ethnic groups and so-called "conservative Muslims". These sentiments quickly fanned violent outbursts of interreligious and interethnic conflict throughout the Indonesian archipelago. The law and governance reform, which was strongly supported by the Breton Woods institutions, was designed to abate such conflict, by transforming Indonesia from a centralist autocracy to a decentralised democracy. One of the outcomes of the reform consisted in a significant increase of legal pluralism in the country.

Unsurprisingly, our project roused Franz and Keebet von Benda-Beckmann's interest, who at the time were the heads of the Project Group "Legal Pluralism" at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology (MPI) in Halle, Germany. I joined their team as senior researcher in 2006 and continued to work on the juridification of Balinese customary law and the creation of new jurisdictions in Bali, which were side effects of the Indonesian decentralisation process and a local response to the increasing accommodation of Islamic law norms in regional and national state law. After the termination of the project group in 2012, following the retirement of the von Benda-Beckmanns, I joined Director Marie-Claire Foblets' new "Law & Anthropology" department at the MPI as senior researcher until 2014.

During subsequent research fellowships at the Käte Hamburger Centre of Advanced Studies "Law as Culture" in Bonn, the Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV) in Leiden, and the Humanities Centre of Advanced Studies "Multiple Securities – Beyond the West, Beyond Modernities", I further developed three lines of inquiry that went back to my research at the MPI:

1. Prospects of (normative) pluralism and the increasing accommodation of Islam in Indonesian state law.
2. The concept of "cultural translation" applied to an analysis of the "localization" of the global indigenous rights movement in various parts in Indonesia.
3. Emergent spheres of "the secular" in colonial Java: Javanese "culture" vs. "foreign", i.e. Middle Eastern Islam.

I am currently in the process of finishing the last publications on my "Indonesian research", in order to be able to shift my attention more fully to issues related to my new function as global thematic coordinator for anthropological and postcolonial approaches in the Global Access to Justice Project (<http://globalaccesstojustice.com/>). This work is

designed to terminate with the submission of a co-edited manuscript to the publisher by the end of the summer.

My term as SD of the IISL will commence in September. I am very much looking forward to returning to Oñati. I am excited to start a new line of research on notions of "law" and "justice" in restorative processes in the Basque Country. While research will not be the main focus of my work at the IISL, I do believe that some grounding in this new line of research will provide a fresh impetus for my plans to extend and rejuvenate the institutional and scholarly network of the IISL. It is necessary to ensure the continuous topicality of the individual courses within Oñati's socio-legal master programme, by taking care that they as well as the workshops convened at the institute represent vital aspects of present-day "law and society" inquiry and debate. This, in turn, will provide a never-ending source of inspiration for inquiry-based learning at the IISL. All the while, these efforts in extending the IISL network, rejuvenating the pool of potential guest professors, and keeping the subject matter of the individual courses up to date need to be grounded in an ongoing reflexion of the roles the IISL could and should play within Basque society in particular, and within Spanish society at large.

My present account has so far remained silent about the range of my teaching experience. During my nine-year long stay in the Netherlands, I taught various anthropology courses at four Dutch universities (in Leiden, Amsterdam, and Nijmegen). In Germany, I taught different anthropological courses at the universities of Münster and Halle. At the Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology in Halle, I have furthermore taught a variety of law and anthropology courses in my capacity as Deputy Professor. At the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, I once had the opportunity to teach Indonesian Islamic law within the framework of Werner Menski's famous course on "Legal Systems in Africa and Asia". And I taught a course on "Law and Anthropology" over a period of four consecutive years at the IISL in Oñati. This teaching experience has gestated into a pedagogical approach that favours, as I already mentioned, inquiry-based learning, the development of dialogical relations in class, as well as individual growth in the classical art of debate. Such an approach to learning is very much in line, I think, with the design of the IISL Master programme.

That said, I also plan to initiate the development of new online courses for a global audience. This initiative will have to be accompanied by increasing digitalization of IISL library resources, which could also be made available separately to a global paying membership. In all these planned activities, I will seek to cooperate closely with the RCSL Governing Bodies, including the IISL Governing Board. Let me end my introduction by saying, I am very much looking forward to working with you.

NOTES

(1) See for instance Mather, Lynn. 2018. Law and Society. The Oxford Handbook of Law and Politics. Oxford Handbooks Online;

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(2) Ramstedt, Martin. 2016. Anthropological Perspectives on the Normative and Institutional Recognition of Religion by the Law of the State. in *Religious Rules, State Law, and Normative Pluralism – A Comparative Overview*, ed. by Rossella Bottoni, Rinaldo Cristofori and Silvio Ferrari, 45-59. Cham: Springer; Benda-Beckmann, and Bertram Turner. 2018. Legal Pluralism, Social Theory, and the State. *The Journal of Legal Pluralism and Unofficial Law* Vol. 50(3): 255-274.

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Pablo Ciocchini: AN UNIQUE PROGRAMME TRULY OPEN TO THE WHOLE WORLD

I owe my academic career to the Oñati Master at the IISL. The programme offers a unique opportunity for students to join the academic community of socio-legal researchers. This is particularly true for students from the Global South, since, as my personal experience documents, the programme is open to accepting unconventional candidates and financially helping them. Although not necessary particularly remarkable, my personal experience can illustrate some of the unique features of the programme. Three of these features were in my case highly significant. Firstly, I was accepted and given the Renato Treves Grant that covered the tuition fees although my profile was not the typical one. Secondly, I was immediately treated as part of the academic community, so besides the top-quality teaching I was receiving in class, I was able to discuss my research interests outside the classroom in multiple daily informal conversations with both my teachers and guest scholars visiting the IISL. Lastly, the community membership does not end once you have your degree. Scholars I met during the master course kept on supporting me during the process of applying for and obtaining my PhD, fellow students became peers with whom I have worked and published to this day.

ADMISSION

When I applied to the Master programme, I was already 27 years old, I have a law degree from an Argentinean university that most European probably have never heard of and my qualification records were good but not outstanding. Thus, I was happily surprised when I not only got admitted to the programme, but also received the Renato Treves grant to cover the Master fees. This is not exceptional but a result of the programme commitment to be truly international. The programme is fully committed to include students from the Global South, and to do that

applicants are not selected based on academic standards from the Global North (i.e. North America and Europe) but instead judged case by case, taking into consideration the different institutional and cultural particularities with the goal of being as inclusive as possible without risking the programme's academic quality.

The success Oñati alumni have achieved in the academic, governmental and activist fields among others, validates this approach.

COMMUNITY

A peculiarity of the Oñati programme is the intensity of the experience. This is due to the fact that the students live together, for six months, with their teachers and visiting scholars. Because even though all the faculty is composed by guest scholars who usually only stay in Oñati for the two weeks they teach their course, no one is really local, and as consequence, no one is really alien either.

