



Stockholm
University

SCILJ

Stockholm Centre for
International Law and Justice

Annual report for 2020 for the Stockholm Centre for International Law and Justice

Introduction

Like everyone else, SCILJ was severely affected by the covid-19 pandemic during 2020. The Centre usually organizes around twenty events per year, but this year almost all seminars as well as the CRIL doctoral retreat had to be cancelled or postponed, while a few seminars were held online. The most significant effect was the postponement of the annual conference of the European Society of International Law (ESIL2021; see below).

Management

The board has consisted of Hans Corell (chair), Kaj Hobér, Marie Jacobsson, Agneta Johansson, Said Mahmoudi, Jonas Tallberg and Pål Wrangé, who is also the director. Corell, Mahmoudi and Wrangé constituted the executive committee. Mark Klamberg is the deputy director and has also written minutes of meetings.

The board held two meetings (16 January and 2 September).

Activities

One live and eight online events were organised. The most widely visited event was the joint ESIL-SCILJ event on 10 September, "Covid-19 and international law: science and disinformation, exceptions and emergencies", organized by a committee consisting of SCILJ members Mark Klamberg and Pål Wrangé and ESIL board members Anne van Aaken, Gleider Hernández and Philippa Webb. Two other significant events were organized around a book project on Swedish prosecutions for

international crimes, published in both Swedish and English (including articles on other Scandinavian countries).

Spring 2020

13 February, "Människorättsjurist som yrkesval. Hur blir man MR-jurist och hur är det att vara det?" (Human rights lawyering as a career choice), with Ruth Nordström and Rebecca Ahlstrand, Human Rights Lawyers; Lisa Ejelöv, Mannheimer Swartling; Tilde Pontén, Civil Rights Defenders; Ylva Lennartsson Hartmann, MR-fonden and Alexander Ottosson, Centrum för Rättvisa. Organised by the student group Justice Talks in cooperation with SCILJ and the Swedish Branch of the International Law Association

24 March, "Advocates of Humanity", Kjersti Lohne (Oslo), via Zoom

11 June, Book launch: "Lagföring i Sverige av internationella brott" (Prosecutions of international crimes in Sweden), with Mark Klamberg (SU), Dennis Andreev (Supreme Court), Hevi Dawody Nylén (SU), Fanny Holm (Umeå), Axel Holmgren (SU), Maria Sjöholm (Örebro) and Erik Svensson (Uppsala).

Autumn 2020

10 September, "Covid-19 and international law: science and disinformation, exceptions and emergencies", joint ESIL-SCILJ event with Gloria González Fuster, Marko Milanovic, Jiří Přibáň, Philippa Webb, Anne van Aaken, Gian Luca Burci, Jürgen Kurtz and Federica Paddeu, moderated by Pål Wrangé, Philippa Webb and Anne van Aaken.

15 September, Jorge Emilio Nunez (Manchester Metropolitan University), "Territorial Disputes and State Sovereignty" (in cooperation with Legal Theory)

6 October, "Armed groups developing 'legislation' and procedures to deal with detainees", Professor Andrew Clapham (Geneva Academy), via Zoom

10 October, Pauline Westerman (Groeningen), "Legal reasoning as web design: the Advisory Opinions of the International Court of Justice" (in cooperation with Legal Theory)

19 November, Solon Solomon (Brunel), "Mission Impossible? Courts, quasi-judicial bodies and the assessment of civilian mental harm in warfare"

23 November, "Investigation and Prosecution of International Crimes in Domestic Courts" with Mark Klamberg, Mikaela Heikkilä (Åbo), Christian Ritscher (German federal prosecutor), Natalie von Wistinghausen (German defence lawyer), Miriam Ingesson (Uppsala), Carolina Aksamitowska (Swansea), Morten Bergsmo (Centre for International Law Research and Policy), Jörg Roofthoof (Europol).

All through the year, the Centre has hosted weekly brown bag lunch seminars for researchers in international law, during which doctoral students or senior researchers present their ongoing work. These seminars have been organised by doctoral students Will Underwood and Hevi Dawodi Nylén and were held online for most of the year.

The Centre has updated and reorganized its website.

The postponement of the 2020 Annual Conference of the European Society of International Law until 2021 (ESIL 2021).

As mentioned, the ESIL annual conference has been postponed until 9-11 September 2021. As originally planned, it will be held in Aula Magna at the university campus. All funders have agreed to extend the funding period.

