



OÑATI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
FOR THE SOCIOLOGY OF LAW
—
OÑATIKO LEGE-SOZIOLOGIAKO
NAZIOARTEKO ERAKUNDEA
—
INSTITUTO INTERNACIONAL
DE SOCIOLOGÍA JURÍDICA DE OÑATI

WORKSHOP ON

"Legal Culture and Rule of Law in the Amazon"

16-17 July 2026

COORDINATORS **Vicente Riccio** (Federal University of Juiz de Fora, Brazil)
Giuseppe Giura (IESE Business School - CBS - Barcelona, Spain)
Carole Hassoun (Université de Guyane, Cayenne, France)
Juan Carlos Ruiz Vasquez (Universidad del Rosario, Bogotá, Colombia)

MEETING ROOM [Geolocation of the Historical Archives from the Antia Residence and passing through the Old University building](#)

Program

Wednesday 15th July 2026

Arrival
21:00 Welcome dinner for the participants
[Oñatiko Batzokia Jatetxea - Street: Foruen Enparantza, 9]

Thursday 16th July 2026

08:45 - 09:15 **Registration**

09:15 - 09:30 **OPENING**
Camilo Umaña, IISL Scientific Director
Vicente Riccio, Giuseppe Giura, Carole Hassoun and Juan Carlos Ruiz Vasquez, coordinators

09:30 - 11:00 **Session I – Understanding the Rule of Law in the Amazon: conceptual and methodological perspectives**

This panel discusses conceptual and methodological approaches to examine the social, political, and cultural complexity of the Amazon context and the rule of law. It deals with the scientific tools to understand the relationship between the state and society, and the Amazon context embeds distinctive normative orders at local and international levels.

Chair: Guilherme Lopes da Cunha

Giuseppe Giura – Legal Culture and State Fragility

Vicente Riccio, Antonio Gelson Nascimento – Rule of Law and Contested Legality in the Amazon

Juan Carlos Ruiz Vásquez – Devastation in the Colombian Amazon: Criminality and a Weak State

11:00 - 11:30 **Coffee break**



Thursday 16th July 2026

11:30 - 13:00 **Session II – Crime, Violence, and Institutional Effectiveness in the Amazon**

This panel discusses the problem of crime and violence on the Amazon from a plural perspective. These issues are becoming more severe in the region, affecting the countryside, traditional populations, environmentally protected sites, and metropolitan areas. A common problem in all of the Amazonian countries is the growing activity of criminal organizations that directly impact the levels of crime and violence.

Chair: Giuseppe Giura

Patricio Trujillo and Katalina Rivadeneira – The Protection of Indigenous Populations in Ecuador: Why does the Law Matter?

Fabio Licata (online) – The Legal Framework of the Intelligence System and the Protection of the Brazilian Amazon

Salvatore Coluccello – Governance and Resilience as Key Concepts to Understand the Rule of Law in the Amazon

13:00 - 14:30 **Lunch break** [*Cantina Zapore*]

14:30 Leire Kortabarria, IISL Publications officer

14:45 - 16:15 **Session III – The Challenges of the Criminal Justice System in the Amazon**

This panel addresses the challenges faced by the criminal justice institutions in the Amazon. How can the states control the territory and enforce the law? There are problems concerning environmental laws and the growing urban violence in the region. Thus, the criminal justice system needs to deal with different crimes, such as drug dealing, smuggling, human trafficking, and terrorism, among others, with a limited capability to fulfill its task.

Chair: Juan Carlos Ruiz Vásquez

Mario Aufiero – Procedural Justice and the Amazonas Civil Police

Deborah de Felice (online) – Environmental Crimes in the Southern Amazonas

16:15 - 16:30 **Coffee break**

16:30 - 18:00 **Session IV – Geopolitical Risks, Defense, and Security in the Amazon**

This panel discusses the geopolitical risks involved in the Amazon and how they impact defense and security issues. The region has been struck by armed conflicts such as the Colombian Civil War and the territorial control exerted by criminal organizations involved in the production and smuggling of cocaine on a global scale. As a result, the sovereign states in the region are pressed to provide solutions at local, regional, and international levels. Thus, there is a need for integrated border, security, and defense policies to strengthen the rule of law.

Chair: Vicente Riccio

Guilherme Lopes da Cunha – Transnational Threats and The Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization

Angie Nathalia Ariza Quintero - Between Recognition and Implementation: Indigenous Territorial Entities and Effective Concurrence in the Colombian Amazon



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Thursday 16th July 2026

20:00 Self-funded dinner

Friday 17th July 2026

09:15 - 09:30 **Introductory remarks by host and organizers**

09:30 - 11:00 **Session V – Understanding the Legal Protection of Amazon's Biodiversity**

Chair: Vicente Riccio

Marcos Vinício Chein Feres – Inequality and the Intellectual Property Rights of the Amazon's Biodiversity

Carole Hassoun – The Effectiveness of the law on French Guiana's territory: aspects of private law

Jean-Philippe Vauthier – The Criminal Law and the Environmental Protection of the French Guiana

11:00 - 11:30 **Coffee break**

11:30 - 13:00 **Session VI – Brainstorm Session: Building and Funding a Network of Sociolegal Scholars on the Amazon Context and the Rule of Law**

Interactive Session to discuss common projects and the means to foster a network of sociolegal scholars interested in the Amazon through the lens of the sociology of law.

13:00 - 13:30 **Concluding Remarks**

13:30 **Lunch break** [*Cantina Zapore*]