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**ACADEMIC FORUM ON ISDS**  
2025 Conference

ISDS Reform: Past, Present,  
and Future

European University Institute, Florence  
29 April 2025

**Call for Papers**

The Academic Forum on ISDS is delighted to announce its next plenary conference 'ISDS Reform: Past, Present, and Future', which will take place on 29 April 2025 at the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence, in cooperation with the European University Institute and the University of Oslo. The core of the conference will be a series of presentations based on papers collected through this call. Details on the submission procedure and key dates can be found at the end of this call.

## **Conference theme**

The multilateral reform negotiations in UNCITRAL Working Group III have been ongoing for a few years and are probably approaching their conclusion. With this Conference, the Academic Forum aims to explore the outcomes and future of reform of ISDS. Interested academics (including PhD candidates and post-doctoral researchers), practitioners, and policymakers are invited to submit their paper abstracts. There is no requirement of membership of the Academic Forum.

This is an open call which welcomes all viewpoints. We encourage submissions focused on all aspects of reform, including achievements to date, future directions and post-reform implications. While ISDS should be a component of any submission, we also welcome broader pieces on investment law and the role of ISDS within international economic law more generally.

While this is an open call, submissions that consider topics currently under discussion in Working Group III are especially welcome, with relevant topics including but not limited to: third party funding and other procedural and cross-cutting issues discussed in WP. 244 and WP. 245; treaty law issues related to a multilateral instrument as envisioned in WP. 246; dispute prevention and related topics discussed in WP.235; design considerations related to a standing mechanism or appellate mechanism, as discussed in WP. 239 and WP. 240.

## **Guidelines for submission**

Interested authors are invited to submit abstracts by 31 December 2024. An abstract should correspond to an original project and should be neither published nor accepted for publication when the Conference takes place. Papers will be selected by the scientific committee of the Conference on the basis of submitted abstracts. Only one abstract per author will be considered (with an exception for co-authored works). Abstracts must not exceed 500 words and must be submitted to the following email address: [academicforumisds@gmail.com](mailto:academicforumisds@gmail.com). In addition to the abstract, each submission should contain a short (one page) CV or bio-note, including the author's name, title, affiliation, and contact details.

Abstract selection will take into account the originality and relevance of the proposal, as well as the need to ensure a diverse conference in all respects.

Authors of selected abstracts for the Conference will be notified by 1 February 2025, and must plan to submit their completed papers by 15 April 2025. A selection of papers will be published in a special issue of the *Journal of World Investment & Trade*.

## Practical details

Authors of accepted abstracts will be expected to commit to attend the conference in person and to bear the costs of their own travel and accommodation.

## Key dates

Abstract submission **by 31 December 2024**

Speakers notified **by 1 February 2025**

Completed papers due **by 15 April 2025**

Conference to be held on **29 April 2025**

## Publishing partner