This truly immersive experience in which it is common to find students and teachers eating together is reinforced by the outside context: the master takes place in a very small town located in the middle of mountains, badly connected by local buses with other small towns, where the local population normally speaks in a fascinating but hard to learn language (Euskera). Thus, students and scholars build strong relationships, a phenomenon not very common in other institutions.

I cannot stress enough how important for me were the informal conversations I had with many scholars in Oñati. I was able to learn about their research interests, and discuss my own, with scholars from around the globe. All of them were kind and open to offer their time to listen to students. This is very rare in these times of constant pressure to publish, but it feels natural in Oñati where students are automatically considered to be part of the academic community. I have vivid memories of talks with David Whyte, Joxerramon Bengoetxea, Susanne Karstedt, Angela Melville, Bart Van Klink, Carlos Lista among others, with strong and enduring influence on my research interests.

That intense shared experience has also resulted in a lasting working partnerships with a former fellow student, Stefanie Khoury. But I have also met and collaborated in individual projects with students from different cohorts, facilitated by the reliability given by belonging to a community.

It is worth mentioning that such sense of community is boosted by the role played by the RC SL. Thus, even before I defended my master dissertation, I presented a paper co-written with Stefanie Khoury in an annual meeting of the RC SL. This was a wonderful experience, and it was only possible thanks to the academic and financial support given by the RC SL. Such support did not end when I completed my degree. My work was accepted and received financial aid to present it at the meeting in Bonn of the International Working Group on the Legal Professions. This is not uncommon, as an Oñati alumnus you are always welcome in the RC SL meetings, since RC SL scholars, even those who have never been in Oñati, recognise you as one of their

own. This is a formidable advantage that every former student has, the RCSL offers them support in those first early steps in the academic career.

Lastly, I would like to mention the crucial role that the University of the Basque Country (EHU/UPV) and the University of Milan play. Besides the critical support given without which the master could simply not exist, the EHU/UPV and the University of Milan have created PhD programmes, accompanied with a series of scholarships, that filled the gap between the Oñati master and an academic career. I couldn't have continued my academic career without the financial support of the EHU/UPV who generously funded my PhD and the dedicated supervision of Joxerramon Bengoetxea.

I have returned several times to Oñati after my master. It has become part of me. I believe this is a feeling shared by most of Oñati alumni. But perhaps more importantly than the place itself is the people, the community. This community is with you forever as can be seen in each meeting of the RCSL.

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REPORTS

TOO MANY? TOO FEW? TOO MUCH?

At the end of June, during the European heat wave and an all-time record high temperature, we have had a record of our own – a third (and final) workshop in a trilogy on: Too many, Too few and Too much. The three workshops took place at the International Institute for the Sociology of Law in Onati. This series of workshops intended to make sense of what are otherwise abstract numbers concerning the various players in the legal arena in different countries. In other words, these workshops challenged three clichés: that there are too many lawyers; that there are too few judges and that there is too much litigation. We tried to present the data, the numbers relating to each profession, understand the reasons behind them, the problems these figures cause and suggest solutions to these problems.

The first workshop (2012) was titled "Too Many Lawyers?" (organized by Eyal Katvan, Neta Ziv and Carole Silver). Published as an OSLS online volume, as an IJLP special issue and as a book (Routledge); The second workshop (2016), was titled "Too Few Judges?" (organized by Eyal Katvan, Avrom Sherr, Ulrike Schultz and Boaz Shnoor). Published as an OSLS online volume, as an IJLP special issue; The third workshop (2019), was titled "Too much litigation?" (Organized by Eyal Katvan, Avrom Sherr, Ulrike Schultz, Boaz Shnoor and Guy Seidman).

There are many common denominators between the three workshops: 1. First and foremost: defining who and what is a lawyer? Who is a judge? What is a case or a dispute? Who is a litigant? 2. Data and measures: do we have enough data? how should we measure (number of lawyers; of judges; the volume of litigation)? 3. In all three workshops various

methodological tools and disciplines served as a basis for discussions: empirical – quantitative and qualitative; historical, legal, sociological and more.

We may conclude that the answer for these three questions is not trivial. In some cases, the presumptions on "too much", "too many" or "too few" stems from political reasons. In some cases, it relies on wrong data or assumptions. In some instances, there are indeed too many lawyers, too few judges and too much litigation, in any case, safeguards should be implemented in order to ensure access to justice and the quality of it.

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INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE BRAZILIAN RESEARCHERS ASSOCIATION IN THE SOCIOLOGY OF LAW: 55 YEARS OF TEACHING LEGAL SOCIOLOGY IN BRAZIL

The International Congress of the Brazilian Researchers Association in Sociology of Law (ABraSD) took place in Recife, Pernambuco, on October 16, 17 and 18, 2019. The ABraSD International Congress is annually promoted and this edition was hosted at two universities. In this sense, some activities were held in the traditional Faculty of Recife Law, at the Center for Legal Sciences of the Federal University of Pernambuco (FDR-UFPE). The Recife School of Law is the oldest Law Faculty in Brazil and was founded 192 years ago.

The other activities were held at the Catholic University of Pernambuco. The Catholic University of Pernambuco was the first in Brazil to offer Sociology of Law as a compulsory discipline in 1964. The discipline was taught by Professors Claudio Souto and Mirian de Sá Pereira, which ratifies the central theme of the Congress this year. These institutions (ABraSD, FDR-UFPE and Unicap) hold a joint international event whose theme revolved around this historical moment of Brazilian legal sociology: 55 years of teaching Legal Sociology in Brazil.

The International Congress brought speeches by renowned national and international socio-legal experts, such as Aldo Mascareño (Chile), Carlos Petit (Spain), Celso Campilongo (USP-PUC / SP), Claudio Souto (UFPE), Daniel Achutti (Unilasalle), Daniel Chernilo (Chile), Germano Schwartz (Uniritter), Guilherme de Azevedo (UNISINOS), Joaquim Falcão (FGV-RJ), José Alcebíades Junior (UFRGS), José Rodrigo Rodriguez (UNISINOS-CEBRAP), Leonel Severo Rocha (Unisinos), Marcelo Labanca (UNICAP), Marcelo Neves (UNB), Pablo Holmes (UnB), Raffaella Pallamolla (Unilasalle), Renata Costa (Unilasalle), Salo de Carvalho (UFRJ / Unilasalle), Ulrike Schultz (Germany - President of the International Research Committee on Sociology of Law). The event also featured four interesting short courses: (i) Empirical Research with Legal Decision: Quantitative Analysis, ministered by Professors Artur Stamford da Silva (UFPE) and Juan Carlos C. Capella (Physicist-Mathematician); (ii) Prison Research: Application of Grounded Theory, promoted by

Professor Felipe Freitas (UnB); (iii) Deleuze and Foucault: Relations between Law and Politics, given by Professor Peter Pal Pelbart (PUC-SP) and (iv) Race and Gender: The Impacts of Racism on the Life of Black Workers, coordinated by Professor Alessandra Benedito (UPM).

