



UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM

Society of
International
Economic
Law



Call for Papers

13th PEPA/SIEL Conference

of

Postgraduate and Early Professionals/Academics

of the

Society of International Economic Law

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW AT THE REBIRTH OF HISTORY

Amsterdam 2025

25 - 26 September

Conference Co-chairs

Dr. Matteo Fermeglia (Climate Law and Governance, Faculty of Humanities, Department of European Studies)

Dr. Geraldo Vidigal (International Trade Law, Amsterdam Law School)

Introduction

The Society of International Economic Law (SIEL) holds an annual conference to connect its senior membership to its Postgraduate and Early Professionals/Academics Network

(PEPA/SIEL). The PEPA/SIEL Conference constitutes a unique platform for early career academics and professionals (enrolled in advanced degrees or within five years of graduation), researching or working in the field of international economic law and in related areas. PEPA/SIEL fosters collaboration and mentoring opportunities for emerging academics and professionals, granting them the opportunity to present and discuss their research in a supportive and welcoming environment, as well as to receive fruitful feedback from established experts in the field.

The **PEPA/SIEL Amsterdam 2025**, themed *International Economic Law at the Rebirth of History*, will concentrate on transformational changes in the field. It will focus on three developments calling into question fundamental tenets of international trade and investment law, namely: a) the rise of great power politics and of unilateralism as key drivers of new developments in international economic relations, and its impact on International Economic Law; b) the technological and social transformations that challenge foundational elements of International Economic Law, calling into question core pillars of its structure, such as the central role of states, as well as key assumptions, such as the separation between the ‘domestic’ and the ‘international’ spheres and between ‘economic’ and ‘social’ objectives; and c) the continued acceleration of environmental degradation and the imperative of embedding environmental sustainability, including climate change, into International Economic Law.

The **PEPA/SIEL Amsterdam 2025** will provide a forum to bring together early career and established academics and practitioners to examine key original aspects within the broader umbrella mentioned above. PEPA/SIEL aims to draw from all SIEL young scholar-members globally.

Conference themes and submission instructions

We invite submissions for papers from early career academics and professionals focusing on the following themes:

1. The Unilateral Reshaping of International Economic Law:
 - Redrawing boundaries: the extraterritoriality of global sustainability measures under international trade law.
 - The EU’s attempted reshaping of investment arbitration: irresistible force meets immovable object?
 - The US’s attempted reshaping of the trade regime: reactions, responses, accommodation.
 - The law and practice of autonomous sanctions: protecting and affecting human rights.
 - Non-state actors and international economic law.

2. International economic law and sustainability: stumbling block or building block?
 - Stopping and enabling the energy transition: Fossil fuels, critical materials, renewable energy.
 - Using international trade agreements to promote environmental and social sustainability: experience and prospects.
 - International investment law: safeguarding environmental measures after *Eco Oro* and *Rockhopper*.
 - International trade law and labour standards: any changes on the ground?

- International economic law and resources of and beneath the sea: Earth's final frontier?
3. International financing and taxation: meet the new rules, same as the old rules?
 - The prospect of a global taxation regime: the OECD arrangement, the UN convention, and their discontents.
 - Infrastructure financing and sovereign debt: human rights conditionalities in the post-Western economic world.
 - Challenges to the dollar dominance: dust off the rulebook?
 4. Law-making and dispute settlement
 - Multilateralising international investment law: a future-in-the-past?
 - Dispute settlement in trade: permanent crisis or permanent standstill.
 5. The Return of History and the Post-history Economic Institutions
 - The Future of the Bretton Woods Arrangement.
 - The European Integration Project in the Era of Global Rearmament.
 - Regionalism in a Fragmented World.

The submissions, must be sent to pepasiel2025@gmail.com by 6 June 2025. Submissions may be co-authored, as long as all authors are early career academics/professionals,

Submissions must include the following:

- **An abstract of the paper of a maximum of 500 words, including: the title of the paper, the paper's main conclusions and arguments, and the relevant conference theme(s);**
- **A mini-bio of the author(s) of a maximum of 150 words;**
- **The availability of the author(s) to join us in person in Amsterdam.**

The deadline for submissions is 6 June 2025. The outcome of the assessment of submission will be communicated to authors by 13 June 2025. Accepted authors are requested to submit their draft papers, with around 8,000 words, ahead of the conference by 22 August 2025. We particularly welcome submissions from early-career Academics and practitioners from Asian, African, Latin American, Caribbean, Pacific and Small Island States.

In the spirit of fostering exchange throughout the two-day conference, we encourage and favour in-person participation. No conference fee is required for selected participants.

Funding for travel and accommodation is extremely limited. Recognising the disproportionate impact of this element on scholars and academics based in developing and least-developed countries, we will consider limited online spots from early career academics and professionals who are unable to join us due to financial limitations. Participants accepted for in-person participation are expected to join us in Amsterdam.

For further questions or information, please contact the conference co-chairs at m.fermeglia@uva.nl and g.vidigal@uva.nl.