



CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL LAW JOURNAL

**Reimagining International Law:
Critical, Regional, and Trans-Disciplinary Perspectives**

15th Annual Conference: 23–24 April 2026

University of Cambridge, Faculty of Law,
Cambridge, United Kingdom

Conference Brochure

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1. Introduction and Theme

The Cambridge International Law Journal (CILJ) is pleased to host its 15th Annual Conference on 23–24 April 2026 at the Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom. The theme of this year’s Conference is: ‘Reimagining International Law: Critical, Regional, and Trans-Disciplinary Perspectives’.

At a time when the promise of international law as a guarantor of peace, rights, and accountability is being profoundly tested, the Conference seeks to provide a space for sustained critical reflection on the foundations, limits, and future trajectories of the international legal order. Protracted armed conflicts, the erosion of democratic norms and civil liberties, widening global inequalities, and the intensifying climate crisis have all exposed structural weaknesses within existing legal frameworks and institutions. These challenges invite not only doctrinal responses, but deeper engagement with the assumptions, power dynamics, and exclusions embedded in international law.

Against this backdrop, the 15th Annual Conference encourages scholars to engage with neglected traditions, marginalised voices, and alternative vocabularies that offer new ways of thinking about and practising international law. Contributors are invited to explore how international law operates within broader social, political, economic, and technological contexts, and how critical, regional, and trans-disciplinary approaches might open pathways towards more just, inclusive, and responsive legal futures. The Conference will address a wide range of issues, including but not limited to: evolving critiques of international human rights; the changing nature of conflict and the adequacy of international humanitarian and criminal law; international law’s responses to the climate crisis; the political economy of trade, sanctions, and development; artificial intelligence and emerging technologies; and the interaction between public international law, regionalism, and transnational legal orders.

This brochure provides an overview of the conference and relevant logistical information. The conference is a two-day event, and tickets can be purchased for in-person or virtual attendance.

2. Conference programme

All the venues, save for the formal dinner at Selwyn College, are located in the Faculty of Law Building of the University of Cambridge: David Williams Building, 10 West Road, Cambridge, CB3 9DZ (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/PuAw1gMSQobT28y26>). There will be conference assistants and clear signposting in the Faculty of Law to help all attendees find the venues on the conference days.

Time	Item	Venue
Day 1 – 23 April 2026		
08:30–09:30	Registration and coffee	The main foyer, ground floor
09:30–09:40	Welcoming address by the Conference Convenors (Nina Prusac and Carter Cheng)	LG18, lower ground floor
	Welcoming address by the Editors-in-Chief (Jonas Wieschollek and Renatus Otto Franz Derler)	LG18, lower ground floor
09:40–09:50	Welcoming address by the Honorary Editor-in-Chief (Professor Jan Klabbers, Whewell Professor of International Law)	LG18, lower ground floor
09:50–10:50	Keynote address 1 – Judge Ioannis Ktistakis, European Court of Human Rights: <i>Does the ‘Living Instrument’ Have Limits? Judicial Evolution and the Structural Boundaries of International Human Rights Law</i>	LG18, lower ground floor
10:50–11:20	Coffee break	Lower ground atrium, lower ground floor
11:20–12:30	Panel 1: International Human Rights Law: The Narratives, Normativity, and the Reimagining of Rights	LG18, lower ground floor
12:30–13:30	Lunch	Lower ground atrium, lower ground floor
13:30–14:30	Keynote address 2 – Professor Costas Douzinas, Birkbeck, University of London: <i>States of Exception and International Law</i>	LG18, lower ground floor
14:30–15:45	Panel 2: Intellectual Development of International Law: Critical Reorientations in Power, Identity, and Development	LG18, lower ground floor
15:45–16:15	Coffee break	
16:15–17:30	Panel 3: Technology: Capability, Access, and Structural Inequality in Emerging Tech Governance	LG18, lower ground floor