The local organising committee, convened by Pål Wrangé, has included Hevi Dawody (doctoral student), Jonas Ebbesson (professor of environmental law and former dean), Gilma Boci (amanuensis), Mark Klamberg (professor of international law), Said Mahmoudi (professor of international law and former dean), Jarna Petman (lecturer), Martin Ratcovich Leopardi (PhD, Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs), Ida Söderberg Tah (head of administration at the department of law) and Will Underwood (doctoral student). The programme committee had the following members: Paolo Farah (West Virginia), Ellen Hey (Rotterdam), Mark Klamberg, Said Mahmoudi, Phoebe Okowa (Queen Mary), Evelyne Schmid (Lausanne), Ramses Wessel (Twente) and Pål Wrangé (convenor).

See further, the conference website (<http://www.esil2021.se>).

Research

Regarding the research at the Centre, see the tab "Research" on the Centre's website (<http://www.scilj.se/research/>).

The Centre has initiated a legal interdisciplinary research program called "Global Law, Local Lives", led by a steering group that includes Pål Wrangé and Mark Klamberg of SCILJ. The most significant activity during the year was the finalisation and the launches two books in Swedish and English on prosecutions of international crimes in Sweden and Scandinavia, respectively. The book in English was published as volume 66 of Scandinavian Studies in Law.

Fellows, visiting researchers

The Centre has the following fellows: Ola Engdahl, David Fisher, Pär Hallström, Mark Klamberg, David Langlet, Gustaf Lind, Katak Malla, Mona Samadi, Maria Sjöholm, Fredrik Stenhammar and Katinka Svanberg. The following colleagues are junior fellows: Damon Barrett, Hevi Dawody, Olga Glukhovska, Nikola Hajdin, Fredrik Holst, Linnea Kortfält, Sally Longworth, Tove Nyberg, Maria Nääv, Martin Ratcovich Leopardi and Will Underwood.

The Centre had two visiting fellows -- David Schneiderman from the University of Toronto (and affiliated professor at SU) and Sia Spiliopoulou Åkermark (Åland Peace Institute) – and one visiting junior fellow – Ruslan Sharipov from Kazan University, funded by the Sverker Åström foundation.

International Advisory Board

The International Advisory Board has consisted of Morten Bergsmo, Ove Bring, Ellen Hey, Abdul Koroma, Martti Koskenniemi, Said Mahmoudi (coordinator), Susan Marks, Djamchid Momtaz, Phoebe Okowa, David Schneiderman and Dinah Shelton. Ellen Hey and Phoebe Okowa have participated in the programme committee for the ESIL conference.

Cooperation

At the national level, the Centre cooperates regularly with the Swedish Branch of the International Law Association, as well as with other institutes at the Department of Law, such as the research group in Legal Theory, as the Swedish Law and Informatics Research Institute (IRI), the Child Rights Centre and the Institute of European Law, as well as with other national partners.

Encouraged by SCILJ, a group of students at the law department formed a network called “Justice Talks”, which has co-organised events with SCILJ.

The Centre has a partnership with the Forum for International Criminal and Humanitarian Law (Brussels). The Centre also collaborates with the Centre for International Law and Justice in Copenhagen, the Erik Castrén Institute in Helsinki and PluriCourts at the University of Oslo as well as with the International Law Institute at Peking University.

Financing and Economy

During 2020 the Centre had no own incomes or expenditures and has neither assets nor liabilities. The Director has received no remuneration.

Guest lectures and seminars and other activities are usually funded through generous ad hoc contributions from the Edward Cassel Foundation, the Hans Thornstedt Foundation or the Lars Hjern Foundation, while other expenditures are funded with support from the Department of Law. During 2020, the Centre did not have any costs, since events generally took place online.

All the funds that are put at the Centre's disposal are managed by the Department of Law on a project basis, and any excess amount is refunded to the donors. Since the Centre has no assets, and also no secure incomes, and because it was likely that the activities primarily would be funded on a project basis, the Board decided not to adopt a budget for 2020.

Education

The Centre, which is a research institute, does not provide education. However, due to the close relation between research and education, it is pertinent to mention that the department of law provides a basic course and three different advanced courses as well as a master's programme in public international law, as detailed under the tab "education" at the Centre's website (www.scilj.se).

Administration

The Centre has been managed by the director and the deputy director with the assistance of colleagues in the Law Department, in particular the course administrator for international law.

March 16, 2021

(approved at virtual board meeting 16 March 2021 and by email)

Hans Corell

Kaj Hobér

Marie Jacobsson

Agneta Johansson

Said Mahmoudi

Jonas Tallberg

Pål Wrange