



Society of
International
Economic
Law

THE SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW

5th Biennial Global Conference

SIEL 2016 - Johannesburg, 7-9 July 2016

CALL FOR PAPERS, PANELS & POSTERS

The Fifth Biennial Global Conference of the Society of International Economic Law (SIEL) will take place at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg from 7-9 July 2016.

I. Conference Content

The **Conference Theme** will be “*International Economic Law in a Diverse World*”

Today’s rules of international economic law confront an increasingly diverse political, cultural and social landscape. This increased diversity is evident through the policies pursued, the actors involved, the fora in which such policies are discussed and the different paths that are being taken to achieve such policies. The debate about regulatory autonomy shows that the traditional paradigms such as trade liberalization or investment protection are receiving greater scrutiny so as to balance the competing values that are being pursued. Similar debates occur in monetary law in which the global financial crisis has reopened the discourse to a more varied set of proposals than has traditionally been the case or in intellectual property law where attempts at expanding IP rights confront renewed calls for recalibration.

The 2016 SIEL conference invites academics, practitioners and government officials at various stages in their career to submit research and papers addressing these issues. For example, how should the traditional policy goals such as trade liberalization, investment protection or monetary stability be reconciled with human and labor rights, human health and environmental concerns within and among the different regimes of international economic law? To what extent should governments determine where to draw the line in balancing these matters? Is greater convergence necessary or even possible given the divergent goals that different actors in international economic law pursue? How can different epistemic communities within IEL be brought together? What are avenues to meaningfully integrate emerging governmental actors within the existing regimes and how can the voices of non-governmental actors be properly integrated? Are the existing mechanisms adequate for current and future challenges? Is there a need to reconcile the

potentially centripetal forces of diversity with the need for functioning international regimes?

While the conference theme is used to provide an overarching conceptual framework for the 2016 SIEL conference, the Conference Committee nonetheless wishes to encourage the submission of proposals for presentations on all IEL subjects, including those that may not directly relate to the theme. These include:

- * the three traditional pillars of IEL: trade, investment, and monetary / financial policies;
- * the relationship between these pillars, and between these pillars and other areas that touch upon international economic governance;
- * the relationship between global economic governance and regional arrangements and the function of IEL in different parts of the world;
- * exploring options for financial sector reform after the global financial crisis;
- * the legal significance of digitalization and the knowledge economy;
- * interdisciplinary approaches such as law and economics, political economy, development theory, risk management, global health and environmental studies and other disciplines relating to IEL;
- * comparative economic law, focusing on how IEL interacts with laws, institutions and actors at the domestic level;
- * the roles of law and legal practice in international economic governance, particularly in the monetary and financial international institutions;
- * methods and trends in researching, teaching and learning of IEL, including doctrinal and empirical methodologies; and
- * interactions between scholars, practitioners, government officials and civil society groups active in IEL.

To that end, we invite proposals that fall within the following categories:

1. Individual *paper* and *poster* proposals on any IEL topic, including the conference theme described above. No preference will be given to paper or poster proposals based on whether or not they relate to the theme.
2. *Panel* proposals on any IEL topic may be submitted, although **preference** will be given to panel proposals whose subject falls within the scope of the conference theme. Suggested panelists must have agreed to attend the 2016 Conference. Should one or more panelists be

unable to attend the meeting, the Conference Committee reserves the right to substitute for these panelists or merge panels should a significant number of panelists not be able to attend.

With respect to both theme and non-theme proposals, we are particularly interested in bringing together new voices and more established figures in the field. We welcome works in progress from young or new scholars and practitioners, as well as work from parts of the world not typically well-represented at such conferences, such as from developing countries and countries with emerging economies. There will be plenary and concurrent panels. Each panel will be moderated. Commentators may be invited to react to papers.

II. Submission Procedure and Instructions

Paper, poster and panel proposals **must be submitted by November 20 by Noon GMT via email to siel2016.law@wits.ac.za** in accordance with the following instructions. NOTE THAT THE DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED.