	Panel 4: International Environmental Law: Reimagining Environmental Governance in an Era of Planetary Crisis	G24, ground floor
19:00–21:30	Optional formal dinner	Sidney Sussex College, Sidney St, Cambridge CB2 3HU
Day 2 – 24 April 2026		
08:55–09:25	Coffee and networking	
09:25–09:30	Opening address for the second day, housekeeping by Conference Convenors (Nina Prusac and Carter Cheng)	LG18, lower ground floor
9:30–10:30	Keynote address 3 – Judge Beti Hohler, International Criminal Court: <i>Cross-fertilisation in Criminal Justice: Accountability for International Crimes before National and International Courts</i>	LG18, lower ground floor
10:30–11:00	Coffee break	Lower ground atrium, lower ground floor
11:00–12:15	Panel 5: International Humanitarian Law: Reinterpreting Protection and Responsibility in Contemporary Armed Conflict	LG18, lower ground floor
12:15–13:30	Lunch	Lower ground atrium, lower ground floor
13:30–14:30	Panel 6: International Criminal Law: Normative Limits, Evolving Standards, and Emerging Accountability Gaps	LG18, lower ground floor
14:30–15:00	Coffee break	
15:00–16:15	Panel 7: International Economic Law: Reforming Financial and Trade Regimes in an Age of Fragmentation	LG18, lower ground floor
16:15–16:35	Closing address by the Editors-in-Chief and Conference Convenors (Jonas Wieschollek, Renatus Otto Franz Derler, Nina Prusac, Carter Cheng)	LG18, lower ground floor

3. Keynote speakers and honorary panel moderator

The following eminent scholars will deliver their keynote presentations at the conference:

Judge Beti Hohler, International Criminal Court



Beti Hohler is a Judge of the International Criminal Court, where she serves in the Pre-Trial and Trial Divisions.

Judge Hohler is an expert in international criminal law and justice. She has spent most of her career practising law at international and internationalised criminal courts, dealing with high profile cases involving war crimes, crimes against humanity and organised crime. Prior to her appointment as an ICC Judge, she served as a Trial Lawyer in the Office of the Prosecutor of the ICC and as a senior legal adviser to international judges with the EU Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo. Judge Hohler started her career at the Court of Appeals in Ljubljana, Slovenia, before moving into private practice, working as a senior associate (litigation lawyer) with a prominent law firm.

Judge Hohler is one of the authors of the leading Commentary of the Rome Statute in the English language and the author of multiple publications in the field of international criminal law and human rights.

Judge Ioannis Ktistakis, European Court of Human Rights



Ioannis Ktistakis is a Judge at the European Court of Human Rights (since 2021) and President of its Third Section (since 2024).

Before joining the Court, he was Associate Professor of Public International Law at the Democritus University of Thrace, Assistant Professor at Boğaziçi University, and Visiting Professor at George Washington University.

He has served on the Executive Board of the European Union Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia and has been a member of the Greek National Commission for Human Rights and the Greek Equal Treatment Committee.

Author of over seventy publications, his work focuses on public international law, migration, environmental protection, and religious freedom. Prior to his election, he litigated numerous human rights cases at the national and European level.

Professor Costas Douzinas



Costas Douzinas is Emeritus Professor of Law at Birkbeck, University of London. He is a founding member of the Birkbeck School of Law, the Birkbeck Institute for the Humanities, Managing Editor of the journal *Law and Critique* and Managing Editor of Birkbeck Law Press. He was elected MP in Greece and was the Chair of the Parliamentary Standing Committee of Defence and Foreign Affairs (2015–2019). His many books, translated in twelve languages, include *The End of Human Rights; Justice Miscarried; Human Rights and Empire; Critical*

Jurisprudence; The Meaning of Human Rights and *The Cambridge Companion to Human Rights Law* (both co-edited with Conor Gearty); *Resistance and Philosophy in the Crisis; Law and Aesthetics; Adieu Derrida; Reflections of an Accidental Politician; the Radical Philosophy of Rights; States of Exception; Law's Desire*. He has been a visiting professor at many universities and has received several awards and honours. He writes regularly for *The Guardian*, *OpenDemocracy*, and *Efimerida Syntakton* (in Greek).

Honorary Panel Moderator

Judge Mateja Đurović, European Court of Human Rights



Mateja Đurović serves as a Judge of the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

He is also Professor of Law and Technology and Co-Director of the Centre for Technology, Ethics, Law and Society at King's College London. Previously, he was an Assistant Professor at the School of Law, City University of Hong Kong (2015–2017).

Judge Đurović's scholarship has been widely published and cited, including by the Court of Justice of the European Union and the UK Law Commission. He holds a PhD and an LL.M. from the European University Institute, an LL.M. from the University of Cambridge, and an LL.B. from the University of Belgrade.