In addition to the lectures of national and foreign sociolegal professors, and the short courses, the ABraSD Congress, with the aim of fostering the formation of research networks and encouraging the production and exchange of knowledge in the area of sociology of law, highlighted the presentation of an impressive number of academic papers in forty working groups. The academic papers were presented on research which had been completed or had reached an advanced stage of development. Following the experience of past editions, this Congress encouraged reflection on the place of the sociology of law in legal practice and teaching, especially to discuss the role of research in law in the face of dogmatic thinking, the importance of interdisciplinary training and to discuss the role of research in the training of lawyers.

The opening panel took place on October 16, in the morning, at the Noble Hall of the Recife Law School and in the presence of Joaquim Falcão (FGV-RJ), Luciano Oliveira (UFPE / UNICAP), Mirian de Sá Pereira (UNICAP) Cláudio Souto (UFPE), Stefano Toscano (UNICAP) and the Board and Organizing Committee of ABraSD (Board 2018-2019). As expected, the main speeches were from emeritus Professors Joaquim Falcão and Claudio Souto. Professor Joaquim Falcão, who made a beautiful argument in favor of a legal sociology of evidence, emphasizing the relevance of factual substantiality as an elementary substratum in the formation of law. In turn, Professor Claudio Souto exposed the limitations of only formal conceptions of law that are often vague or contradictory and thus render operability unfeasible. Both professors were honored with lifetime members of the Brazilian Association of Researchers in Law Sociology.

That same day, in the afternoon, at the Catholic University of Pernambuco, the first round of working groups took place. The scholar offering this report, together with Professor Emiliano Maldonado (IPDMS), coordinated the thirty-second working group on the subject of teaching of sociology of law and the praxis of popular legal sociology. The core focus of the working group was to accumulate debates related to the teaching of sociology of law through the experience of popular legal advice - a practice aimed at the legal support of communities and social movements.

On October 17, in the morning, at the Recife Law School, there was a lecture on Gender and Legal Professions. In it, Professors Ulrike Schultz, Renata Costa, Fernanda Fonseca Roseblatt and Fabiana Cristina Severi discussed the many challenges related to the legal professions that women face, from the double journey, salary differentiation, to the limitation of equal representation in the legal profession. Even though it was a lecture in English, there was excellent public adherence.



Ulrike Schultz, Joaquim Falcao and Laura Lora at the ABraSD Congress.

In parallel to the above event, also at the Recife Faculty of Law, there was a debate about the book "Constitutions Are Dead", by Professor Germano Schwartz, which was debated by Professors Leonel Severo Rocha, José Alcebiades Júnior and Marcelo Labanca. The book and the debate evoked the problems and limitations of modern constitutionalism, in the light of legal sociology, and especially after the June 2013 demonstrations in Brazil and around the world.

After those lectures, the ABraSD Ordinary General Assembly took place, in which important topics were discussed, such as (a) accountability of the Board of Directors 2018-2019; (b) tribute to the founders of ABraSD; (c) creation of an ABraSD Biennial Award and (d) election of the New Board (2020-2021). It was also appointed that possibly the next edition of ABraSD will take place in the city of Porto Alegre.

That same day, in the afternoon, there was another round of research surveys and dialogues in the working groups. Once again, the working groups were held at the Catholic University of Pernambuco.

In the evening of October 17, at the Federal University of Pernambuco, there was a debate about the book "The Right to Struggle: Democracy, Diversity and Multinormativity" by Professor José Rodrigo Rodriguez, which was debated by Professors Alexandra da Maya and Mariana Pimentel Fischer. The book proposed a study of the official and social controversies for the construction of the law and, thus, institutional and social struggles as a mechanism to structure and transform law.

On October 18, in the morning, at the Federal University of Pernambuco, the subject "Constitution of 1988 as Colonial Power", was addressed by Professors Pablo Holmes, Virginia Leal, Ana Cecília Gomes, Maria Lucia Barbosa. The debate took place from a perspective of critical legal sociology to understand aspects in the Brazilian Constitution that went back to the colonial logic and dynamics.

The third and last section of working groups was held in the afternoon at the Catholic University of Pernambuco. It is important to highlight that a huge range of lectures, working groups and presentations took place at the ABraSD event.

In the evening, the closing lecture was given at the Catholic University of Pernambuco by Professor Marcelo Neves under the title: From Peripheral Constitutionalism to Transdemocracy. The renowned scholar has consistently explored the evolution of

constitutionalism in the countries of the Global South and their interconnections in pursuit of more substantial and consolidated democracies. In this sense, it could not be more relevant to think about the future of democracies in peripheral countries, through a perspective of legal sociology from a critical perspective.

The 2019 International Congress of the Brazilian Researchers Association in Sociology of Law, on the theme of 55 years of teaching of legal sociology in Brazil, ended with the promotion of important socio-legal debates and knowledge exchanges. According to reports from the organizers, it was the biggest ABraSD meeting to this date - a reality that only enhances the debates and the teaching of sociology of law!

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REPORT ON THE ARGENTINEAN CONGRESS ON SOCIOLOGY OF LAW

The XX National and X Latin American Congress of Sociology of Law was held in Argentina at the Universidad Nacional de La Pampa from 26 to 28 September 2019 on the theme "Socio-legal studies in Argentina and Latin America in times of crisis. Recurrences, alternatives and ruptures". It was co-organized by the Faculty of Economic and Legal Sciences of the La Pampa University and the Argentine Society of Sociology of Law -SASJu-.

Different activities were carried out during the Conference, including plenary discussions and paper presentations, working groups, allowing for greater interaction among the participants coming from different regions of Argentina, Colombia, Brasil, México and Perú.

There were also special sessions on 1.- Democratic legitimacy in Argentina and Latin America. Social movements and institutional agendas in the face of new dynamics of globalization; 2.- Crime and social control: socio-legal responses to common sense on criminality, (in)security and violence; 3.- Individuals, families, children and adolescents; 4.- Judicial organization and access to justice: The gap between rights rhetoric and institutional resistance; 5.- Human rights, structural inequality and social conflict: The intersectionality of discrimination; 6.- State, public policy and law; 7.- Legal education and legal professions; 8.- Contemporary social theory: legal phenomena

As part of the activities of the Congress, there were thematic panels on "Violence, mental health and legal practices from a gender perspective"; "Bios, ruptures and continuities in legal sociology"; "Neo-Extractivisms in Latin America: Colonization of nature and subjectivities" and "Social work in judicial intervention".

