



CALL FOR PAPERS

II ANNUAL SEMINAR "ASSOCIAZIONE DI DIRITTO PUBBLICO COMPARATO ED EUROPEO"

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XVII SEMINAR "ATELIER 4 LUGLIO - G.G. FLORIDIA"

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Università degli studi "G. d'Annunzio" di Chieti-Pescara

Università degli studi dell'Aquila

Università degli studi di Teramo

Università "Leonardo da Vinci"

CONSTITUTIONALISM, PACIFIST PRINCIPLE AND ARMED CONFLICTS

Pescara, June 29-30 2023

The Italian Association "Diritto pubblico comparato ed europeo" (DPCE) is pleased to announce the call for papers for the 2023 Seminar, to be held on June 29-30 2023, on the subject of "*Constitutionalism, Pacifist Principle and Armed Conflicts*", which will be organized by the University of Chieti-Pescara, L'Aquila, Teramo and Telematica "Leonardo da Vinci", and hosted by the University of Pescara.

The aim of the call is to promote discussion concerning the transformations of armed conflicts, with particular reference to the contexts, nature, actors involved and limits on the use of force, and especially also the assumptions that legitimize armed conflict in the light of the pacifist principle that, explicitly or implicitly, informs the constitutions of liberal-democratic states, as well as international and European law.

The following panels are planned as part of the Seminar:

1 – The Pacifist Principle

The war in Ukraine has revived the debate on the real scope of the pacifist principle – a cornerstone of many constitutions, especially those that came into force after World War II – also in the light of the limitations on sovereignty that states recognize in favour of international organizations. In this context, it is particularly important to focus on the concept of self-defence (individual and collective), as well as aggression, and the role of international organizations (including the United Nations first and foremost) in maintaining international peace and security.

Research proposals should focus on the following subjects:

- the legal framework to the notion of pacifism and its implications within the contemporary context, from both a constitutional and an international perspective;
- the rejection of war as a means of offence and its tangible significance in the current climate;
- the possible alternatives to the "political" use of war.

2 – The meaning of war: conflict contexts and transformations

The Russia-Ukraine war is part of a long list of ongoing conflicts around the world, including the numerous civil wars and religious and ethnic conflicts that are undermining the stability of countries affected by conflict. There are also “other” wars involving non-State actors (e.g. individuals and armed groups), which are characterised by their unconventional nature, timing and dynamics (e.g. war on terror). In addition, practices during recent years has shown how the boundary between “war” and “international police force” is now becoming increasingly blurred.

Economic considerations have also become increasing important both as a cause and a trigger of wars against the backdrop of new unstable geopolitical situations, as a leading factor fuelling conflicts and, finally, as an appropriate tool to respond to wars and to sanction breaches of international law.

Research proposals should focus on the following subjects:

- conflict contexts, causes and consequences of *bellum* in the contemporary world;
- metamorphosis of actors, space-time references and methods of warfare in ongoing conflicts;
- religious and ethnic conflicts;
- peacekeeping, peace building and conflict resolution as “alternative paradigms” to *bellum*;
- causes and consequences of recent conflicts relating to international and national economic and financial policies, as well as the legitimacy and effects of sanctions.

3 – Hybrid Warfare: possible responses.

The evolution of war as a phenomenon and its current distance from traditional paradigms have meant that wars – or other types of conflict behind which the *bellum* is sometimes disguised – are often fought using methods that differ from the “classic” ones: for instance electoral manipulation, mass propaganda and use of advanced technologies or fake news.

The emergence of “unconventional” methods for waging war raises the question of whether and how it is appropriate to change and update the regulatory framework, in order to identify – taking advantage of technical and scientific progress – rules that can be useful in limiting their scope and effects.

Research proposals should focus on the following subjects:

- new methods used to wage war (e.g. those based on technology), including their implications and related legal responses;
- testing the adequacy of the current legal framework, from both a constitutional and an international perspective;
- interdisciplinary perspectives on “new” conflicts.

4 - *Ius ad bellum* and *ius in bello* between constitutional and international law

Operations during armed conflict, which are difficult to define, must comply with the founding principles applicable to the form of government. In fact, armed conflicts may result in alterations to constitutional balances, at least in terms of the dynamics among the branches of state, democratic control of foreign and defence policy, and the enjoyment of freedom rights.

Research proposals should focus on the following subjects:

- constitutional discipline and the practice of ownership of powers relating to *ius ad bellum* and *ius in bello*;
- publicity, transparency and democracy of war decisions;
- possible limitations on freedom rights during a conflict.

Method for submitting proposals

Submissions may be sent in Italian or English. An abstract of at most 2,000 keystrokes (including spaces) is required. In the proposal, the Author should indicate his/her surname and first name, academic or professional qualification, useful contacts (telephone and email), the number of the panel in which he/she would like to speak, as well as the title of the presentation and four keywords.

The file must be submitted in PDF format named along with the author's first name and surname and must be sent **by February 1, 2023** to the email address: **dpceseminario2023@unich.it**

Evaluation of proposals

Proposals will be reviewed by the Association's Executive Board, which will state whether the proposal has been accepted by **March 1, 2023**.

One or more on-line meetings will then be organized with selected speakers for coordination purposes.

Drafting the text for the panels

Authors of abstracts that have been accepted will be required to draft a provisional text of their paper, in Italian or English, of up to 20,000 keystrokes (excluding the title and bibliographical references), which should be sent to the same address as the abstract submission address no later than **June 10, 2023**, in order to enable it to be read by the coordinators of panel sessions.