4. Panellists

The seven panels are comprised of the following speakers:

Panel 1: International Human Rights Law: The Narratives, Normativity, and the Reimagining of Rights

Moderator: Judge Mateja Đurović, European Court of Human Rights

1. **Ms Géraldine Mbolu Ebubu**, PhD Candidate, University of Antwerp, *A legitimacy Crisis in Women's Human Rights: Epistemic Mediation in Plural Normative Orders.*
2. **Mr Sai Sathyanarayanan Venkatesh**, Head of Unit for Publications and Research Training, Max Planck Foundation for International Peace and Rule of Law, *Scholasticide and Third State Responsibility: Charting Pathways for an Extra-territorial Right to Education.*
3. **Dr Elvira Domínguez-Redondo**, Professor, Kingston University, *The Sophistication of Human Rights Normativity.*
4. **Dr Giorgos Askitas**, Teaching Assistant, Université Sorbonne Paris Nord, *International Law, Autobiographical Narratives, and the Reimagining of Legal Subjectivity.*

Panel 2: Intellectual Development of International Law: Critical Reorientations in Power, Identity, and Development

Moderator: Professor Lorand Bartels, Professor of International Law, University of Cambridge

1. **Dr Nikolas Sabján**, Assistant Professor, Comenius University in Bratislava, *Rethinking Marxist Approaches to International Law: Insights from SWAIL.*
2. **Mr Vinícius Alexandre Fortes de Barros**, PhD Candidate, University of Cambridge, *Queering International Law: Reimagining International Law's Body and Soul.*
3. **Mr Guy Priver**, S.J.D Candidate, Harvard Law School, *Constructing the 'Local' in International Law and Development.*
4. **Ms Sara Khash**, PhD Candidate, Geneva Graduate Institute (IHEID), *Performative Sovereignty: The Neo-Colonial Truth Behind Transitional Justice.*

Panel 3: Technology: Capability, Access, and Structural Inequality in Emerging Tech Governance

Moderator: Ms Clea Bigelow-Nuttall, Shareholder, Greenberg Traurig, LLP

1. **Mr Kyoungsic Min**, Research Assistant, Institute of Legal Studies, Sungkyunkwan University, *Digital Sovereignty as a Human Right? South Korea's Resistance to 'Data Colonialism' in the Age of Generative AI*.
2. **Ms Emelie Andersin**, PhD Fellow, Leiden University, *Behavioural International Law and AI-DSS in Targeting: Challenging the Assumptions of Rationality under IHL*.
3. **Ms Daryna Kostiuchyk**, PhD Candidate, University of Dundee, *Regulating Algorithmic Detection in Cryptocurrency Crime: International Law at the Limits of Accountability*.
4. **Dr Upasana Dasgupta**, Assistant Professor, Jindal Global Law School, O.P. Jindal Global University, *Unequal Access to Space Technology Within and Among States – Through the Lens of Capability Theory*.

Panel 4: International Environmental Law: Reimagining Environmental Governance in an Era of Planetary Crisis

Moderator: Ms Oonagh Sands, Partner, Fietta LLP

1. **Mr Eoin Jackson**, PhD Candidate, London School of Economics and Political Science, *Reimagining the Arctic in International Law: Toward a Relational Approach to Arctic Governance*.
2. **Ms Amanda Wee**, Research Assistant (Ocean Law and Policy), NUS Centre for International Law, *Neocolonialism and the Flag State Principle: A Challenge to Its Legitimacy and Neutrality at International Law*.
3. **Ms Beichen Ding**, PhD Candidate, World Trade Institute, University of Bern, *Temporal Justice in International Climate Law: Due Diligence Across Time*.
4. **Mr Marckjones Santana Gomes**, LLM Candidate, Federal University of Amazonas (UFAM); **Dr Fernando Antonio de Carvalho Dantas**, Professor of Law, Federal University of Amazonas (UFAM); **Mr José Roque Nunes Marques**, PhD Candidate, Federal University of Amazonas (UFAM), *The Necessary Theoretical Triangulation Facing the Socio-Environmental Crisis in the Amazon: Decolonial and Resistance Constitutionalism Through Planetary Guaranteeism, Structural Critique of the "Engine Room," and Epistemologies of the South*.

Panel 5: International Humanitarian Law: Reinterpreting Protection and Responsibility in Contemporary Armed Conflict

Moderator: Ms Rebecca Zard, Associate, Freshfields

1. **Ms Alexandrine Lamarre**, PhD Candidate, University of Edinburgh, *Systems of Knowledge in International Humanitarian Law: The Erasure of the Indeterminacy of the Civilian Legal Identity*.
2. **Dr Andreas Piperides**, Attaché (UN & ILO), Permanent Mission of Cyprus at the UN in Geneva, *Reimagining International Humanitarian Law: Humanitarianism Strikes Back*.
3. **Ms Emma Lush**, PhD Candidate, Adelaide University, *International Humanitarian Law's Practicality: Using Materialism to Highlight the Contingency of Present Modes of Thought*.
4. **Ms Adebola Tolu Adeoti**, PhD Candidate, Goldsmiths, University of London, *Justice Beyond the Battlefield: Survivor-Centred Alternatives to International Humanitarian Law in Northeast Nigeria*.