In the year of the XX National and X Latin American Conference and considering the current national, regional and world context, the Argentine Society for the Sociology of Law -SASJu- took up the challenge and aspires to re-articulate efforts in order to build

better explanations of the socio-legal reality of our communities and consolidate more inclusive and just views by observing recurrences and continuities as well as transformations and ruptures.

The work that the Argentine Society of Sociology of Law has been doing through its partners since its foundation in 2005 was highlighted.

The publication of the proceedings of the Congress can be found at the following link:

<http://www.unlpam.edu.ar/images/extension/edunlpam/XX%20Congreso%20Nacional%20X%20Latinoamericano%20-%20Sociolog%C3%ADa%20Jur%C3%ADdica.pdf>

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INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH GROUP ON LAW & URBAN SPACE (IRGLUS)

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

This report sets out the activities of the International Research Group on Law and Urban Space (IRGLUS) from January 2018 until December 2019. During this time, IRGLUS' global coordinators also acted as chair of the RC SL Working Group on Law and Urban Space.

IRGLUS was formed in 1993, aiming to gather academics from diverse backgrounds – jurists, geographers, sociologists, political scientists, urban planners and environmentalists who are doing research or are interested in the interface between law and urbanisation. Its working languages are English and Spanish.

IRGLUS' goal is to encourage socio-legal research in urban legal studies, as well as to organise international workshops for the presentation and dissemination of relevant research projects and findings.

IRGLUS is an organic network which is powered by the activities of its members. Members are free to organise events under the banner of IRGLUS or IRGLUS Latin America, which are then consequently shared via IRGLUS' various networks. There is no formal structure or legal entity for IRGLUS, but the network has a significant online presence.

METHODS OF COMMUNICATION

All of the methods of communication listed below remained active during the reporting period:

IRGLUS Newsletter

IRGLUS sends out three annual newsletters (roughly once every four months), summarising the activities of the group. Three such newsletters were distributed in 2018 and another three during 2019.

Website

IRGLUS has a website (<http://www.irglus.net>) that contains information about the network, as well as limited content generated by members themselves.

Facebook

IRGLUS maintains a regularly updated Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/IRGLUS>), which remained active during the reporting period. Over and

above sharing content of interest to members, the Facebook page is used to disseminate IRGLUS news, and provides a platform for interaction between members.

EVENTS

Conference session: Law, Justice and Urban Space

IRGLUS curated a session on "Law, Justice and Urban Space", which took place as part of the RC SL's Annual Meeting conference on "Law and Citizenship beyond States" held in Lisbon from 10-13 September 2018.

Urban Law Day: Law, the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Cities

IRGLUS partnered with the UN Habitat Urban Legislation Unit and the School of Law at the University of the Witwatersrand to co-host the first UN Habitat Urban Law Day to be held in the global South, in Johannesburg on 29 March 2019. The theme for the event was "Law, the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Cities" and it included assessments of the state of national urban law measured against the goals in the New Urban Agenda, by speakers from South Africa, Malawi, Zimbabwe and Zambia.

FUTURE PLANS

IRGLUS is stepping down from chairing the RC SL working group in 2020 and is currently involved in recruiting a successor. It will continue functioning as an academic network.

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OPPORTUNITIES

ANNUAL MEETING RESEARCH COMMITTEE ON SOCIOLOGY OF LAW - LAW AND DIGITAL SOCIETY: RE-IMAGINING THE FUTURES

This year's RC SL Conference will take part in Lund from 24-26 of August. It is organised by the law faculty of Lund university in Sweden. The Conference theme is "Law and Digital Society: Re-Imagining the Futures" (www.rcsl2020.se). Of course papers on any socio-legal subjects are welcome too.

The 2020 RC SL annual conference aims to provide an intellectual venue for a reinterpretation of classic and modern socio-legal thought with regard to the rapidly evolving digital society. Digitalisation can be viewed as a rapid and transformative force which is taking over many aspects of life. It can also be viewed as a spectrum of opportunities, aiding humanity and strengthening democracy. Through history, emerging technologies have possessed a challenge for legal paradigms, and today, this is perhaps more relevant than ever. During the last four decades, since the birth of the Internet, society on all levels is increasingly permeated by digital technology — pivotal sectors such as education, health care, social welfare, business, politics, security etc. are all deeply affected.

On a micro level, the digital is today an unavoidable aspect of our everyday lives, regardless of if you are connected or not.

As techno-fetishism and techno-phobia tends occupy the mainstream understanding of digital futures, it is all too easy to forget that such technologies inescapably are reflecting the social, legal and historical conditions which demanded their developments. In an unequal world privileges and disadvantages of digital developments are not shared equally either. This more than anything stresses the need for undoing mistakes of the past and imagine a more inclusive and democratized processes of production and maintenance of innovations which are to form the coming futures. The Department of sociology of Law, Lund University, hereby invites scholars within the socio-legal and digital fields to cross-cutting sessions and papers. Besides RC SL working group themes (http://rcsl.iscte.pt/rcsl_wg.htm), the following themes have been proposed by the organisers:

- Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
- Automation and Online Services in the Public Sector
- Gender in the Digital Society
- Internet of Things
- Data Management, Surveillance, Security and Privacy
- Work-life in Transition
- Child Rights and Education in a Connected World
- Borders and Migration in the Digital Society
- Online Extremism, Hate and Bullying
- The Digitalisation of Legal Professions
- Activism and Social Movements in the Digital Era
- Digital Sovereigns and De-territorialized Jurisdictions
- Topographies of Justice: Shifting Scales of Subjectivities and Responsibility
- Decolonizing the Digital
- Digital Waste and the Burning World

March 15 – Submission deadline (papers and Sessions)

CALL FOR 2021 WORKSHOPS AT THE IISL

The International Institute for the Sociology of Law invites applications to hold workshops at its facilities in 2021. The Institute provides modern, full-equipped meeting rooms of various sizes, excellent accommodations in its Residence, arrangements at local restaurants at very reasonable prices, free bus service from/to the nearest airport and train station, total logistical and planning support.

Regulations and application form:

<http://www.iisj.net/en/workshops/regulations-2021-workshops>

For further information: m.gordoa@iisj.es

Deadline: 7 February 2020.

PODGORECKI PRIZE 2020: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The ISA RCSL Jury Committee for the Podgorecki Prize calls for nominations for the Prize for emerging socio-legal scholars who have published one or more significant works within no later than 10 year of his or her doctorate.

http://rctl.iscte.pt/rctl_apodgprRules.htm

Nominations require the support of at least two members of the RCSL, and should include the candidate's CV and a brief letter of support signed by the nominators. Members of the Prize Jury are not allowed to sign as nominators. It is desirable, but not essential, that nominees are members of RCSL. Previous nominees may be re-nominated in this 2020 round, with updated letters and CVs. The Jury does not have access to previous correspondence or reviews.

