

UNCTAD-SIEL Award for Research on Investment and Development

- Official award ceremony: SIEL Biennial Conference, Bocconi University, Milan, 9-11 July 2020
- Submission Deadline: 31 January 2020

Target

The UNCTAD Division of Investment and Enterprise (DIAE) and the Society of International Economic Law (SIEL) jointly establish an award for the best early-career academic research work on international investment law and development. The award is reserved to PhD students or early-career researchers with no more than five years of professional experience.

UNCTAD and SIEL invite contributions that provide state-of-the-art knowledge and analysis of the national and international legal frameworks and practices related to cross-border investment, and their impact on development, including its economic, social, environmental or institutional aspects.

Reflecting the core value propositions of UNCTAD's research mandate, the winning papers should meet the following criteria: 1) original and innovative research; 2) topical issues with a discussion of policy implication; and 3) focus on development (i.e. how to ensure that international investment and multinational enterprises contribute to sustainable development). The paper must not have been previously published. Co-authorship is permitted provided all authors meet the stated conditions.

Submission Guidelines

Submissions must include:

- a) author(s)'s CV and
- b) an abstract (not longer than 300 words).
- c) paper (not exceeding 10,000 words and following the Transnational Corporations [style sheet](#))

Submissions must be sent to unctad-siel-award@unctad.org by 1 December 2019. The submitted papers will be evaluated by a Review Panel consisting of the UNCTAD DIAE leadership and eminent academics, including members of SIEL. The Award is biennial and the first one will be conferred during the SIEL Conference in Milan, in July 2020.

Award Package

- The “UNCTAD-SIEL Award for Research on Investment and Development” to be officially conferred at the SIEL Biennial Conference.
- Invitation to apply for a three-month consultancy contract at UNCTAD’s Division of Investment and Enterprise to work based on a mutually agreed timing. The contract will be issued in line with UN rules and regulations.
- Invitation to publish the winning paper in the peer-reviewed UN Journal Transnational Corporations, subject to the standard procedures.

Contacts

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- Peter L.H. Van den Bossche, President, Society of International Economic Law (peter.vandenbossch@wti.org) or Federico Ortino, Executive Council Member, Society of International Economic Law (federico.ortino@kcl.ac.uk)

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNCTAD-SIEL AWARD FOR RESEARCH ON INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

1. The Award is given biennially to one or two papers submitted in response to an open call advertised through the UNCTAD World Investment Network (WIN) and the SIEL network. The Award’s objective is to reward outstanding development-oriented research from early-career researchers. The author(s) must be either a PhD student or a researcher with no more than five years research experience. Authors are requested to declare that they satisfy eligibility criteria upon submission of the paper.
2. The Review Panel will consist of the UNCTAD DIAE leadership and eminent academics, including members of SIEL, and will have at least 4 but no more than 8 members. UNCTAD will coordinate the Review Panel’s work, including the nomination and/or replacement of the members. The work of reviewing the submitted papers will be shared among the members of the Panel.
3. Membership of the Review Panel is automatically renewed each year, except when a member informs UNCTAD of his/her decision to resign. In case of resignation, the member will be replaced by a new member, depending on the number of members and composition of the Panel. The composition of the Review Panel shall be officially announced together with the launch of the Award.
4. The Review Panel will select three or four finalists who will be asked to present their papers at the SIEL Biennial Conference. The name of the winner(s) will be kept confidential until the presentation at the Conference. The winner(s) will be announced at the Conference by the Director of the UNCTAD Division of Investment and Enterprise or a senior representative of UNCTAD, jointly with the President of SIEL or a member of the SIEL Executive Council.

5. The winner(s) of the Award will receive a plaque and an offer to apply for a three-month consultancy contract at UNCTAD's Division of Investment and Enterprise based on a mutually agreed timing. The contract will be issued in line with UN rules and regulations.
6. The consultancy will be granted to one person only and is reserved to the authors that meet the defined eligibility criteria (to qualify as early-career researchers). If more than one author is eligible for the consultancy, the authors have the option to choose whether to share the invitation to apply or indicate their preferred candidate. Consultancy may entail physical presence at the UNCTAD office depending on the nature of the work and availability of the consultant. Should physical presence be required and agreed, related provisions will be included in the consultancy contract.
7. Additionally, the winning paper will be submitted to the peer-reviewed UN Journal Transnational Corporations, subject to the standard procedures of the Journal.