



**10TH YOUNG INTERNATIONAL LAWYERS
RESEARCH FORUM**

A LACKLAND LAW?

***TERRITORY, EFFECTIVENESS AND JURISDICTION
IN INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN LAW***

University of Catania, 24-25 January 2013

THEMES AND CALL FOR PAPERS

The University of Catania is pleased to organise the 10th edition of the **Young International Lawyers Research Forum**, which will be held on **Thursday, 24 - Friday, 25 January 2013** in the old academic venue of Catania Law School, Italy. The meeting, launched in Italy in 2003, is intended to provide a platform for young international legal scholars to discuss ongoing research papers and materials linked to the topics annually offered. The theme of the coming YIL Research Forum is ***A Lackland Law? Territory, Effectiveness and Jurisdiction in International and European Law.***

The international post-Westphalian order is traditionally founded on the notion of State territory. Territory is a basic element of the very existence of a State and is generally understood as justification and limit of State sovereignty and jurisdiction.

Even so, the expanding scope of territoriality issues is still controversial and central to the concerns of international legal theories. Indeed, the relevant changes occurred over the last decades throughout the international community have challenged the very idea of territory, as well as its primordial meanings and functions in international law. The normative and institutional “global order” has gone through complex evolutions and the territory as a crucial factor of international ruling is gradually losing its key role. Both writers and international practice confirm that international law always more tends to be applied in a “de-territorialised” way, moving beyond the material or legal preconditions of territoriality.

Room is left for ongoing debates on these trends, undertaking analysis and renewed elaborations of a general theory of territorial regimes from the viewpoints of both public and private international law and of EU law.

The general topic of the current edition will be analysed through three sub-themes, each one exploring different dimensions and developments of rules and principles governing “territoriality” issues at international and supranational levels: **1) *Crisis of Territorial Order and International Law*; 2) *Beyond Territories. International Law, Jurisdictions and New Geographies of Spaces*; 3) *End or Return of Territories? The New Frontiers of the Territorial Enforcement of Law*.**

These sub-themes will be discussed during **three panel sessions** and a **final round table**. The thematic sessions will host a key-note guest speaker, interventions of paper-givers (selected through a peer-reviewed process) and the conclusive remarks of a discussant.

The first panel (***Crisis of Territorial Order and International Law***) is devoted to the traditional questions arising from the “territorial” perspective of public international law and their impact on EU law. The purpose is that of analysing the content, the scope and also the limits of the notion of territory as qualifying element of “classical” public international law, in the light of the evolution both of case-law and States’ practice.

The second one (***Beyond Territories. International Law, Jurisdictions and New Geographies of Spaces***) will focus on the debate fostered by the principle of territoriality before domestic and international judges. The core aim is to discuss the problem of extraterritorial application of international law and its legitimacy, especially through the analysis of the complex debates around the so-called extraterritorial and universal jurisdiction issues.

The third thematic session (***End or Return of Territories? The New Frontiers of the Territorial Enforcement of Law***) is meant to explore the developments of models and methods of “non-territorial” law-making, in the latest scenarios of international legal cooperation. Moving from the analysis of selected “non-territorial” phenomena, this panel investigates how the territoriality principle affects those issues only occasionally endowed with a “geographic” dimension, such as economic and financial movements, internet governance, protection of material and immaterial property, biotechnologies, environment protection, natural disasters, immigration control and transnational crime. The task is investigating what’s beyond the primordial legal concept of territory, especially from the view of domestic courts, constantly coping with controversial issues relevant to jurisdictional competences, conflicts of laws and concurrent legal regimes.

The Organising Committee invites proposals for papers to be presented at the Research Forum.

The **Call for Papers** is now open and the **deadline** for submission of abstracts is Saturday **24 November 2012**. Panel speakers' will be selected on the basis of abstracts submitted in response to this Call for papers. All young academics and legal professionals are encouraged to submit abstracts.

The selected papers, the key-note lectures and the round table proceedings will be included in an edited volume on the theme of the Research Forum.

▪ **Submission of an abstract (paper):**

Application Dossiers - to be submitted to the Organising Committee (email: giovani-internazionalisti@lex.unict.it, fax: 095.7151012) by **November 24, 2012** - must include an abstract of the unpublished paper (not exceeding 500 words, proposed language: Italian or English), a bibliographical note and a short biography of the author. Abstracts must sufficiently set out the Author's argument and its implications for the general topic of the research meeting.

Abstracts received in response to this Call will be selected through a peer-review process. Applicants will be informed of the selection decision by **10 December 2012**. The final program of the Research Forum will be announced by **14 December 2012**. Participation will be contingent on producing a draft paper by Thursday **10 January 2013**. Selected participants will have their reasonable expenses covered.

Timeline:

- Deadline for Submission of Abstracts: **24 November 2012**
- Notification of Acceptance by: **10 December 2012**
- Detailed Programme by: **14 December 2012**
- Deadline for Submission of Draft Papers: **10 January 2013**

Updated information about the event can be found at all times on the Research Forum webpage at: <http://www.unict.it/en/lackland-law>
<http://www.unict.it/giovani-internazionalisti>.

