

MULTI-USER DATABASES ON JUDICIAL DECISION-MAKING:

FROM EXPERIENCE TO BEST PRACTICES

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE, 10-11 OCTOBER 2019

The workshop will bring together the experience gathered in a number of recent and ongoing projects related to judicial databases: Domestic (Israel, Norway, Costa Rica, Germany, USA, Sweden), international (CJEU, ECtHR, IACtHR, Investment Treaty Arbitration) and comparative (V-Dem). The aim of the workshop is to capitalize on the existing expertise and develop best practices in database construction, development and dissemination through discussion and critical assessment.

The speakers and participants will discuss how to access and code court data, which variables to include in multi-user databases, what problems to anticipate, which opportunities to exploit, and how to publish and communicate the data. We will moreover broach general themes, such as how to make these databases relevant to disciplines other than political science (especially to history and law), how to strike the balance between nuance, cost-effectiveness and reliability, and how to deal with legal and ethical aspects of collecting and publishing data on judges and judgments.

The workshop is organized by Daniel Naurin (PluriCourts) and Urška Sadl (EUI) within the frame of The CJEU Database Project, financed by the Swedish Research Council (Project-ID 2018-04215), with additional support from the Research Council of Norway (PluriCourts, Project number 223274).

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2019 (SALA DEL CAPITULO, BADIA FIESOLANA)

9:30-10:00

Registration and Welcome Coffee (*Antirefettorio*)

International Human Rights Courts

10:00-11:15

Erik Voeten and Öyvind Stiansen: *The Georgetown-PluriCourts European Court of Human Rights Database*

Øyvind Stiansen and Daniel Naurin: *PluriCourts Inter-American Court of Human Rights Database*

11:15-11:45

Coffee Break

The U.S. Supreme Court Database: Successes and Challenges

Lee Epstein

11:45-13:00

Carolyn Shapiro

Dieter Schlenker

13:00-14:00

Lunch (*Seminar Room 4 or Lower Loggia*)

Investment Arbitration and the European Union

Daniel Naurin, Johan Lindholm, Urška Sadl, Anna Wallerman, Stein Arne Brekke, Silje Hermansen, Mikael Holmgren, Philipp Schroeder: *The CJEU Database Project*.

14:00-15:15

Daniel Behn, Malcolm Langford and Runar Lie: *PluriCourts Investment Treaty Database (PITAD)*

15:15-15:30

Afternoon Break

Restricting Data-Based Research on Courts and Judges: Necessary Precaution or Excessive Secrecy?

Dieter Schlenker

15:30-17:00

Lee Epstein

Malcolm Langford (Skype)

20:00- 22:30

Dinner for participants at Ristorante Le Lune (*Via San Domenico, 36*)

(Please inform us if you require transportation to and/or from the restaurant)

FRIDAY 11 OCTOBER (SALA DEL CAPITOLO, BADIA FIESOLANA)

9:30-10:00

Coffee

10:00-11:15

Comparative and Corpus Databases

Jeff Staton: *The V-Dem Project*

Jorge Vargas Cullell: *AI Explorations on the Rulings of the Costa Rican Constitutional Court*

11:15-11:45

Coffee Break

11:45-13:00

Domestic High Courts I: Israel and Germany

Keren Weinshall and Lee Epstein: *Introducing the Israeli Supreme Court Database.*

Benjamin Engst and Thomas Gschwend: *The German Federal Constitutional Court Database (CCDB).*

13.00-14.00

Lunch

14:00-15:15

Domestic High Courts II: Scandinavia

Gunnar Grendstad: *The Norwegian Supreme Court Database*

Johan Lindholm, Mattias Derlén and Daniel Naurin: *The Swedish High Courts Database*

15:15-15:45

Closing Remarks

15:45-17:00

Aperitivo (Lower Loggia, Badia Fiesolana)

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1. Sophia Ayada (EUI)
2. Daniel Behn (PluriCourts)
3. Stein Arne Brekke (EUI)
4. Deirdre Curtin (EUI)
5. Mattias Derlén (University of Umeå)
6. Gunnar Grendstad (University of Bergen)
7. Benjamin Engst (University of Mannheim)
8. Lee Epstein (Washington University)
9. Thomas Gschwend (University of Mannheim)
10. Silje Hermansen (PluriCourts, University of Oslo)
11. Mikael Holmgren (PluriCourts, University of Oslo)
12. Eun Hye Kim (EUI)
13. Pascal Langenbach (Max Planck Institute Bonn)
14. Malcolm Langford (University of Oslo)
15. Runar Lie (PluriCourts, University of Oslo)
16. Johan Lindholm (University of Umeå)
17. Lucía López Zurita (EUI)
18. Daniel Naurin (PluriCourts, University of Oslo)
19. Irene Otero Fernández (EUI)
20. Urška Sadl (EUI)
21. Philipp Schroeder (University of Umeå)
22. Carolyn Shapiro (Chicago-Kent College of Law, Illinois Institute of Technology)
23. Dieter Schlenker (HAEU)
24. Jeff Staton (Emory University)
25. Øyvind Stiansen (PluriCourts, University of Oslo)
26. Jorge Vargas Cullell (Programa Estado de la Nación)
27. Erik Voeten (Georgetown University)
28. Anna Wallerman (University of Gothenburg)
29. Keren Weinshall (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)