



**ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA DI DIRITTO COMPARATO**  
COMITATO NAZIONALE ITALIANO DELLA  
ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES SCIENCES JURIDIQUES

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

# **PUBLIC AND PRIVATE IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETIES**

# **PUBBLICO E PRIVATO NELLE SOCIETÁ CONTEMPORANEE**

**XXVII BIENNIAL COLLOQUIUM OF THE  
ITALIAN ASSOCIATION OF COMPARATIVE LAW (AIDC)  
BARI-TARANTO, 25-27 MAY 2023**

**DEADLINE JANUARY 14, 2023**

**[aide.baritaranto2023@gmail.com](mailto:aide.baritaranto2023@gmail.com)**

The Italian Association of Comparative Law (AIDC) opens an international Call for Papers on the subject

### **Public and Private in Contemporary Societies**

One of the emerging phenomena in contemporary societies is the blurring of the boundaries between the 'public' and the 'private' dimensions. The digital transformation is among the drivers of such a process, together with the evolution of economic and social relationships, in a context characterized by growing exchanges and cultural contaminations, as well as environmental and social emergencies. The privatisation of aspects traditionally attributed to government, along with the increasingly public characterisation of relationships previously regarded as pertaining to the private sphere, question many fields of knowledge, including the law. The once reassuring traditional legal categories are deeply affected. In particular, the always contested divide between public law and private law is

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nowadays more and more under stress and reveals its limited adequacy to read the legal implications of new social phenomena.

The 27<sup>th</sup> biennial colloquium of the Italian Association of Comparative Law aims to investigate the legal consequences of the shifting boundaries between the public and private dimensions in contemporary societies and to reflect on the possible contributions of legal comparison to this debate.

The following is a list of tentative questions for which the call-for-papers is open:

### ***I. Digital technologies and the new public/private interface***

- 1) The public dimension of digital platforms: towards a new feudalism?
- 2) Who owns digital infrastructures? Which role for government?
- 3) Internet governance between public and private
- 4) The contractual constraints of public speech in social media
- 5) Private algorithms for public decisions: can secrecy trump transparency?
- 6) Always connected: employment relationships and the disappearance of the ‘private sphere’
- 7) Smart cities: who owns urban data?
- 8) From facial to emotion-recognition technologies: what is left of intimacy?
- 9) Social scoring and private ratings

### ***II. The fabric of the law: new subjects, new sources***

- 1) The production of technical standards: a form of private legislation?
- 2) Law in the age of big data: towards personalized law?
- 3) Codes of conduct and self-regulation
- 4) Regulatory private law: a European peculiarity?
- 5) The privatization of spatial missions: what is the future of outer space?
- 6) Technocracy, lobbies and the law-making process
- 7) Who produces global law?

### ***III. Law in time of emergencies***

- 1) Mass surveillance and the private/public data sharing
- 2) Pandemic emergencies and the debate on personal freedoms
- 3) War sanctions and their effects on private autonomy
- 4) Climate change and environmental disasters litigation: suing the State for civil liability
- 5) The reparation of historical injustices and the privatization of disputes
- 6) Do emergencies bring to the forefront new political and institutional actors (scientists, security experts, predictive analysts, etc.). How do they operate? What is their interaction with traditional powers?
- 7) Private actors in the governance of emergency situations: the role of international finance, “big-tech”, “big-pharma”, etc.
- 8) Law-making and future generations



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### *IV. The public dimension of contract*

- 1) How human rights of third parties affect contract law (compliance clauses and beyond)?
- 2) How is contractual freedom constrained by the goal of environmental sustainability?
- 3) Next Generation EU: contract law and public funding
- 4) Contract law and family relationships: what is private and what is public?
- 5) Can fundamental rights be waived? Ideals, beliefs and contract law
- 6) The limits of secrecy in contract law: the case of drugs procurement
- 7) Whistleblowing and contractual relationships
- 8) Public subsidies, financial constraints and contract law

The Colloquium will be organized in parallel sessions devoted to the general topics outlined above.

#### **I. TO WHOM THE CALL FOR PAPERS IS ADDRESSED**

AIDC organizes on a biennial basis a “younger comparatists colloquium” (the last one, in 2022, was held in Luxembourg) open to PhD candidates and holders, lecturers, adjunct professors; and the **ordinary biennial colloquium (the present is the 27<sup>th</sup>), generally open to full and associate professors.**

Therefore, the selection committee will prefer papers presented by full and associate professors, although it may make a limited amount of exceptions.

Papers should be in Italian or English, and may be presented in either language.

Simultaneous translation will **not** be provided.

#### **II. ORGANIZATIONAL ASPECTS**

The proposal must be submitted, by e-mail by **January 14, 2023 indicating the general topic on which they wish to present their paper.** Acceptance will be communicated by mid-February. **Within 10 days from acceptance, the participation fee (€ 80) must be paid.** If not, acceptance will be forfeited and the selection committee will move on to other candidates. This requirement is essential in order to avoid that no-show of some participants precludes the possibility to others to present their papers.

The Colloquium will be organized in plenary opening (Thursday, May 25) and closing (Saturday, May 27) sessions (with invited speakers) and parallel sessions (Friday, May 26 and Saturday, May 27) divided according to topics. It is expected that up to 40 papers will be presented in a time slot not exceeding 20 minutes per speaker, followed by a 10 minutes Q&A session.

#### **III. OTHER ASPECTS**

**The XXVII biennial Colloquium is co-organized with the Law Departments of the University of Bari-Taranto.** The opening session (Thursday afternoon) will be held in Taranto, the Friday and Saturday sessions will take place in Bari.

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Bari can be easily reached by all means of transport both private and public. It has an undisputed reputation for hospitality and life-style. The organization will provide for the transportation of participants from Bari to Taranto and return.

**IV. HOW TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL**

Abstracts should be submitted by e-mail at [aids.baritaranto2023@gmail.com](mailto:aids.baritaranto2023@gmail.com) in a Word format, following this order:

- a) author(s)
- b) affiliation
- c) e-mail address
- d) title of abstract
- e) body of abstract (apx 250 words)

Abstract file should be entitled: Family Name\_Last Name.doc

**V. PROCEEDINGS**

The proceedings of the Colloquium will be published. Authors may also publish their paper on other periodicals, in particular on the on-line periodical “*Comparative Law Review*”, sponsored by AIDC, will devote a special issue to the proceedings of the Colloquium. Papers (in Italian and in English) may also be submitted for publication to “*Diritto pubblico comparato ed europeo*”, to “*Comparazione e diritto civile*” and to the “*Cardozo Electronic Law Bulletin*”, which are among the leading Italian comparative law reviews.