Please write “**SIEL 2016 CfP**” in the **subject of the email**, followed by “**paper**”, “**panel**” or “**poster**” **proposal**, and **then** the subfield of IEL which should be one of the following “**trade**” or “**investment**” or “**financial/monetary**” or “**international IP**” or “**other**”, and whether or not your submission fits within the **theme**. E.g.:

Subject: SIEL 2016 CfP Paper Proposal, Investment & Not Theme

Subject: SIEL 2016 CfP Panel Proposal, Trade & Theme

Subject: SIEL 2016 CfP Poster Proposal, Other & Not Theme

Paper and poster proposals should include a cover e-mail with full institutional affiliation and contact details of the proposer, and a WORD attachment with a paper abstract of **no longer than 600 words**. The abstract must not include any details identifying the proposer but **should contain the title of the paper**, along with a **line indicating the subfield of IEL** in which it falls and whether the proposed topic **relates to the theme or not** (e.g. Trade & Not Theme).

Panel proposals should include **two separate documents**: (a) a document containing a **panel title and a short description** of the topics covered during the panel, and (b) a document **listing suggested panelists (no more than 5**, which includes moderators, commentators and discussants), including concise information about the panelists and their specific contribution to the panel, as a presenter of a paper or as a participant serving in a different role. Suggested panelists must have been consulted by the organizer of the panel about the proposal. They must have confirmed their interest in serving on such a panel if it were to be selected and must have agreed to come in person to Bern. Please take into account the diversity of speakers and opinions reflected in your panel proposal. In assessing and selecting panel proposals, the organizers may take into account the diversity of speakers and the originality and topicality of the panel's topic and presentations. **Only one panel proposal per person** (panel organizer and speakers included) will be considered.

As already mentioned, **panel proposals that relate to the conference theme will be given preference** over those panel proposals that do not relate to the theme.

Based on past experience and the high number of panel proposals typically submitted, and taking into account the need to design a balanced conference program, the organizers **reserve the right to accept panel proposals subject to conditions regarding the size and composition of the**

panel and the variety of topics covered during a single panel discussion. Similarly, if your panel proposal is accepted and it later develops that one or more of your speakers cannot attend, SIEL will determine who, if anyone, should fill the open slot. We will make this determination in consultation with the panel organizer, but the remaining panelists should not take it upon themselves to fill any vacancies.

In evaluating proposals, please note that **priority will be given to unpublished papers/posters and works in progress.** In your cover e-mail, please note whether the paper has already been published, or has been accepted for publication. **No individual can participate on multiple panels.** Accordingly, if you submit a paper proposal and are listed also in a panel proposal, we will consider both proposals, but cannot accept both your paper proposal and your inclusion as part of a panel. Accordingly, if you are submitting individually and as part of a panel and both are accepted, we will require you to choose which presentation to give.

Every paper and poster proposal will be reviewed by at least two members of the SIEL conference committee on a double blind and confidential basis. Panel proposals will be presented for review to a larger subset of the SIEL conference committee.

The SIEL conference committee anticipates announcing the results of this call for papers and panel proposals by the **end of January 2016.**

Conference papers will be made available to conference participants prior to the conference. **Accepted papers (from paper and panel proposals) must be submitted by 10 June 2016,** in order to ensure the dissemination of papers among conference attendees. Papers from the previous conferences were published online as part of a working paper series on SSRN's Legal Scholarship Network (see <http://www.ssrn.com/link/SIEL-Inaugural-Conference.html> & <http://www.ssrn.com/link/SIEL-2010-Barcelona-Conference.html> & <http://www.ssrn.com/link/SIEL-2012-Singapore-Conference.html> & <http://www.ssrn.com/link/SIEL-2014-Bern-Conference.html>).

III. Conference Fees, Costs and Financial Support

Conference fees and associated attendance costs will be kept as low as possible.

All conference participants, including speakers, must be able to cover their own travel, accommodation and attendance costs.

SIEL will publish a funding application form on the SIEL 2016 conference website around the time the results of the call for papers and panels are released. In order to qualify for any available funding, the application form must be completed in full. SIEL hopes to distribute grants that cover the conference fee and/or (part of) travel costs for speakers with a demonstrated financial need (e.g. lack of institutional funding). Any such funding will be prioritized towards speakers from developing countries. Any such support would be handled as reimbursements following a speaker's participation in Johannesburg rather than as SIEL purchasing or assisting in the purchase of an airline ticket in the first instance. SIEL cannot guarantee that any particular individual will be awarded funding, nor how much overall funding will be available.

Enquiries

Please submit enquiries to either of the SIEL Co-Executive Vice Presidents, Holger Hestermeyer (holger.hestermeyer@kcl.ac.uk) or Meredith Kolsky Lewis (meredith.lewis@vuw.ac.nz).