Future Directions in Empirical Research on Investment Treaty Law and Arbitration

31 January 2019, Professorboligen, Karl johans gate 47. Oslo

Preliminary program as of mid-November 2018

Hosted by LEGINVEST, a Research Council of Norway-financed project Pluricourts Centre for Excellence, Faculty of Law, University of Oslo In collaboration with iCourts and the German Development Institute

Background
International investment law and arbitration is the subject of growing empirical inquiry. Drawing on a wide range of disciplines and different qualitative, quantitative and computational methods, the research has shed light on burning public policy debates, puzzles in actor behavior, and trends in institutional and legal developments. This conference on future directions will kick-off with a launch of the PluriCourts Investment Treaty Arbitration Database (PITAD), which aims at assisting empirical research and providing a space for harmonization of data collection and storage. The launch will be followed by presentations on (1) new themes and projects in investment treaties and arbitration research and (2) the potential for collaboration on data collection, storage and analytics. The conference is sponsored by LEGINVEST, which is a Research Council of Norway project dedicated to studying the dynamic interaction between investment arbitration and investment treaty design. LEGINVEST also serves as a hub for PITAD and ongoing empirical and theoretical research on the legitimacy of investor-state dispute resolution (“ISDS”).

12:00-13:30 PITAD Launch (with Lunch)

Chair: Ole Kristian Fauchald, Professor Pluricourts, University of Oslo & Coordinator, LEGINVEST

Presentation of the database
Malcolm Langford, Professor of Public Law & Affiliate, Pluricourts, University of Oslo

Building the database
Daniel Behn, Associate Professor, Pluricourts, University of Oslo & Lecturer, Uni. of Liverpool
Maksim Usynin, Research Fellow, University of Copenhagen

Using the Database
Runar Lie, Research Fellow, Pluricourts, University of Oslo
Taylor St. John, Lecturer, University of St. Andrews

Discussion and coffee break
14:15-15:15 Researching Arbitrators
Chair:  Mikael Madsen, Director, iCourts Centre of Excellence, Uni. of Copenhagen
Presenter:  Sergio Puig, Associate Professor of Law, University of Arizona
Comment:  Malcolm Langford, Professor of Public Law, University of Oslo
Presenter:  Catherine Rogers, Professor, Penn State Law
Comment:  Daniel Behn, Associate Professor, Pluricourts, University of Oslo
Presenter:  Maksim Usynin, Research Fellow, University of Copenhagen
Comment:  Sergio Puig, Associate Professor of Law, University of Arizona

15:30-16:45 Arbitration-Treaty Relationships
Chair:  Mavluda Sattorova, University of Liverpool
Presenter:  Wolfgang Alschner, Assistant Professor, University of Ottawa
Comment:  Runar Lie, Research Fellow, Pluricourts, University of Oslo
Presenter:  Tarald Berge, Research Fellow, University of Oslo
Comment:  Theresa Squatrito, Lecturer, University of Liverpool
Presenter:  Runar Lie, Research Fellow, Pluricourts, University of Oslo
Comment:  Wolfgang Alschner, Assistant Professor, University of Ottawa
Presenter:  Axel Berger, Researcher, German Development Institute
Comment:  Ole Kristian Fauchald, Professor Pluricourts & Coordinator, LEGINVEST

16:45-18:00 Arbitration's Relationship to Policy and Doctrinal Research
Chair:  Szilárd Gáspár-Szilágyi, Postdoctoral Fellow, Pluricourts, University of Oslo
Presenter:  Laura Letourneau-Tremblay, Research Fellow, University of Oslo
Comment:  Chiara Giorgetti, University of Richmond
Presenter:  Mikael Madsen, Director, iCourts Centre of Excellence, Uni. of Copenhagen
Comment:  Mavluda Sattorova, University of Liverpool
Presenter:  Taylor St John, Lecturer in International Relations, University of St Andrews
Comment:  Mikael Madsen, Director, iCourts Centre of Excellence, Uni. of Copenhagen
Presenter:  Yuliya Chernykh, Research Fellow, University of Oslo
Presenter:  Günes Ünüvar, Postdoctoral Fellow iCourts
Comment:  Ole Kristian Fauchald, Professor and Coordinator, LEGINVEST, Pluricourts Centre of Excellence

18:00 Close
19:00 Dinner
(This conference will be preceded by an internal LEGINVEST planning meeting 9-11am).