Publications can be in any language. For works in languages other than those familiar to the Prize Committee, the nominations should give some indication of the value of the work and provide selected translations. To consider works in less well-known languages, the Jury Committee can co-opt and consult other RCSL members.

Nominations should be sent to the Chair of the jury, Prof. Angélica Cuellar Vázquez Angélica Cuellar acuellarunam@gmail.com to be received by midnight GMT on 31 March 2020.

The prize will be awarded at the RCSL 2020 Annual Conference in Lund/Sweden, August 24-26.

The 2020 Prize Jury is composed of Prof. Angélica Cuellar Vázquez (Chair) (Mexico), Marina Kurkchian (U.K.) and Iker Barbero (Spain).

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LAW IN CONTEXT: A SOCIO-LEGAL JOURNAL - CALL FOR PAPERS

We are pleased to announce a call for papers for Law in Context now digitally published as an Open Access Journal at

<http://journals.latrobe.edu.au/index.php/law-in-context>.

This call is for papers to be published from December 2019 and April 2020.

Law in Context vol 36(1) has just been published with contributions from Professor Lawrence Friedman, Marion Rice Kirkwood Professor of Law at Stanford Law School; Professor Martin Chanock, Emeritus Professor, La Trobe Law School; Professor Richard Abel, Cornell Distinguished Professor of Law, Emeritus and Distinguished Research Professor at UCLA; Dr Susanne Davies, Head of the Department of Social Inquiry, La Trobe University; Dr Zhiqiong June Wang, Associate Dean (International), School of Law, Western Sydney University; Dr Sue Jaffer and Associate Professor Nicholas Morris, La Trobe Law School; Professor John Zeleznikow, Information Systems, Victoria University; and Kevin Ashley, Professor at the School of Law and Senior Scientist at

the Learning Research and Development Center, University of Pittsburgh. The volume is available at: <http://journals.latrobe.edu.au/index.php/law-in-context/issue/view/10>.

Articles that reflect a socio-legal approach and which focus on any aspect of law in society, will be considered for publication. LiC publishes full research articles, research notes and book reviews in the fields of legal theory, social sciences, humanities and technology. It also focuses on visual law (such as photographs and recordings) and assets (data underlying the findings described, small support information files). All submissions are double-blind peer-reviewed before publication. Final publication decision will be made within four weeks after submission, unless peer reviewers require major revisions to be made. All accepted papers will be made available on-line first, and then will be incorporated in the next available issue of the Journal. Law in Context is intended to bridge Law, Law & Society disciplines and Technology (including ICT, Semantics, Natural Language Processing, and Artificial Intelligence) from a social point of view. Thus, articles and materials on any topics on these subjects and fields are welcomed.

Papers, research notes, book-reviews and assets should be submitted following the Law in Context format and template, on the journal website:

http://journals.latrobe.edu.au/index.php/law-in-context/review_guidelines

Law in Context Vol. 36 (2) will be published shortly with contributions by Peter Goodrich and Michel Kirby among other scholars.

LiC Vol. 37 (1) April 2020. Deadline: March 30th, 2020

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FEMINISM, LAW AND CITIZENSHIP

We are excited to announce that Alexandrine Guyard-Nedelec, co-chair of the Gender and Law Working Group, and Rosemary Auchmuty, former chair of the Legal Professions Working Group, are organising an International Congress on Feminism, Law and Citizenship at the Sorbonne in Paris from 24 to 26 June 2020. In response to our call for papers we received well over 100 proposals from every continent (except Antarctica!), far more than we could accommodate in the time and space, so we have had to be selective, our main criteria being the quality of the research and its relevance to the themes of the congress. Alongside senior academics and activists we have accepted papers from a large number of doctoral students, for whom in the case of countries from categories B and C we have waived the registration fee. RCSL president Ulrike Schultz will welcome participants at a cocktail reception in the beautiful setting of the old Sorbonne building in the Latin quarter where the congress will take place, and we are delighted that our opening keynote will be given by the Baroness Hale of Richmond, recently

retired President of the UK Supreme Court, in conversation with Rosemary Hunter and Erika Rackley, well known for their work on gender in the judiciary, in particular, Feminist Legal Judgments and Women's Legal Landmarks (in both of which projects Lady Hale participated). The second plenary lecture will be given by Professor Diane Roman, Professor of Law at the Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, whose research focuses on fundamental rights and who was jointly responsible for a pioneering French research project on gender and law called REGINE. There will be parallel panels in French and in English over a day and a half, and a gala dinner (the cost of which is included in the registration fee) at the legendary Brasserie La Coupole. Most of the costs of the congress are being borne by the Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne (where Alexandrine is based), with further assistance from the University of Reading, UK (where Rosemary works) and the RC SL. Sadly, it is not possible to accept any more registrations, but members of the public will be welcome to attend the two plenary sessions. This promises to be the event of the season for scholars working on gender and law and we look forward to welcoming them to Paris in June.

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PUBLICATIONS

LAWYERS IN 21ST CENTURY SOCIETIES

Richard L Abel, Ole Hammerslev, Hilary Sommerlad, and Ulrike Schultz (eds.) *Lawyers in 21st Century Societies. Volume 1: National Reports*, Oxford: Hart, 2020.

In February the first volume of the major project on Lawyers in 21st Century Societies is published at Hart, Bloomsbury in Oxford. Richard Abel, Ole Hammerslev, Hilary Sommerlad and Ulrike Schultz have gathered 78 authors, many of them RC SL members, who have written 46 national reports on the situation of the legal profession in countries all around the world covering North America, Western Europe, Latin America, Asia, Australia, North Africa and the Middle East, sub-Saharan Africa, and former communist countries .

The story of the project on Lawyers in 21st-Century Societies goes back almost 50 years. At the end of the 1970s Philip Lewis from Wolfson College, University of Oxford and Richard Abel from University of California, Los Angeles decided to launch an international comparative project on the history, constitution and role of lawyers in society. A group of scholars gathered for a week in the summer of 1984 at the Rockefeller Foundation's Villa Serbelloni in Bellagio, Italy, ultimately producing the three volumes on Lawyers in Society: one on the common law world, one on the civil law world, and one on comparative theories (Abel & Lewis 1988a; 1988b; 1989 reprinted with an updated article on Germany in 1995) which launched comparative sociological study of lawyers.

William Felstiner (2005), then WG chair, published an update of changes in ten countries.

