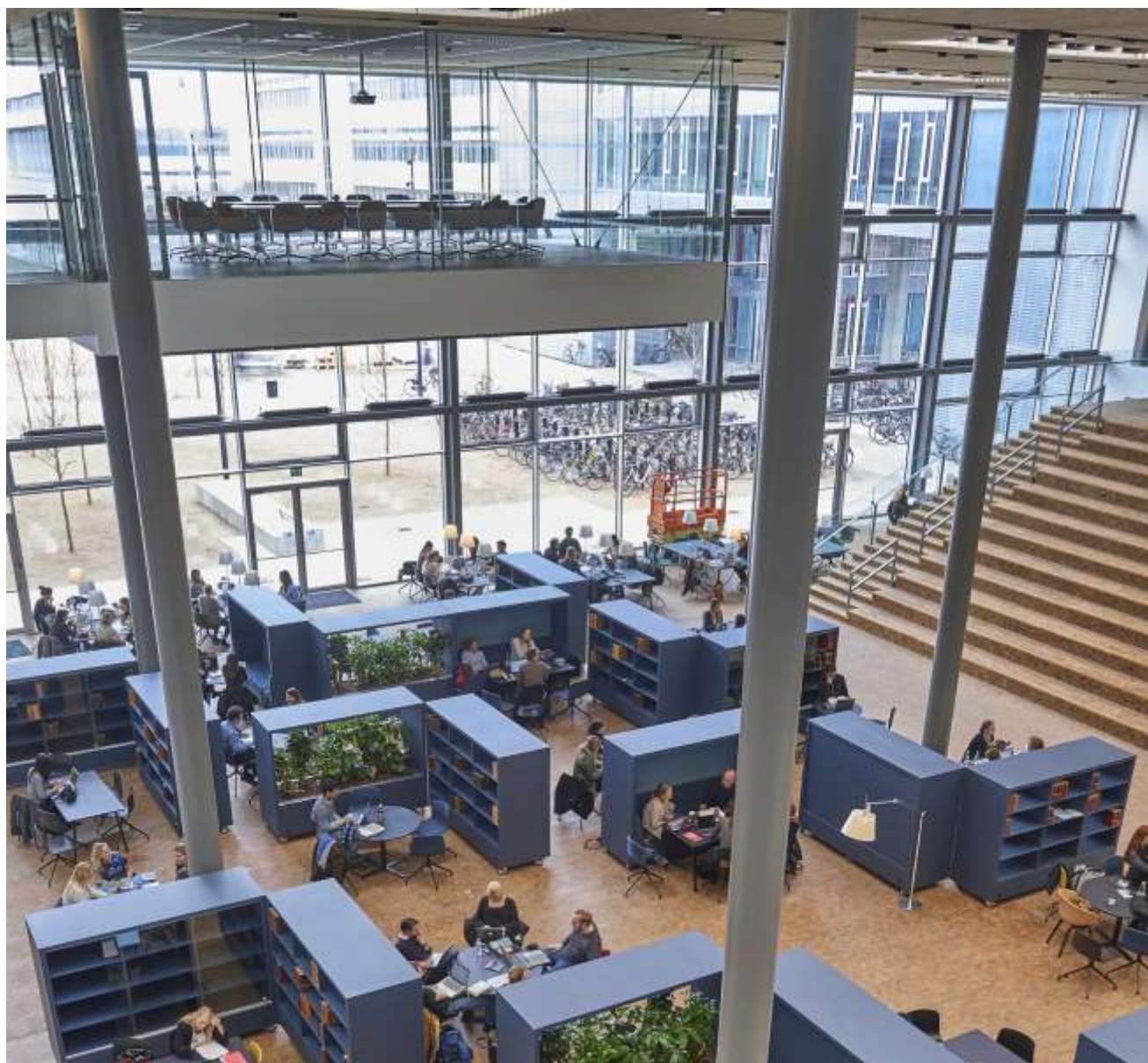




# PhD Summer School

June 7- 10, 2022





# Welcome to the 10<sup>th</sup> PhD Summer School

Organized by iCourts (Copenhagen) &  
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 Summer School for ambitious PhD students working on international courts, bodies and organisations in their social and political context. We particularly welcome students whose projects have a strong empirical approach as well as students from the global south. Now in its 10<sup>th</sup> year, the Summer School has challenged and assisted more than 200 PhD students from around the world.



## THE IDEA.

The *iCourts/PluriCourts PhD Summer School* is a celebration of intellectual curiosity, academic cooperation, and professional networking. Students who sign up for the Summer School will meet an engaged group of both young and senior scholars who look forward to sharing their experience and knowledge with you.

### **AS A PARTICIPANT**

You are expected to take an active part in the scholarly discussions, to present your own work, and to give feedback to your co-participants.

The slogan of the *iCourts/PluriCourts PhD Summer School* expresses the gist of what we believe makes excellent research:

‘BE CURIOUS, WORK HARD,  
AND HAVE FUN’!



# YOUR HOST.

***iCourts*** 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 as a Centre of Excellence funded by a large grant from the Danish National Research Foundation. After a successful midterm evaluation in 2016 it was extended until 2022.

