PhD Summer School

Joint Summer School:
iCourts (Copenhagen) and PluriCourts (Oslo)
Welcome to the 7th Joint Summer School: iCourts (Copenhagen) and PluriCourts (Oslo)

The Centre of Excellence for International Courts (iCourts) and PluriCourts (Centre for the Study of the Legitimate Roles of the Judiciary in the Global Order) are hosting a high-level summer school for PhD students working on international courts in their social and political context. We particularly welcome students who are writing up a PhD thesis that involves a strong focus on methodology. Established in 2013, the summer school has so far challenged and assisted 150 PhD students from around the world.

The set-up

The iCourts/PluriCourts PhD summer school is based on the principle of participant contributions to the knowledge community. This means that students who sign up for the summer school are expected to contribute to discussions and to participate in the exercises that are part of the learning program. As you learn more through active participation and cooperation, the summer school requires that you are willing to present your work and to share your intellectual curiosity with others by asking questions and giving comments to other participants.

What was the most valuable part of the course?

"Exchanging and confronting the thoughts from my thesis with people from different backgrounds."

The host

iCourts, the Danish National Research Foundation's Centre of Excellence for International Courts, is a research centre dedicated to the study of international courts, their role in a globalising legal order and their impact on politics and society. iCourts opened in March 2012 and was extended in 2016 after a successful midterm evaluation until 2022. iCourts is based at the Faculty of Law of the University of Copenhagen.

iCourts' research is problem-driven, focusing on salient theoretical and practical issues of importance not only for an effective international judiciary but also for the development of democratic politics under contemporary globalization.

PluriCourts is a Centre of Excellence at the Department of Public and International Law, The Faculty of Law, the University of Oslo. The Centre is funded by the Research Council of Norway.

The centre explores the normative, legal and empirical soundness of charges of illegitimacy, to understand and assess how ICs do, could and should respond. Central research themes are Legitimacy standards, the multilevel separation of authority, independence and accountability, performance, comparative advantages, and best practices and models.
The venue

Founded in 1479, the University of Copenhagen is among the oldest universities in Northern Europe. The Faculty of Law was among the four original faculties and today employs approx. 75 members of academic staff and some 60 PhD students. About 4,500 students are enrolled in the legal programmes.

In 2017 the Faculty of Law moved to South Campus in completely new buildings with nice group rooms, reading rooms, green outdoor areas, canteens and cafes. The campus areas bring together various lively academic environments with high academic standards and makes possible innovation and interdisciplinary cooperation between the students and the various academic and research groups.

The participants

The program will admit up to 24 PhD students, in the early stages of their research. To be admitted to the program, students must be enrolled in a PhD program.

Students must submit a research project as part of the application, since the key focus of the summer program is to help students improve their research projects.

Students should expect to significantly refine and change their doctoral project in light of the feedback given during the summer school, thus the optimal time to participate in this program is after a student has an approved project and after they have surveyed the relevant literature. The students may have begun research, but it is better to participate before any serious writing up of findings has occurred.

“The format was perfect. There was a perfect degree of work and participation. The social events were fantastic.”

The program structure

Mornings — Faculty teach a session that is related to their own research interests. They present some of their own work and discuss methodological issues related to researching specified topic.

Students will have assigned readings (approximately 100 pages) that they prepare in advance.

Afternoon sessions — Small groups of students (5-6) will be grouped based on similarity or complementarity of topics. This group of students will meet every afternoon with a faculty member to work on methodological issues related to their own projects. In order for participants to get diversified input to their work, faculty members will rotate between groups.

Evenings — There will be an informal welcome and closing dinner with faculty, where students will get a chance to talk more informally with faculty members and other students. Most evenings will involve homework — doing readings for the next morning’s session, and preparing assignments for the afternoon session.

A detailed program will be sent to all accepted students.
The Faculty

All faculty of the iCourts/PluriCourts Summer School are experienced and leading researchers from Europe and the United States.

The researchers you will meet at the 2019 Ph.D. Summer School include:

- **Professor Mikael Rask Madsen**, iCourts, University of Copenhagen, DK.
- **Professor Larry Helfer**, Duke University School of Law, US.
- **Professor Cesare Romano**, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, US (tbc).
- **Professor Daniel Naurin**, Pluricourts, University of Oslo, N.
- **Professor Marlene Wind**, Political Science, University of Copenhagen, DK.
- **Professor Jan Komarek**, iCourts, University of Copenhagen, DK.
- **Dr. Shai Dothan**, iCourts, University of Copenhagen, DK.
- **Dr. Mikkel Jarle Christensen**, iCourts, University of Copenhagen, DK.

Scholarships

iCourts will offer up to 3 scholarships to be awarded with regard to the quality of the projects. The grants will cover travel and accommodation during the conference. If you wish to apply for an iCourts grant, please send an e-mail to the adress icourts_ss_grant@jur.ku.dk indicating your motivation for participation and enclosing a budget and proceed to register as below.

ECTS: 5

**Time:**  
June 17 - 21 2019 at 9:00 - 18:00

**Place:**  
University of Copenhagen  
Faculty of Law  
iCourts  
Njalsgade 76  
2300 Copenhagen S

**Participation and expenses:** The course costs 275 Euros/2050 DKK, which covers food, drinks, and dinners during the Summer School.

**Deadline for submission:**  
1 February 2019.

**Please use the registration form:**

[Click here]