



Stockholm  
University

**SCILJ**

Stockholm Centre for  
International Law and Justice

## **Annual report for 2023 for the Stockholm Centre for International Law and Justice**

### **Introduction**

The activities of the centre were at a fairly high level, with fourteen events, including the annual doctoral retreat (CRIL), which this year was held at Fort Vuren in the Netherlands, and the launch of the Arabic version of the Commentary on the Law of the ICC (CLICC). Nevertheless, 2023 was a somewhat calmer year between the quite busy 2022 and a probably equally busy 2024, with at least three high profile events. Both the director and the deputy director **were away** during the autumn semester (Oxford and Washington, respectively).

### **Management**

The board has consisted of Marie Jacobsson (chair), André Andersson, Marika Ericson, Kaj Hobér, Said Mahmoudi, Åsa Romson, Jonas Tallberg and Pål Wrange, who is also the director. Jacobsson, Mahmoudi and Wrange constituted the executive committee. Mark Klamberg is the deputy director and has also written minutes of meetings. The board held two meetings (23 January and 25 September).

### **Activities**

Fourteen academic events were organised, including the seventh annual doctoral retreat (Critical Research in International Law; CRIL) with Tanja Aalberts (VU

Amsterdam), Mark Klamberg and Pål Wrange and ten doctoral students from seven countries, the launch of the Arabic version of the Commentary on the Law of the ICC (CLICC) and a panel debate on climate change litigations organized in collaboration with the Stockholm Environmental Law and Policy Centre.

Some of the seminars were held in an online format called "59 minutes" with prepared comments by commentators. Several of the events were published in video or podcast format, and the centre's podcast series is now available on Spotify.

18 January , "Defence Counsel 'Maestro'", with Agata Fijalkowski (Leeds Beckett)

26 January , "EU's external borders and values – sovereignty, complexity and harmonisation", with Jonas Grimheden (Frontex)

30 January , "Political constitutionalism and 'total market thinking': the case of labour protection", with Emilios Christodoulidis (Glasgow)

6 February , "Shocking the Conscience of Humanity – Gravity and the Legitimacy of International Criminal Law", with Margaret M. de Guzman (Temple)

5 May , "Defender's Paradox and the War in Ukraine: A Study of a Legal Dilemma", with Kamal Makili-Aliyev (Gothenburg) (59 minutes format)

05-07 June , Critical Research in International Law (CRIL), a doctoral retreat with Tanja Aalberts (VU), Pål Wrange, Mark Klamberg and ten doctoral students from six different countries. CRIL 2023 took place in Fort Vuren/Netherlands.

21 September , "Arabic Lexsitus, including the Arabic version of the Commentary on the Law of the ICC (CLICC)", with Mohamed Elewa Badar (Northumbria), Dolly Hamad (Higher Judicial Institute/Tunisia), Sanar Taha Darwish (ICRC), Mariana Fakih (SU) and Antonio Angotti (CILRAP)

21 September , "International law and climate change in national courts: experiences from Sweden and other jurisdictions", with Jonas Ebbesson (SU) and Anna Rogalska Hedlund (lawyer). The event was organised in cooperation with the Stockholm Environmental Law and Policy Centre

22 September , "The war in Ukraine before international courts: An unprecedented mobilisation of the international community?", with Anne Lagerwall (Université libre de Bruxelles)

25 September , "Hammarskjöld, Bernadotte, and Bunche: Mediation and Peacekeeping at the United Nations", with Kal Raustiala (UCLA). The event was organised in cooperation with the Swedish International Law Association and the Hans Blix Centre

2 October , "Legal science and human rights in the Israeli Constitutional Crisis and its implications for women", with Ruth Halperin-Kaddari (Bar-Ilan). The event was organised in cooperation with Family Law and Jurisprudence (SU)

5 October , "Freedom of expression and its limits", with Frederic Brusi (SST), Raphael Cohen-Almagor (Hull/Lund) and Sally Longworth (FOI/SU). The event was organised in cooperation with the Swedish Institute of Foreign Affairs

11 December , "The New Interference in Sovereign Affairs and International Law", with Frédéric Mégret (McGill)

14 December , "Tensions and Limitations of Contemporary International Law: The Wars in Ukraine and Gaza", with Alberto Coll (DePaul)

All through the year, the Centre also hosted weekly brown bag lunch seminars for researchers in international law, during which doctoral students or senior researchers presented their ongoing work. These seminars were organized by doctoral students Mariana Fakih and Ylva Lennartsson Hartmann and have generally been held in hybrid format.