Since its founding, *iCourts* has contributed to transforming the scholarly and practical understanding of international courts (ICs) at both the global and regional level by developing and applying novel theoretical and methodological tools. Research from *iCourts* provided the first systematic, comparative, and empirical analysis of the creation and evolution of a growing number of ICs throughout the world and generated new ways to investigate and explain the operation and authority of ICs across the globe. Since its inception, *iCourts* has continually expanded its remit to foster and promote a diversity of techniques to contextualise and break open the international legal sphere. It is these methodological insights in particular that the staff at the summer school work to pass on to young, innovative PhD scholars.

To read more about *iCourts'* current projects, click [here](#).

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 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 excellent facilities and green outdoor areas.



# YOUR CO-HOST.

***PluriCourts***, the sister-centre of iCourts, is also a Centre of Excellence located at the Department of Public and International Law, The Faculty of Law at , the University of Oslo. The centre is funded by the Research Council of Norway.

PluriCourts studies the legitimacy of international courts and tribunals (ICs) from legal, political science and philosophical perspectives. The centre explores the normative, legal and empirical soundness of charges of illegitimacy, to understand and assess how ICs do, could and should respond.

*PluriCourts* explores the multidimensional legitimacy standards which include multilevel separation of authority, independence and accountability, performance, and comparative advantages.

The University of Oslo is Norway's oldest institution for research and higher education and celebrated its 200th anniversary in 2011. At the Faculty of Law about 1,500 full time students are enrolled.







*To exchange opinions with brilliant academics was extremely valuable, enriching and motivating*



# THE PARTICIPANTS.

The summer school will admit up to 20 PhD students and is designed for students in the early stages of their research. To be admitted to the program, students must be enrolled in a doctoral program.

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

Students should be prepared to refine and change their projects in light of the feedback given during the summer school; thus, the optimal time to participate in the summer school is after students have 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.



“Receiving feedback, both from the faculty and other students, was really helpful! The interdisciplinary aspect is great, both because we receive advice that we could not get in our own department, but also because it is very motivating to see young researchers all interested in the same topic, but with so many different perspectives! It really refreshed the visions I have of my own project.”





# THE PROGRAMME.

We are optimistic to return to the success format, welcoming PhD students in Copenhagen and that the worst of pandemic restrictions are behind us.

## **Lectures**

Faculty members will teach a session related to their own research interests and methodological approaches. They will present some of their own work and discuss methodological issues related to researching a specified topic. Students will have assigned readings (approximately 200 pages) that they prepare in advance.

## **Working group sessions**

Small groups of 4-5 students will be formed based on similarity or complementarity of topics and methods. These groups of students will meet every day with a professor and a post-doctoral researcher from iCourts or Pluricourts to work on methodological issues related to their own projects. In order for participants to receive diversified input to their work, professors will rotate between groups, while the postdocs will function as directors throughout the week maintaining continuity and a keen eye for specific takeaways for individual projects.

\*A detailed program as well as a list and description of assignments required readings will be made available to all accepted PhD students by May 2022.

## **Social programme**

As an integrated part of the Summer School, iCourts' PhD students and Postdocs will arrange social activities designed to foster the more informal relationships among participants. There will be an informal welcome and closing 'happy hour' where students will get a chance to talk more informally with faculty and other students. We aim to organize social time around Copenhagen so all the participants can get to know one another.

## **Evenings**

Most evenings will involve homework — doing readings for the next morning's lecture and preparing assignments for the working group session.





“The academic content was really, very good. I received excellent comments about my project and very good answers to my questions. All staff were extremely nice and welcoming and I felt that I could ask anything that interested me. Thank you all for all the valuable insights.





# THE FACULTY.

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

## Lecturers

Professor Mikael Rask Madsen, Director of *iCourts*,  
University of Copenhagen, DK

Professor Andreas Føllesdal, Director of *Pluricourts*,  
University of Oslo

Professor Karen Alter, Political Science and Law,  
Northwestern University, US/DK

Professor Mikkel Jarle Christensen, *iCourts*,  
University of Copenhagen, DK

Professor Joanna Lam, *iCourts*, University of  
Copenhagen, DK

Associate Professor Shai Dothan, University of  
Copenhagen, DK

## Organising Committee

Associate Professor Veronika Fikfak, *iCourts*,  
University of Copenhagen, DK

Assistant Professor, Zuzanna Godzimirska, *iCourts*,  
University of Copenhagen, DK

Postdoctoral Fellow, Jacob Livingston Slosser,  
*iCourts*, University of Copenhagen, DK



# DETAILS.



## **ECTS**

5

## **TIME & DATE**

07 - 10 June, 2022

## **PLACE**

the University of Copenhagen Faculty of Law iCourts, Njalsgade 76

2300 Copenhagen S

## **Participation and expenses:**

The course costs 250 Euros/2050 DKK, which covers food, drinks, and dinners during the Summer School. There are opportunities to apply for financial support.

## **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION**

07 February 2022.