Panel 6: International Criminal Law: Normative Limits, Evolving Standards, and Emerging Accountability Gaps

Moderator: Professor Markus Gehring, Professor of European and International Law, University of Cambridge

1. **Dr Felix Butz**, Post-doctoral Fellow, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, *Victims of Order: Structural Violence, Necropolitics, and the Limits of International Criminal Law(?)*
2. **Mr Matteo Colorio**, PhD Candidate, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, *Re-imagining International Criminal Justice: A Polycentric Architecture for an Era of Shifting Power Dynamics*.
3. **Dr Kristin Y. Albrecht**, University Assistant (PostDoc), Linz Institute for Transformative Change, *Law in Limbo: Reimagining International Criminal Law across Evil Motives, Norms, and Structures*.
4. **Ms Olga Szkodzińska**, PhD Candidate, University of Warsaw, *Adjusting the Standard: Observations from A Critical Analysis of the Environmental Accountability Gap in International Criminal Justice*.

Panel 7: International Economic Law: Reforming Financial and Trade Regimes in an Age of Fragmentation

Moderator: Mr Álvaro Nistal, Partner, Arnold & Porter

1. **Dr Charlotte Sieber-Gasser**, Senior Researcher, Geneva Graduate Institute; and **Dr Niall Moran**, Assistant Professor in Economic Law at DCU, Deputy Director at DCU Brexit Institute, *Economic Coercion in International Law – Fit for Purpose?*
2. **Dr Sebastian Krafzik**, Post-doctoral Research Fellow, Department of Commercial Law, University of Cape Town, *Decolonising Financial Inclusion: Critical Perspectives on International Financial Institutions’ Development Discourse*.
3. **Ms Xenia Seabright**, PhD Candidate, University of Vienna, *Weaponizing the Dollar: How Financial Sanctions Entrench Global Inequality*.
4. **Ms Yichen Xiang**, PhD Candidate, University of Edinburgh, *Techno-Colonialism and Semiconductor Export Controls: Reimagining International Economic Law Beyond Techno-Nationalism*.

5. Formal dinner at Sidney Sussex College

An optional formal dinner will be held on Thursday, 23 April 2026, at 19:00, following the first day of the Conference, at Sidney Sussex College (Sidney Street, Cambridge CB2 3HU) at the heart of Cambridge city centre. All Conference attendees are warmly invited to attend.

Traditionally, formal halls at the University of Cambridge are formal occasions. The dress code is therefore ‘lounge suit’, and any business formal attire will be appropriate. The formal dinner costs **£70** and includes a three-course meal with wine, served in the historic dining hall of Sidney Sussex College.

Tickets for the formal dinner must be purchased via the same Google Form used for general Conference ticket sales. Formal dinner tickets may be purchased at any time until **9 April 2026**, subject to availability.

The formal dinner is a longstanding highlight of the Conference. It offers an authentic Cantabrigian experience and provides an excellent opportunity for attendees to engage and network with distinguished scholars and practitioners from around the

world.

Please note that the formal dinner will take place at Sidney Sussex College, and not at the Conference venue during the day. Attendees are kindly requested to clearly indicate any dietary preferences or restrictions on the booking form.

6. Ticket sales

The Conference may be attended in person or virtually. Tickets for both in-person and virtual attendance may be purchased until **20 April 2026**. Tickets for the Conference formal dinner at Sidney Sussex College must be purchased by **9 April 2026**.

The cost of in-person attendance includes a light lunch and refreshments on the conference days. Tickets for the formal dinner are sold separately.

The ticket prices are as follows:

Academics and professionals:	£ 75
Students and post-doctoral candidates:	£ 50
Virtual attendance:	£ 35
University of Cambridge students:	£ 25
CILJ Editorial Board members:	£ 20

All tickets – for both the Conference and the formal dinner – must be purchased via the **Conference Google Form**: <https://forms.gle/KrjubtLBjHExWwC16>

Attendees are kindly requested to **indicate any dietary preferences or restrictions** on the form for catering purposes. If you have any queries regarding ticketing or attendance, please contact the Conference Conveners at conference@cilj.co.uk.

