

## **SIEL E-Newsletter - Number 15 (March 2011)**

This is the fifteenth SIEL newsletter, the others may be found at the news section of the SIEL website - [www.sielnet.org](http://www.sielnet.org).

This Newsletter includes information on:

- SIEL Regional Activities in Bogotá, Johannesburg and Hong Kong
- Other IEL Activities including conferences, calls for papers, and competitions
- IEL Academic Programs information
- New initiatives – SIEL Post-graduate Student Group; Intellectual Property Network

### **I. SIEL Regional Group Activities**

#### **A. Red Latinoamericana de Derecho Económico Internacional Conference – Call for Papers extended to March 30<sup>th</sup>.**

The 1st biannual conference of the Red Latinoamericana de Derecho Económico Internacional will take place on September 8/9 in the facilities of the University Externado in Bogotá, Colombia. Keynote speakers include Ricardo Ramírez Hernández, Mexican member of the Appellate Body, Adriana Dreyzin, former legal advisor to Mercosur and Carlos Correa, professor at the University of Buenos Aires and IP expert. The deadline for proposals has been extended to March 30<sup>th</sup>. The full program will be posted on the website of the conference after the conference committee has finalized reviewing the proposals. Presentations may be given in Spanish or Portuguese. More information is available at: <http://www.uexternado.edu.co/dei>

#### **B. African IEL Network Regional Conference, Johannesburg, May 5-6, 2011**

The Mandela Institute is pleased to announce that it will be convening a conference on 5 and 6 May 2011 at the School of Law, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. This academic conference is intended to facilitate the launch of the African International Economic Law Network, affiliated with the Society of International Economic Law.

The conference theme is: Africa and the Global Economy: Trade, Investment and Development.

This conference also offers the opportunity to visit landmark sites in the country including tours of the Constitutional Court, Soweto and the Apartheid Museum. The

conference will take place at the well-appointed Chalsty Centre in the School of Law, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg on 5 and 6 May 2011. The registration fee for conference participants will be announced shortly. Information on a range of accommodation options in the vicinity of the campus will be provided in due course. Conference participants will be responsible for arranging and paying for their own transport and accommodation.

Further details will be posted to the SIEL website when available.

### **C. Asian IEL Network 2nd biennial conference (AIELN 2011)**

Main theme: Problems and Challenges in Post-Crisis Global Economic Governance

Date: July 15-16, 2011

Venue: University of Hong Kong

Contact: Douglas Arner ([douglas.arnier@hku.hk](mailto:douglas.arnier@hku.hk))

The organizing committee of AIELN 2011 is currently reviewing the proposals submitted. The programme will be announced shortly on the SIEL website.

## **II. Other IEL Activities**

### **A. New Zealand Centre of International Economic Law (NZCIEL) Call for Papers – Deadline Extended to March 25**

The New Zealand Centre of International Economic Law (NZCIEL) will host a conference entitled “Enhancing Stability in the International Economic Order” in Wellington on 7-8 July 2011. This multidisciplinary conference will bring together scholars, businesspeople, policymakers and research students to discuss and debate issues relating to the conference theme. The focus will be on generating innovative ideas to tackle issues that have emerged in a world surfacing from economic recession.

#### **Conference Theme**

The world is cautiously emerging from a global recession. The economic crisis has led to a new and genuine scrutiny of the international economic system. 2011 is an appropriate time to analyse the last two decades, with a view towards generating a consensus around which policies and ethical norms are necessary to avoid repeating past mistakes in the conduct of international economic relations.

The conference seeks to reassess legal, political and economic theory, provide analytic frameworks ensuring better regulation of financial markets, related professions (accountants, auditors, lawyers, financial advisers and fund managers) and the banking sector, look at specific crises and evaluate the response of the international community, and offer some thoughts on the development of a more equitable and ethical economic order. It is hoped that in addition to scholarly discussions, the conference will provide guidance for policymakers, practitioners, regulators and adjudicators.

The organisers plan for papers to fall under the following main themes:

- Theoretical perspectives on linkages between ethics and international economic law;
- Analytic frameworks (economic and/or legal) for the regulation of financial markets and services, related professions and the banking sector;
- Empirical studies of the way international economic law responds to environmental and social crises;
- Development of an equitable and ethical economic order.