Because of the successful collaboration the contributors decided to found the Working Group on Comparative Studies of Legal Professions within the framework of the RC SL. The WG has met biannually since 1986, mainly in France, and has a blog <https://iwgpl.wordpress.com/>; its work is described on the RC SL website http://rcsl.iscte.pt/rcsl_wg_professions.htm. It is by far the biggest and most active of all RC SL working groups. The collaborative enterprise has produced many monographs, articles and international comparative volumes, including three comprehensive books on women in the legal profession (Schultz & Shaw 2003; 2013; Schultz et al. 2020), and a whole series of volumes on family lawyers under the auspices and editorship of Mavis Maclean. Several subgroups have held their own meetings, often as workshops at the International Institute for the Sociology of Law (IISL) in Oñati. The world's legal professions have undergone dramatic changes in the 30 years since publication of the three-volume Lawyers in Society. The national reports in the first volume address:

the impact of globalisation and neoliberalism on national legal professions (the relationship of lawyers and their professional associations to the state and tensions between state and citizenship); changes in lawyer demography (rapidly growing numbers and the profession's efforts to retain control, the entry of women and obstacles to full gender equality, ethnic diversity); legal education (the proliferation of institutions and pedagogic innovation); the regulation of lawyers; structures of production (especially the growth of large firms and the impact of technology and paraprofessionals); the distribution of lawyers across roles; and access to justice (state-funded legal aid and pro-bono services). The juxtaposition of the reports reveals the dramatic transformations of professional rationales, labour markets, and working practices and the multiple contingencies of the role of lawyers in societies experiencing increasing juridification within a new geopolitical order.

In the companion volume, which will be published at the beginning of 2021, 46 authors will make use of those reports and other data to engage in cross-national comparisons (in Africa, Asia, former communist countries, Latin America, and the Islamic world) and address a wide variety of theoretical issues, including: comparative methodology, lawyers in the EU and international tribunals, large firms, accountants, emerging economies, ethics and regulation, state production, gender, ethnicity, the construction of law, access to justice, legal education, the rule of law, corruption, casualisation, masculinity, information technology, cause lawyers, and sociology of the professions.

Philip Lewis, the co-editor of the previous volumes, died on the 10th of September 2019 at the age of 86. The first volume is dedicated to him and his memorable work.

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OÑATI SOCIO-LEGAL SERIES: YEAR 2019 IN RETROSPECT

The Oñati Socio-Legal Series is an international peer-reviewed on-line journal which publishes work within the field of law and society. It has been published by the Oñati International Institute for the Sociology of Law since 2011, the year in which it was created following an initiative of a group of scholars closely related to the IISL: Sol Picciotto, Ulrike Schultz, Joxerramon Bengoetxea, Anne Boigeol and Luigi Cominelli, among others; with Cristina Ruiz, at the time the Publications manager of the IISL, as the technical manager, and full support from the IISL administration.

The journal's homepage is <http://opo.iisi.net/index.php/osls/index> and its ISSN is 2079-5971.

The initial aim was to offer a publishing venue to the academics who participated in the Institute's yearly workshop programme. However, year by year, the journal has evolved to become an international journal aimed at all researchers in the socio-legal field who wish to have their work published. It is nowadays a well-established and respected journal and a proponent of a 100% free Open Access model, its peculiarity being that it waives all Article Producing Costs (APCs) so that contributors do not pay to have their work published in the journal, nor do subscribers have to pay any kind of access fee.

Since September 2018, Oñati Socio-Legal Series has undergone a number of strategic improvements that have raised its overall quality and have enhanced its attractiveness as a publishing venue. 2019 has been a very significant landmark in this process. Among other changes, OSLS has become associated with CrossRef, and, as a result, now has a DOI prefix of its own, so every article published in OSLS now bears its own permanent identification number. The abstracts and the authors' bios are now sounder and more

informative, allowing for an easier and quicker identification of authors; for this purpose, as far as possible, all authors are requested to provide an ORCID number, which is also displayed in the biographic section.

The pipeline of OSLS has significantly improved, with a shorter waiting period from first submission to editorial decision, and from the latter to publication, if this is the case, with an average turnaround of four months. The acceptance rate is now more similar to other journals of an analogous nature and category to OSLS, which means that our overall quality has risen. Our pool of reviewers has been engrossed with an average of 8 new reviewers enrolled in the journal per month.

Additionally, we have revised and improved our journal policy and author guidelines, with more strict policies for submission and eventual publication. The Editorial Advisory Board has been renewed, too, with accepted invitations to join by Profs. Rosemary Hunter, Raquel Yrigoyen, Daniela Zaikosky, and Laurence Dumoulin, and more exciting memberships that we're looking forward to in 2020 (<http://opo.iisi.net/index.php/osls/about/editorialTeam>).

All of these major improvements have been certified by one of the main accomplishments of OSLS and of the Institute in 2019: the selection of OSLS to be included in the Emerging Sources Citation Index of Web of Science, which implies that all of the journal's outputs are now fully indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection, backdating to the first issue of 2017.

2019 has also been the year in which Oñati Socio-Legal Series has stabilized its output to six issues per year, with the possibility to round it up with a special issue, as is now stated in its publication policies available on the journal site (<http://opo.iisi.net/index.php/osls/about>). This has been the case this year, with a total of seven issues. Three of them were in Spanish, three were in English, and one included contributions in English and Spanish, thus reflecting the all-encompassing diversity that permeates the area of law and society studies.

The year started out with a special issue, prepared and co-edited by Rosa Cobo Bedia (University of A Coruña, Spain): *Pornografía y prostitución en el orden patriarcal: perspectivas abolicionistas*, which included contributions by relevant Spanish academics who specialize in gender studies. It is of note that, by publishing this issue, OSLS has provided a venue to reproduce an academic debate of great interest nowadays, as said issue represented a view opposed to that brought forth by a previous publication, *Sex Work in the Early 21st Century – Law, Policy and Reality* (vol. 8, iss. 8).

Next came Collective bargaining as collective action: the Spanish case in perspective, edited by Julia López López (Pompeu Fabra University, Spain), who also edited the book *Collective Bargaining and Collective Action in the International Series in Law and Society* published by the Institute and Bloomsbury-Hart. This experience proved that it is indeed possible to successfully edit both a collective book and a journal issue arising from the same workshop. Notably, both of these collections are

written in English, by Spanish scholars, making the point that publishing high quality manuscripts and book chapters in English is within the possibilities of scholars whose first language is not English.

In April, OSLs came out with a collective effort coordinated by Gabriel Gatti (University of the Basque Country), Ignacio Irazuzta (Tecnologico de Monterrey, Mexico) and María Martínez (Universidad Nacional de Estudios a Distancia, Spain), *La desaparición forzada de personas: circulación transnacional y usos sociales de una categoría de los derechos humanos*, with articles about the disappearance of persons, especially social disappearance. The aim is to understand the logic of transnational circulation and some local uses of the category of enforced disappearance after it was sanctioned in 2007 by the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance by the United Nations. That juridical and historical crystallization is the point of departure to understand the transformations, the effects and the reproduction of the juridical type when transformed as ideal type.

