CALL FOR VENUES

VENUE FOR THE EIGHTH BIENNIAL SIEL GLOBAL CONFERENCE, 2023

The Society of International Economic Law (SIEL) is seeking a suitable venue and institutional host for the **Eighth Biennial SIEL Conference, to be held in July 2023**. This Call for Venues (CfV) is open to all institutions (including consortia or collaborations of institutions) active in the field of international economic law (IEL). **Proposals from interested institutions should be submitted by 30 November 2021** to siel2023@gmail.com with copies to Gracia Marin-Duran at gracia.marin-duran@ucl.ac.uk; Yuka Fukunaga at yuka-fukunaga@waseda.jp; and Fabio Morosini at fabio.morosini@ufrgs.br. Early expressions of interest or any queries are welcome and should be sent to the same email addresses.

The Venue Search Committee will review all proposals received before the deadline and will likely have additional queries before selecting the venue from among the proposals, with the goal of announcing the 2023 conference host in early 2022.

SIEL was established in 2008 as a global organization aimed at IEL academics, practitioners and officials in all parts of the world. More information can be found at www.sielnet.org.

SIEL's first six conferences were hosted by: the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland (2008); the University of Barcelona, Spain (2010); the Centre for International Law of the National University of Singapore (2012); the World Trade Institute in Bern, Switzerland (2014); the Oliver Schreiner School of Law and its Mandela Institute, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa (2016); and the American University Washington College of Law, Washington D.C., United States of America (2018). The seventh conference, due to restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, was hosted online in association with Bocconi University in Milan, Italy in July 2021. The programs of the past conferences are available on our website and should give you a first idea of the intended scope of the 2023 SIEL conference (https://www.sielnet.org/conferences/).

SIEL strives to achieve regional diversity in holding its biennial conferences and therefore strongly encourages proposals from institutions located in the Global South. We also welcome joint proposals from institutions in the Global South and Global North.

We expect that the Eighth Biennial SIEL Global Conference will be held in a hybrid format with the possibility of turning to fully online should health restrictions not permit holding the conference in a hybrid format.

Given that this will be the first hybrid SIEL biennial conference, SIEL and the host institution will closely collaborate to ensure that the hybrid conference will be successful. We will likely need the administrative support of the host in the early planning and organisation of the conference.

Proposals should address the issues listed below (please organize your proposal in direct reference to these items). Should you have any questions while preparing your proposal, please do not hesitate to contact us.

1.   Physical and Technological Infrastructure
Please detail the availability, taking into account COVID-19 health restrictions, if any, of:
      (a) a large lecture facility able to accommodate up to 350 people for plenary sessions;
      (b) medium and large size lecture and seminar rooms that are suitable for panel sessions (up to four concurrent sessions in rooms seating 30-40 participants);
      (c) public areas for networking during breaks, poster sessions as well as for exhibits by publishers and other sponsors;
      (d) IT equipment for live streaming and recording in the facilities indicated in (a) and (b) at a level that allows for interaction between the face to face and online participants;
      (e) wireless internet access available to conference participants in all conference rooms and public areas; and
      (f) a webinar platform, such as LiveForum (which SIEL used for the SIEL 2021 Biennial Conference), and a conference website.
Please include photographs and/or floor plans or weblinks with this information, if possible, to your proposal. Please also confirm that all rooms have full audio-visual facilities (screens, projectors with PC hook-up) and internet access.

2.   Organization
Please provide details regarding:
      (a) the key contact people who would be involved in organizing the conference, including one academic coordinator and one senior administrator;
      (b) technological support to hold the conference in a hybrid or fully online format; and
      (c) other administrative assistants on-site, such as students, ushers etc.

3.   Financial contribution
Please provide details regarding:
      (a) the financial contribution your institution would be able to make (in addition to the venue itself and organizational support);
      (b) additional funds and sponsorships you would be able to raise (e.g., national government, local government, local law firms, grants, etc.); and
      (c) if a proposal represents a consortium or a collaboration of multiple institutions, the organizational structure of the consortium or the collaboration.

IEL expects the host to provide the venue and organizational support **at no cost to SIEL**. This is to ensure that conference fees can be kept to a minimum in order to facilitate our goal of achieving a maximum participation of younger scholars and scholars from the developing world. Thus, proposals will be evaluated with reference to the host's proposed financial contribution and ability to raise additional funds, relating to the costs of running the conference, including coverage of catering costs, extracurricular activities, and possibly participation in providing travel and accommodation funding for keynote speakers and/or speakers in need of support. The ability to raise funds is especially critical for those proposals from institutions that anticipate difficulties for their own ability to provide financial support to the conference.

We realize that institutions in the developing world or otherwise may find it difficult to obtain the financing necessary to organize an event of this scale. In these circumstances, SIEL encourages the cooperation of several institutions to overcome such difficulties. Thus, proposals that represent a consortium or a collaboration of multiple institutions would also be welcome, but the proposal should explain the governance

or processes that would be in place between or among the institutions to ensure an efficient development and operation of the conference.

4.   Accommodation:

Please indicate:

(a) details (addresses, availability of public transportation, safety etc.) of accommodation options that would be available for conference participants (at their own expense), ranging from student dorms or youth hostels to high-end hotels, either on-site or in the nearby vicinity; and

(b) possibility of discounts for conference attendees.

5.   Catering:

Please provide a detailed overview of the catering you would expect to provide during the duration of the conference (approximately 2.5 days), including:

(a) number of meals and coffee breaks;

(b) costs covered by the host as part of its direct financial contribution; and

(c) costs per participant.

6.   Timing:

Please suggest the dates in July 2023 in which your institution would be able to host the conference, taking into account global academic calendars and competing events (both academic and cultural/sporting).

Based on experience of our global membership, there is a strong preference for one of the weekends (Thursday to Saturday) during the first two weeks in July, but we are open to other suggestions in this regard.

7.   Experience:

Please briefly describe the prior experience of both your institution and staff in hosting academic conferences of this type and scale, including in a hybrid format.

8.   Miscellaneous:

Please briefly describe other issues that may be relevant, including, e.g., COVID-related health restrictions as of today; security and safety issues; visa/entry requirements and costs; and extracurricular activities that could be offered to participants.