**Proposals for papers addressing any of these themes should be submitted to [nziel@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:nziel@vuw.ac.nz) by 25 March 2011.** Proposals should not exceed 500 words and should be accompanied by a Curriculum Vitae. We welcome papers from a range of different disciplines and from early career as well as more established researchers.

We intend to further develop selected conference papers into a book of high-quality essays to be published by an international publisher.

**B. Conference on "The Interaction of International Investment Law with Other Fields of Public International Law" (Leiden Law School, 8 and 9 April 2011)**

Conference Theme

International investment law has undoubtedly become one of the most dynamic fields of international law. However, with most attention focused on investment protection standards, the interaction of international investment law with other sub-fields of international law has remained largely uncharted. In order to fill this gap, the conference intends to examine the linkage of international investment law and other rules of international law – in particular, the law on armed conflict, sustainable development law, human rights law and trade law. The conference will also address the relationship between international investment law and regional law, such as the law of the European Union, and the special situation of resource-rich developing countries.

Main speakers

Meg Kinnear (ICSID Secretary-General), Markus Gehring (Cambridge University), Friedl Weiss (Vienna University), Moshe Hirsch (Hebrew University of Jerusalem), Peter-Tobias Stoll (Göttingen University), Mary Footer (Nottingham University), Nico Schrijver (Leiden University), Hans van Houtte (President, Iran-US Claims Tribunal) and John Dugard (Leiden University).

For inquiries, please contact Freya Baetens at [LAW-IILconference@law.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:LAW-IILconference@law.leidenuniv.nl)

Registration and full programme are available at  
[www.law.leiden.edu/research/news/conference-ijl.html](http://www.law.leiden.edu/research/news/conference-ijl.html)

### **C. British Institute of International and Comparative Law WTO Conference**

The Eleventh Annual BIICL WTO conference will be held on 25-26 May, at the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, Charles Clore House, 17 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5JP. The conference is organised by the British Institute of International and Comparative Law in association with the Society of International Economic Law, the Georgetown University Law Center and the Journal of International Economic Law.

Day 1 will address issues relating to dispute settlement, taking as its overarching theme: "Subsidies in Many Shapes and Sizes". Under this rubric will be panels addressing (a) US-China Trade Relations - Ongoing Disputes Over "Subsidies"; (b) China's "Indigenous Innovation" Policy; (c) US "Zeroing": A Failed Litigation Strategy and Its Impact on the Role of "Precedent" in Dispute Settlement in the Trading System; and (d) WTO Disputes: A Year in Review and a Look Ahead.

Day 2 will address issues of broader policy concern, looking at issues arising under the theme of "The Global Financial Crisis and its Impact on International Regulation Inside and Outside the WTO." On this day we will be considering panels addressing (a) WTO Subsidies Discipline in Terms of the Consequences of Bail-Outs; (b) Proposals for WTO Involvement in Exchange Rate Enforcement; (c) The Doha Round: Is There Anything Left to Say?

To register for this event, please go to [www.biicl.org](http://www.biicl.org).

### **D. 2011 ILA Asia-Pacific Regional Conference (Taipei, Taiwan)**

The Chinese (Taiwan) Society of International Law is pleased to hold the International Law Association (ILA) Asia-Pacific Regional Conference from May 29 to June 1, 2011 at the Grand Formosa Regent Taipei, a Four Seasons Hotel, in Taipei, Taiwan.

The theme of the conference is "Contemporary International Law Issues in the Asia Pacific: Opportunities and Challenges." This conference will provide a forum for international law stakeholders to explore the full range of international and transnational legal issues related to the Asia-Pacific region.

Although the registration deadline is May 10, the Conference Committee suggests that interested participants register by April 10 in order to enjoy the early bird rates. Discounted registration fees are offered to ILA members and young scholars/professionals. For detailed information, please visit the conference website: <http://www.cils.nccu.edu.tw/ila2011tw/>. Additional questions about the conference can

be directed to Professor Pasha Hsieh, Conference Co-organizer, at [pashahsieh@smu.edu.sg](mailto:pashahsieh@smu.edu.sg).