Next came the issue titled *Regulating Climate Change: Governance and Legal Mobilization*, co-edited by Anna-Maria Marshall (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA) and Susan Sterett (UMBC, Baltimore, USA). The papers in this collection travel across jurisdictions, actors and problems to assess legal strategies concerning climate change.

Institutionalization of mediation was at the core of the next issue, titled *La institucionalización de la mediación: potencialidades y riesgos*, co-edited by Jacques Faget (CNRS, Centre Emile Durkheim, Institut d'études politiques de Bordeaux) and Alberto José Olalde (University of the Basque Country). Observing the growth of mediation in Western countries, the coordinators considered it necessary to critically address the development of mediation and possible instrumentalization in the hands of certain commercial and political interests. Six papers on the evolution and development of mediation were presented in the issue from a perspective of generalist analysis to more specific ones.

Judging, Emotion and Emotion Work was the title of issue n° 5, and was co-edited by Stina Bergman Blix (Uppsala University, Sweden), Kathy Mack (Flinders University, Australia), Terry Maroney (Vanderbilt University, USA) and Sharyn Roach Anleu (Flinders University, Australia). This issue builds on the growing critique of the dispassionate ideal of judicial work, combining original theoretical insights with imaginative empirical analyses to extend the understanding of emotion in judging. The international diversity of contributions recognises similarities and differences in the structure and organization of courts and the judiciary, and socio-cultural variations in emotional experience and expression.

Finally came an issue that englobed 10 individual submissions about different topics within the vast field of sociology of law:

Hacia una clasificación socio-jurídica de las leyes que sea funcional al análisis de efectividad legislativa (Towards a Functional Socio-Legal Classification of the Legal Norms for the Regulatory Effectiveness Analysis); *La reforma constitucional en Cuba, en el*

marco de la aplicación provisional del Acuerdo UE-Cuba del 2016 (The Constitutional Reform in Cuba, in the Context of the Provisional Implementation of the 2016 EU-Cuba Agreement); *Justicia restaurativa y mediación penal intrajudicial en Aragón: condiciones, resistencias e incertidumbres (Restorative Justice and Mediation Within the Criminal Legal System in Aragon: Conditions, Resistances and Uncertainties)*; *Acoso sexista callejero: ¿qué respuesta puede ofrecer el Derecho penal? (Sexist Street Harassment: What Kind of Answer Can the Penal Law Provide?)*; *The Criminal Prosecution of the International Trafficking of Human Beings in the Federal Justice System of Brazil*; *Contenido esencial de derechos fundamentales desde el modelo discursivo y principialista de Robert Alexy (Essential Content of Fundamental Rights from the Discursive and Principialist Model of Robert Alexy)*; *What Keeps Students from Driving under the Influence of Alcohol and Prescription Drugs? The Impact of Legitimacy of the Law, Prudent Behaviour and Perceived Dangerousness*; *Lost in Translation? Latin American Lawyers-Students in American Law Schools: Transplants and Globalization*; *Gerrymandering Hypothesis in the Italian Constituencies: the Case of Genoa's District*; and *Perspectives on the militarization of public security in contemporary Brazil*.

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CHILDHOOD ABUSE. ON THE SUBJECT OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Lora, Laura N. (Comp.) *Del mal-trato en la infancia: A propósito de la trata de personas*, Buenos Aires: Eudeba. 2020

The book— which was edited by Laura Lora is based on the presentations made during the Interdisciplinary Conference "Trafficking in Persons and other illicit practices with a strong impact on the integral development of children" – which took place at the Universidad de Buenos Aires, Facultad de Derecho, Instituto de Investigaciones Jurídicas y Sociales Ambrosio L. Gioja in September 2017. It is multidisciplinary, with contributions from teachers, researchers, lawyers, prosecutors, judges, social workers and sociologists

The book addresses violation of children's rights. Different perspectives allow us to understand the multiple situations of human rights violations in the different contexts and the mechanisms of control of these violations involving that primarily involve girls, boys and adolescents. Its focus is to strongly condemn the crimes committed against children and adolescents, and the actions implemented day by day by organizations at different levels - governmental and civil, national and international which are not yet not enough to disrupt, judge and condemn the people and the illicit associations that carry out those crimes. This is a challenge for reflection by society and for law and, legal professionals.

The aim of the publication is to show how to improve the quality of life of the victims of trafficking, smuggling, sexual exploitation and child labour.

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Osvaldo Felipe Pitrau, Laura Lora, Andrea Gaston and Paula Neolia Bermejo presenting the book at the University of Buenos Aires.

A NEW MODEL FOR SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS: THE CASE FOR 100% FREE OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS AND WHY THEY CAN SUCCEED

The successful joint congress “Linking generations for global justice”, arranged together by the RC SL and the Oñati International Institute for the Sociology of Law, continues to produce interesting results half a year from its celebration, as its many presentations and panels are being translated into papers and essays. One of the most recent examples is the essay entitled “A new model for scientific publications: the case for 100% free Open Access journals and why they can succeed”, by Leire Kortabarria, the IISL Publications Officer. This essay is based on the presentation that she gave in the panel *The Role of Academic Journals in the Global Socio-Legal Field*, hosted by Pierre Guibentif and Masayuki Murayama, and is available on the following link: <https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/25rwu>.

The paper draws on the unique model of the IISL’s journal Oñati Socio-Legal Series, which is a strong proponent of the free publication-free access model,

whereby neither authors/editors nor readers have to pay any fee or subscription in order to have their work published or to read others’ works published in OSLS. Oñati Socio-legal Series (OSLS) is a law and society journal founded in 2011 in the context of the Oñati International Institute for the Sociology of Law (hereinafter, “IISL” or “the Institute”). The Institute has been founded in 1989 as the most visible result of the joint venture between the Research Committee on Sociology of Law (RC SL), a relevant branch of the International Sociological Association, and the Basque Government. Since its birth, the IISL has been thriving, in its geographical position in Oñati, a town of 11,000 inhabitants in the Basque Country (Spain), as a center for sociological and legal research. Its yearly programme has two key activities: the International Master’s programme on sociology of law, for which it counts on the involvement and teaching of members of the RC SL; and the workshop programme, running from April to July (sometimes September), whereby groups of academics from all over the world hold two-day meetings on a selected topic.