7. Logistical information

We recognise that many Conference attendees may be unfamiliar with Cambridge. The information provided below is therefore intended to assist you in planning your visit. Please note that the details set out are offered purely as a courtesy and for general guidance.

The Cambridge International Law Journal does not maintain any business or commercial relationships with the entities listed and is unable to provide individual

assistance in relation to travel or accommodation arrangements. The CILJ accepts no responsibility or liability for any services provided by the entities mentioned below.

7.1 Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge

The University of Cambridge is spread across the city of Cambridge. The Conference will take place at the Faculty of Law, located in the David Williams Building on the Sidgwick Site, at 10 West Road, Cambridge CB3 9DZ (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/FKkTGRaA7ACervuM7>).

The University provides a detailed map of all University and College sites, which may be helpful for navigating Cambridge and is available at: <https://map.cam.ac.uk/>.

During the Conference days, Conference Assistants and clear signposting will be available within the Faculty of Law to guide attendees to the relevant venues, as indicated in the Conference programme.

7.2 Travelling to Cambridge from an Airport

There are several convenient ways to travel from London airports to Cambridge, including by coach. Direct coach services operate from the following airports to Cambridge bus stations:

- London Stansted Airport
- London Heathrow Airport
- London Gatwick Airport
- London City Airport
- London Luton Airport

In Cambridge, Drummer Street Bus Station is located in the city centre and is approximately a 15-minute walk from the Faculty of Law. Parkside Bus Station is situated only a few minutes further away.

Taxis are available throughout Cambridge, including at train and bus stations. However, attendees are advised to make arrangements in advance, particularly during peak travel times.

For coach services, attendees may wish to consult National Express:

<https://www.nationalexpress.com/en>

Several Cambridge-based taxi companies also offer airport pick-up services, including:

- CamCab Ltd: www.camcab.co.uk

- A1 Cabco Taxis: <https://a1cabco.co.uk/>
- Panther Taxis: <https://www.visitcambridge.org/place/panther-taxis/>

Taxis are considerably more expensive than a coach or train. Prices are around:

- From Heathrow to Cambridge: £110
- From Gatwick to Cambridge: £130
- From Stansted to Cambridge: £60

It is advisable to book a taxi in advance.

7.3 Cambridge Train Station

Regular train services operate between Cambridge and London King's Cross and London Liverpool Street stations. The most convenient platform for booking train tickets is Trainline: <https://www.thetrainline.com/>.

Please note that Cambridge Train Station is located outside the city centre and is approximately a 35-minute walk to the Faculty of Law. A taxi rank is available directly outside the station, from which taxis can be easily obtained. The typical fare for a taxi journey from the train station to the Faculty of Law is approximately £12.

Attendees should be aware that traffic in Cambridge can be particularly heavy during morning peak hours. Depending on your arrival time, walking may therefore be the most reliable option to ensure timely arrival at the Faculty of Law.

7.4 Getting Around in Cambridge

Cambridge is a compact, scenic, and largely flat city, making it well suited to walking and cycling. Attendees may also rent e-scooters or e-bikes using the Voi mobile application: <https://www.voi.com/>. E-bikes and e-scooters are available throughout the city, including at the train station.

Taxis are widely available, and attendees may also choose to walk between venues. Please note that traffic congestion may be more pronounced in and around the city centre during peak hours.

7.5 Accommodation in Cambridge

Attendees planning to stay overnight in Cambridge may wish to experience College accommodation, available across the University's constituent Colleges. Please note, however, that availability may be limited, as the Conference takes place at the start of the academic term.

A helpful resource is the University of Cambridge Accommodation Service, which provides listings of hotels, bed-and-breakfasts, and hostels:
<https://www.accommodation.cam.ac.uk/VisitingCambridge/>.

Attendees are, of course, welcome to book accommodation privately or at any College of their choosing. We recommend paying close attention to the location of accommodation relative to the Faculty of Law and planning travel accordingly.

Nina Prusac and Carter Cheng

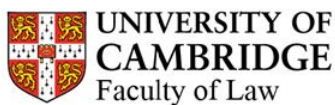
Conference Convenors

Jonas Wieschollek and Renatus Otto Franz Derler

Editors-in-Chief

Conference assistants: Yashna Batra, Sophia Derenne Campos, Chi Wai Hu, Helene Kouch, and Precious Odia

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