**E. Foreign Direct Investment International Moot Court – Call for Teams and Arbitrators**

The deadline to register a team for the FDI International Moot Court is May 31. Teams that have already registered include: Tunis, Buenos Aires, Kathmandu, Tbilisi and Gondar (Ethiopia). The organizers are also seeking volunteers to serve as arbitrators to judge the written memorials and the oral competition. The moot will take place at Pepperdine University (Malibu, California) on October 22-24. Information is available at [www.fdimoot.org](http://www.fdimoot.org). [www.fdimoot.org](http://www.fdimoot.org).

**F. Conference Announcement: Poverty and the International Economic Law System: Duties to the Poor**

From October 20-22, 2011, the University of Basel will be hosting a conference on “Poverty and the International Economic Law System: Duties to the Poor”. This conference, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation and the University of Basel’s Faculty of Law will examine “duties to address poverty” from multiple international economic law viewpoints. . The speakers, experts in international trade, investment, financial regulation, and commercial arbitration, will present papers on the topic of how the various international economic legal systems affect (or need to affect or need not affect) poverty – either on a conceptual level or on a more case-specific basis. Chosen for their substantive understanding of the topics rather than for a particular viewpoint, the conference speakers will set forth a variety of views on this very topical issue.

The provisional program foresees an opening session on Thursday evening with a keynote speech by Dr. Jakob Kellenberger, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross. His speech, titled, “Poverty, Peace and the International Legal System”, will lend a thoughtful background that will highlight the significance of the themes being addressed at this meeting. Dr. Kellenberger’s address and following cocktail hour will be open to an invited public in order to heighten the awareness of the conference and the important issues it is addressing.

The conference talks will begin on Friday morning and run through Saturday afternoon. The first presentations will lay out the theoretical background to the issues of (ethical) duties to address poverty and the legal aspects of imposing positive duties to act on states and non-state actors. The next part will have speakers giving views from the law or policy of various international economic institutions on their legal framework affecting poverty, including the institutional view on the idea of having positive duties to address poverty. Here, speakers from trade law, international investment law, the law of financial regulation, and commercial arbitration will share their thoughts gathered from theoretical work or through practical experience. The mixture of academics with practitioners will

make these discussions of even greater interest and practical relevance to the actual problems of poverty reduction.

A final section will address the issues of regional approaches to poverty or of particularly vulnerable groups among the impoverished, asking how the international economic system impacts (or could impact) their lives. Again, the mix of academics and practitioners will enhance the discussions for the audience.

The conference presentations will be supplemented by a guided walking tour of Basel and conference dinner on Friday.

Please see the conference website for further details and registration:

<http://iel.jus.unibas.ch/wordpress/>

### **G. SIEL/Cambridge University Press Essay Competition**

A prize has been established by the Society of International Economic Law and Cambridge University Press for the best essay submitted on any topic in any field of international economic law.

The competition is open to all current undergraduate and graduate students of any university or other tertiary education institution, and those who have graduated from a university or other tertiary education institution no earlier than five years before the submission deadline (i.e. those who graduated prior to 30 September 2006 are not eligible for the 2011 Prize). Members of the SIEL Executive Council may not submit entries. The essay must not have been previously published.

The prize consists of £200, as well as £300 of Cambridge University Press book vouchers and a three year subscription to the World Trade Review. The winning essay will be submitted to the World Trade Review for publication. Publication of the essay in the World Trade Review will be subject to the WTR's normal review and decision procedure, but the WTR Editorial Board commits to expediting consideration with a view to early publication.

The prize will be awarded by the SIEL Executive Council on the recommendation of a Prize Committee drawn from its members and the Editorial Board of the World Trade Review. Decisions of the Prize Committee on the winning essay and on any conditions relating to this prize are final and no correspondence will be entered into.

For clarification, essays with a focus on international commercial arbitration or EU law will not be considered for this Prize.

Any queries should be addressed by email to Dr Lorand Bartels, University of Cambridge (lab53@cam.ac.uk).

### **Submission details**

Entries must be written in English and should follow the style-sheet for the World Trade Review. Entries should not exceed 8,000 words, including references, footnotes, tables, appendices, etc.