This context gave birth to the idea of a journal that would serve as a basic venue for publication for the many scholars who visited the IISL and worked there throughout the year. Among the founders were, notably, the following: Sol Picciotto, Carlos Lista, Anne Boigeol, Ulrike Schultz, Joxerramon Bengoetxea, Luigi Cominelli, and the Publications officer at the time, Cristina Ruiz López; the first Administrative Director of the IISL, José Antonio Goyenaga, fully supported the creation of OSLS. This seminal model already stood on the pillars that sustain it to this day: free access, no subscription fees, immediate publication online, and rigorous quality standards, including double blind peer review. In addition to these pillars, the OSLS model holds to the principle of zero cost, however, the paper makes a point of establishing a clear difference between the concepts of “zero cost” and “zero value”, pointing out how handling the submissions and transforming academic papers into publishable texts that reach the usual scientific standards of quality and, at the same time, are attractive to the reader and contribute to the knowledge in the field of law and society has a cost, but this cost is completely covered by the IISL’s regular yearly budget, whereas the value stays unchanged and is made visible since the moment of publication. One of the current challenges that OSLS faces is making the value better known and acknowledged, and turning it into one of the hallmarks of OSLS.

This essay offers several examples of how the concept of paying per publication has completely permeated the realm of academic journals in open access, so much so that the concept of “open access” has come to equal the need to pay for publication, under names such as “APC” (Article Publishing Costs), which have become household words for most academics who publish regularly. As well as permanent, immediate, and worldwide access to the full article text, the APC usually covers:

- **Editorial work:** peer review, administrative support, commissioning content, journal development.
- **Technical infrastructure and innovation:** development, maintenance and operation of online journal system and websites.
- **Production of articles:** formatting and mark-up of articles and inclusion in indexing services
- **Marketing of journal and content:** making sure readers and authors know about the work published in the title
- **Customer service:** responding to authors and readers

This description is from Elsevier's pricing policy webpage, but the same or similar concepts apply for most big publishers. The core concept here is that publication means work, which means a cost, which is then covered by extracting an APC from the author (or the institution behind him or her).

As to the particular amounts being charged nowadays by journals around the same quality level and category of OSLS, here is a significant sample:

Publisher	APC range
Cambridge University Press	\$600-4,500
Elsevier	\$100-5,000
PLOS	\$1,600-3,000
SAGE	\$400-3,000
Springer	\$3,000
Taylor & Francis	\$500-2,950
Wiley	\$1,300-5,200

Oñati Socio-legal Series works on a completely different logic:

- It is 100% non-profit, deriving no financial benefit nor imposing fees to either of the parties: public and authors. In fact, it is a product by the Oñati International Institute for the Sociology of Law Foundation, which is, by definition and as stated in its Statutes (Gobierno Vasco n.d.), a not-for-profit institution, which reverts any revenue it may ever have from any channel to sustaining its mission.
- It adds value to the product, by offering rigorous guidelines and policies, among which some non-essential policies are flexible (within reason) in order to accommodate legit and reasonable preferences by authors and editors, for example, when it comes to language(s) used in the papers, extension, or submission deadline; a very timely review and edition process; a First Online publication service; an orderly and standardized layout of spelling, grammar, and referencing (1); a very readable layout and appearance; and a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), which is usually not in the hand of individual authors or editors to supply and thus is not something that any individual self-publishing author could add to a paper.

Oñati Socio-Legal Series gets its modest financial support from the same general source as the IISL: the yearly budget that the Basque Government, one of the founders of the IISL, allocates. The budget is always dependent on the ability and criteria of the Basque Government rather than on the objective needs, projects, and plans that the Institute may present or express.

It is not that OSLS is cost-free and, much less so, that it puts out a below par product. The opposite is true: OSLS is a high-quality journal *despite* its exceedingly modest budget and its complete lack of APCs. The reality is that, as is true of any existing entity, OSLS is a product of its circumstances.

The accomplishments of the team past and present behind OSLS can be reduced to two bullet points: one, being able to bring OSLS to a higher level of quality despite the Institute's modest resources; and, two, to survive and become even more productive than 10 years ago.

OSLS has proven that a model of a 100% open Access journal, which is based on professional handling and Management of the journal –by technical rather than academic personnel, under the auspices and guidance of academic authorities–, is feasible, sustainable in the long run, and able to meet the most refined demands of academic quality and rigour, as well as technical excellence to satisfy the needs of its sustainers, the members of the academia.

All the efforts to first launch OSLS, and then to improve it and raise it to the standards required of an academic journal have been rewarded with the selection of OSLS for inclusion in the Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) by the Web of Science Group, so that OSLS is now fully indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection after having been successfully tested against the 24 quality criteria designed to select for editorial rigour and best practice at journal level. The IISL's ambition is now to keep improving OSLS so that, in due course, it can measure up to the 4 impact criteria for inclusion in the highest level social science index in the Web of Science: the Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI). In order to achieve this and other goals, the OSLS and the Institute will, again, rely on the necessary work and support from its stakeholders: our contributors, co-editors, authors, and reviewers, who continue to trust the Institute and its journal for a high quality and free distribution of their work.

NOTES

(1) In 2018, OSLS launched its own Grammar and Spelling guidelines, and it has its own referencing style, based on APA / Harvard style but stretching it just enough to ensure that authors from both Sociology and Law –its two main areas of interest, which usually overlap but to different degrees– feel comfortable with it. The Grammar and Spelling guidelines consist on basic and easy-to-follow rules that can be negotiated with individual authors in a justified way, within reason.

DONATIONS TO RCSL

RCSL would like to thank Pablo Ciocchini for his donation.

RCSL MEMBERSHIP AND FEES RENEWAL

RCSL's members whose membership expired or expires can renew it by using the form under this link: http://rctl.iscte.pt/rctl_join.htm

Please send the completed form to our membership office:

Manttoni Kortabarría Madina (m.kortabarría@iisj.es).

CALL FOR BOOK DONATIONS

The wonderful Library of the International Institute for the Sociology of Law is suffering. For the last ten years, the institute's budget has been almost "frozen" and the library could hardly keep pace with new developments. It is still perhaps the world's most comprehensive library in our field. A most recent analysis of the acquisitions showed that, especially for the years 2015-2018, an insufficient number of books came to fill up the shelves there. This was especially true for four of the seven areas of the library, e.g. Legal Norms, Social Control, Conflict Resolution and Legal and Judicial Occupations. For other significant subjects, such as law & behavioral sciences and law and digital technologies, as well as for anthropology of law, gaps are particularly visible. Non-English publications, also, are far less available than in the early days of the Institute.

The RCSL invites its members to contribute by offering a free copy of their own recent publications as a donation to the IISL library. This gesture would be helpful for solving our problems and would of course be highly appreciated. You can easily check on-line whether your publications are already present there (<http://www.iisj.net/en/library/about-library>).

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