## **Research**

Regarding the research at the Centre, see the tab "Research" on the Centre's website (<http://www.scilj.se/research/>) as well as

<https://www.su.se/english/research/research-subjects/law/public-international-law>

The following areas have received particular attention and have been covered by research projects in SCILJ: International Criminal Law and Transitional Justice, International Law in Times of Crises, Sovereignty and Cyberspace. The projects "the Global Governance of Artificial Intelligence" and "The influence of International Law on the UN Security Council's Agenda, Debates and Decision-making" have been pursued in cooperation with the Global and Regional Governance Research group at the Department of Politics at Stockholm University.

SCILJ fellow Nikola Hajdin pursues a post-doc, financed by the Swedish Research Council, at Stanford Law School.

## **Fellows, visiting researchers**

The Centre has the following fellows: Damon Barrett, Ola Engdahl, David Fisher, Nikola Hajdin, Nikola Hajdin, Pär Hallström, Mark Klamberg, David Langlet, Sally Longworth, Gustaf Lind, Katak Malla, Tove Nyberg, Martin Ratcovich Leopardi, Mona Samadi, Maria Sjöholm, Sia Spilioupolou Åkermark, Fredrik Stenhammar and Katinka Svanberg. The following colleagues are junior fellows: Daniel Astone, Julia Dahlqvist, Petter Danckwardt, Hevi Dawody, Mariana Fakih, Olga Glukhovska, Fredrik Holst, Linnea Kortfält, Ylva Lennartsson Hartman, Maria Nääv, and Will Underwood.

Due to the secondary effects of the pandemic, there were only three visiting fellows in 2023: Turan Atli (Konya Selçuk University), Tianjie Gu (Zhejiang University) and Anna Iurgenson (the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration).

## **International Advisory Board**

The International Advisory Board has consisted of Morten Bergsmo, Ove Bring, Ellen Hey, Abdul Koroma, Martti Koskenniemi, Said Mahmoudi (coordinator), Susan Marks, Djamchid Momtaz, Phoebe Okowa, Anne Orford, Anne Peters, David Schneiderman and Dinah Shelton.

## **Cooperation**

At the national level, the Centre cooperates regularly with the Swedish Branch of the International Law Association, and intermittently with the Swedish Institute of international Affairs, the Hans Blix Centre as well as with other institutes at the Department of Law, such as the research group in Legal Theory, the Swedish Law and Informatics Research Institute (IRI), the Child Rights Centre, the Institute of European Law, the Stockholm Environmental Law and Policy Centre and the Stockholm Centre for Commercial Law.

The Centre has a partnership with the Forum for International Criminal and Humanitarian Law (Brussels). The Centre also collaborates with the Centre for International Law and Justice in Copenhagen, the Erik Castrén Institute in Helsinki and PluriCourts at the University of Oslo as well as with the International Law Institute at Peking University. The doctoral retreat "CRIL" was organized in cooperation with the Free University (VU) of Amsterdam.

## **Education and staff**

The Centre, which is a research institute, does not provide education. However, due to the close relation between research and education, it is pertinent to mention that the department of law provides a basic course and six different advanced courses as well as a master's programme in public international law, as detailed under the tab "education" at the Centre's website ([www.scilj.se](http://www.scilj.se)).

In 2023, the department employed two professors, two lecturers, one assistant lecturer, one temporary lecturer and nine doctoral students associated with the Centre.

## **Financing and Economy**

During 2023, the Centre had no own incomes or expenditures and has neither assets nor liabilities. The director and the deputy director have received no remuneration.

Guest lectures and seminars and other activities are usually funded through generous ad hoc contributions from the Edward Cassel Foundation, the Hans Thornstedt Foundation or the Lars Hjern Foundation (the foundations), while other expenditures are funded with support from the Department of Law. During 2022, the centre initiated a practice of annual applications for recurring activities (the public seminars, the CRIL retreat and the Hilding Eek memorial lectures).

All the funds that are put at the Centre's disposal are managed by the Department of Law on a project basis, and any excess amount is refunded to the donors. Since the Centre has no assets, and also no secure incomes, and because it was likely that the activities primarily would be funded on a project basis, the Board decided not to adopt a budget for 2023.

## Administration

The Centre has been managed by the director and the deputy director with the assistance of colleagues in the Law Department, in particular the course administrator for international law. During 2023, Daniel Pinheiro Astone has been employed as a coordinator on a part-time basis (10%).

31 January, 2024



Marie Jacobsson



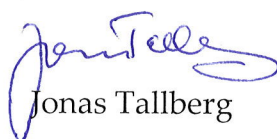
André Andersson

*Godkänd via mejl/pu*  
Marika Ericson

*Godkänd via mejl/pu*  
Kaj Hobér

*S. Mahmoudi*  
Said Mahmoudi

*Godkänd via mejl/pu*  
Åsa Romson



Jonas Tallberg



Pål Wrangé