Entries must be submitted in Word format with a cover sheet containing the title of the entry, name and contact details. The essay itself must contain no identifying information other than the title.

Entries should be submitted using the following form:

<https://siel.wufoo.com/forms/sielcup-prize-for-an-essay-on-intl-economic-law/>

The deadline for submission is 30 September 2011 (17:00 GMT). Essays may be submitted from 7 September 2011.

## **H. IEL Academic Programs**

We have created a new tab on our webpage where we will, upon request, list summer and other academic programs focusing on one or more aspects of international economic law. If your institution runs such a program and you would like the details to be posted on the SIEL website, please contact either Colin ([c.picker@unsw.edu.au](mailto:c.picker@unsw.edu.au)) or Meredith ([meredith.lewis@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:meredith.lewis@vuw.ac.nz)) with the details.

## **I. SIEL Post-Graduate Student Group (SIEL-PGSG) to be Created**

SIEL is considering creating a group that would be more focused on IEL issues of specific interest, relevance and concern to post-graduate IEL students around the world. José Caiado, a Doctoral Student at the Graduate School in Law & Economics in Hamburg has offered to help coordinate the launch of this new group. Colin Picker, SIEL Executive VP, also will be assisting José. If you are interested in being involved in setting up this group please contact José ([jose.caiado@ile-graduateschool.de](mailto:jose.caiado@ile-graduateschool.de)) or Colin ([c.picker@unsw.edu.au](mailto:c.picker@unsw.edu.au)).

## **J. SIEL Intellectual Property Rights Network**

We are exploring members' interest in establishing a subgroup for members interested in IEL and Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs). If you would be interested in participating in an IPR subgroup, please contact Bryan Mercurio at [b.mercurio@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:b.mercurio@cuhk.edu.hk).

### **III. IEL Publisher Discounts**

Since its inception, the SIEL has negotiated SIEL member discounts with a wide variety of publishers, all of whom have been very supportive of the SIEL. For more information on discounts being provided from individual publishers, please visit: <http://www.sielnet.org/Default.aspx?pageId=107157>

### **IV. Job Announcement**

#### **A. WTO Legal Affairs Officer**

The WTO is advertising for a Legal Affairs Officer. This is Vacancy Notice No. EXT/F/11-10 - Legal Affairs Officer - Grade 6. The job listing may be accessed at: [https://erecruitment.wto.org/public/hrd-cl-vac-view.asp?jobinfo\\_uid\\_c=5408&vaclng=en](https://erecruitment.wto.org/public/hrd-cl-vac-view.asp?jobinfo_uid_c=5408&vaclng=en). The deadline to apply is April 7, 2011.

### **V. Comings and Goings**

This is a new feature of the newsletter where we will report on people's changes in academic institutions and other positions, as well as temporary visiting arrangements. If you have a temporary or permanent job change you would like us to report, let us know.

### **VI. Times of Crisis**

We have been shocked and dismayed by the recent international disasters in countries near and dear to us, and our thoughts are with our friends and colleagues in Japan and New Zealand.

In addition to the terrible human toll of the tragedies, the economic impact will be significant. The Institute of International Finance has estimated the cost of the Japanese earthquake (and flow-on disasters) could cost the Japanese economy US\$ 250 billion, which is about 5 percent of Japan's annual GDP. The G-7 has already intervened to weaken the Japanese yen, following it soaring to 76.25 yen/U.S. dollar. When the world's third-largest economy is so significantly affected, the ripple effects will surely be felt around the world.

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SIEL also seeks to publicize IEL events – be they conferences, “calls for papers”, IEL competitions, IEL programs and so on. Please send us such information for posting. To view a list of past SIEL posts, please visit the SIEL website ([www.sielnet.org](http://www.sielnet.org)).

As a member-run organization with over 600 members globally, please consider getting in touch with us with specific ideas for SIEL projects and services. We are committed to expanding SIEL activities and services wherever appropriate - be it alone or in partnership with other IEL organizations around the world. Indeed, at the moment we are in the process of developing new projects and services and once they are finalized we will let you know.

Thanks for your support and interest.

Colin & Meredith

Executive Vice-Presidents, SIEL