Featured research: Accountability, Courts And Tribunals (ACT)

What should policy-makers do when it comes to the nexus between migrant smuggling and human trafficking? ACIL member Dr. Jill Coster van Voorhout (Assistant Professor of International and Transnational Criminal Law), led the presentation of the research findings and recommendations of the T-STAN project the at UvA on Thursday 11 January. T-STAN provides a new, evidence-based toolkit for Dutch, EU and UN policy-makers focusing on preventing and responding to ‘mixed migration’. It takes a holistic approach to both crimes, migrant smuggling and human trafficking, on the route from Libya to the EU.

T-STAN is part of Accountability, Courts And Tribunals (ACT), which Jill established in The Hague in 2014. ACT is an interdisciplinary research program aimed at formulating research-based solutions for policy-makers and courts. It helps to counter challenges, such as gross human rights violations and international and transnational crimes, across two areas:

Fact-finding: Policy-makers and courts tend to emphasize the legal qualification of facts, rather than the process of finding those facts (fact-finding). This has had real-life consequences, including collapsed cases and miscarriages of justice.

Criminal justice: Policy-makers and courts face serious challenges regarding international and transnational crimes. New approaches, such as public-private partnerships and cross-learning between international and transnational crime regimes, are urgently required.

- Read more of Jill’s work looking at recommendations for synergies between criminal and human rights investigations (Bridging the Geneva-The Hague Divide on fact-finding and accountability, together with Ambassador Stephen Rapp).
- Read more on an anti-human trafficking public-private partnership initiated by Jill.

Vacancy

ACIL is looking for a Student Assistant, above all to assist in the execution of workshops, conferences, and other events. The appointment will be on a temporary basis for 7,6 hours per week, starting preferably on 1 March or closely thereafter. Applications should be sent to acil-fdr@uva.nl; the deadline is 19 February. Read more
**Reminder – Research projects**

At the ACIL meeting on the 24 January we agreed to collect descriptions of your research projects. A research project should be about 3-5 years, preferably drawing together the research agendas of different researchers. The exceptions to the latter are PhD projects. It would also be good if the (language of the) research mission is at least modestly reflected in the description. Since this may well involve a moment of co-ordination, please send those descriptions to acil-fdr@uva.nl by 1 March. Please see Ingo’s email of 1 February for further details.

**Upcoming events over the next two months**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, 12 Feb.</strong></td>
<td><strong>ACIL Luncheon: Reparations in International Law</strong></td>
<td>Miguel López Martínez and Niki Siampakou</td>
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<td>12:00-13.00</td>
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<td><strong>Monday 19 Feb.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Law and Justice Across Borders Internal Seminar</strong></td>
<td>Iris van Domselaar</td>
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<td>14:00 – 15:30</td>
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<td><strong>Monday 26 Feb.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Law and Justice Across Borders Event</strong></td>
<td>Sabine Frerichs, Vienna University of Economics and Business</td>
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<td>15:30-17:00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday 27 Feb.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Law and Justice Critical Theory Reading Group</strong></td>
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<td>15:30-17:00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 9 March – Saturday 10 March</strong></td>
<td><strong>Frankfurt Investment Law Workshop 2018</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, 9 April</strong></td>
<td><strong>Law and Justice Across Borders Event</strong></td>
<td>Eva Heidbreder (Otto-von Guericke Universität Magdeburg)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:30-17:00</td>
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Note: ACIL Luncheons, with and without speakers, will take place every Monday from 12:00-13:00 in A10.65 and Law and Justice Across Borders internal seminars will take place monthly. Please check the [ACIL events page](#) regularly for the latest events.

**Of note**

**Janne Nijman Visiting Professor in Geneva**

Janne Nijman, professor of History and Theory of International Law, will be Visiting Professor of International Law at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, for the 2018 Spring Term (February-June). She will be teaching the 14 week course ‘History of the Idea of International Law’ and participating in the research community at the Institute.

[Read more](#)

**Geraldo Vidigal added to WTO Roster of Panelists**

The World Trade Organization’s Dispute Settlement Body approved on Monday the nomination of Dr. Geraldo Vidigal, Assistant Professor at the UvA Faculty of Law, to the WTO’s Indicative List of Governmental and Non-Governmental Panelists. The roster of panelists, kept by the WTO Secretariat, features names of individuals qualified to be members of WTO panels that settle high-profile trade disputes.

[Read more](#)
Research Output

Articles

Brems, E., Heri, C., Ouald Chaib, S., Verdonck, L.

Donders, Y.

Meguro, M.
Distinguishing the Legal Bindingness and Normative Content of Customary International Law, 6:11 ESIL Reflections (2017).

Books and book chapters

Ducheine, P., van Haaster, J., van Harskamp, R.

Ducheine, P. and Osinga, F. (eds.),


Gill, T.D., van Haaster, J. and Roorda, M.

Meguro, M.
Customary International Law and Non-State Actors: Between Anthropomorphism and Artificial Unity

- **Ducheine, P. and Walgemoed, G.**

- **Ducheine, P. and Walgemoed, G.**

- **Ducheine, P.**

- **Muller, E., Bosch, J.M.J., de Jong, I.M. and Ducheine, P.A.L.**

Venzke, I. and Mendes, J. (eds.)

**Papers**

Brölmann, C.M.

**Presentations**

Ducheine, P.
Participation (as member of the international group of experts) in a workshop on Customary Law in Cyberspace and Cyber Operations (Tallinn Manual 2.0 workshop), Hebrew University, Jerusalem, 10 December 2017.

Héri, C., Keller, H. and Christ, M.

Meguro, M.
Speaker at a workshop on the Neglected Methodologies of International Law, University of Leicester Law School, on the 31 January 2018.

Brölmann, C.M. and Meguro, M.
Speakers at a workshop on The Sources of International Law and the International Law Of Sources, the Oxford Handbook of the Sources of International Law & University of Fribourg, on the 26 January 2018.

Venzke, I.

Venzke, I.
Other activities

Duchiene, A.L.

Meguro, M.