

THE SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW

4th Biennial Global Conference

SIEL 2014 - Bern, 10-12 July 2014

CALL FOR PAPERS, PANELS & POSTERS

The Fourth Biennial Global Conference of the Society of International Economic Law (SIEL) will be held in Bern, Switzerland and hosted by the World Trade Institute (WTI) of the University of Bern, Switzerland on 10-12 July 2014.

I. Conference Content

The **Conference Theme** will be “*Regulatory Challenges in International Economic Law: Convergence or Divergence?*”

Much of today’s trade regulation addresses regulatory, behind the border issues. These issues are predominant in the field of trade in services and intellectual property, but are also of growing relevance in the field of goods (with production and process standards (PPMs) moving centre stage in balancing different policy goals). They also increasingly influence investment protection, and relate to sustainable development and environmental or social concerns. They dominate financial regulation and gradually influence monetary law.

The 2014 SIEL conference seeks to encourage research and papers addressing these issues. For example, should behind the border issues be harmonised in international law or left to regulatory competition? Put differently, what is, in the areas mentioned, but also in other areas relevant to international economic law (IEL), the proper policy space? To what extent is divergence and autonomy required or preferable, and to what extent should it be subject to disciplines of international law? What are the overarching criteria which policy makers should apply in assessing these questions?

While this theme is used to provide an overarching conceptual framework for the conference, the SIEL Conference Committee nonetheless wishes to encourage the submission of proposals for presentations *on all IEL subjects*, including those that may not fit within the scope of the theme (see below). **Accordingly, the conference committee seeks proposals for paper presentations, posters and conference panels under the following terms:**

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 topic may be submitted, but **preference** will be given to panel proposals whose subject falls within the scope of the conference theme.

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.

As noted above, in addition to proposals based upon the theme, the conference will also provide an opportunity for exploring many other different facets of IEL. Given that the aim of SIEL includes fostering research in the area of IEL broadly defined and promoting cooperation among all participants within the field, the SIEL Fourth Biennial Global Conference offers a forum for those inside and outside academia to exchange pedagogical and research methods, as well as to explore greater cooperation among the many different constituencies of the field. Thus, **in addition to proposals related to the theme**, we also welcome proposals for papers, panels and poster presentations on any topic related to IEL, including:

- the three traditional pillars of IEL: trade, investment, and monetary/financial policies;
- the relationship between these pillars, and between these pillars and other branches;
- the influence of disciplines such as those concerned with economics, the environment, political economy, development theory and other disciplines relating to IEL;
- comparative economic law, focussing on how IEL interacts with laws, institutions and actors at the domestic level;
- the function of IEL in different parts of the world;
- the roles of law and legal practices in international economic governance, particularly in the monetary and financial international institutions;
- methods and trends in the research, teaching and learning of IEL, including empirical methodologies; and
- interactions between scholars, practitioners, government officials and civil society groups active in IEL.

II. Submission Procedure and Instructions

Paper, poster and panel proposals **must be submitted by Monday 4th November by Noon GMT via email to siel14@wti.org** in accordance with the following instructions.

Please write “**SIEL 2014 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 2014 CfP Paper Proposal, Investment & Not Theme

Subject: SIEL 2014 CfP Panel Proposal, Trade & Theme

Subject: SIEL 2014 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 the full SIEL conference committee.

The SIEL conference committee anticipates announcing the results of this call for papers and panel proposals by the **end of January 2014**.

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 2014**, 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>).

III. Conference Fees, Costs and Financial Support

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

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

Depending on availability of financial support, SIEL will publish a funding application form on the SIEL 2014 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. If possible, SIEL hopes to distribute grants that cover the conference fee and/or (part of) travel costs for select speakers, particularly from developing countries. Any such support would be handled as reimbursements following a speaker's participation in Bern 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, Colin Picker (c.picker@unsw.edu.au) or Meredith Kolsky Lewis (meredith.lewis@vuw.ac.nz).

The SIEL website for the conference may be found at <http://www.sielnet.org/Default.aspx?pageId=1503410>.

The WTI website for the conference may be found at: <http://www.wti.org/siel-2014-global-conference/>.

IV. About the SIEL

SIEL is an organization for academics and academically-minded practitioners and officials in the field of IEL. SIEL is global and inclusive in terms of the expertise and interests of its members and participants in its activities, and the many disciplines encompassed by IEL. Among other objectives, SIEL also seeks to bring together its members in areas of common interest, as well as supporting academic activities in the field.

Its previous global conferences each included the presentation of almost 100 papers by IEL scholars and practitioners, new and established, from around the world, covering the many different facets of the field. For more information on SIEL and on the SIEL Global Conferences, please see the SIEL website: www.sielnet.org

Conference Co-Chairs: Thomas Cottier, Holger Hestermeyer, Meredith Kolsky Lewis & Colin Picker