

Law and Courts Autumn Immersion: Working with large databases

European University Institute, Florence 11-14 October 2022

This workshop is primarily intended for PhD students and early-career researchers.

Empirical scholarship on law and courts is generating datasets and research methods at an unprecedented pace. The purpose of this one-week workshop is to assist early-career researchers with the uptake of new research tools.

Workshop participants will learn to use new datasets on the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU), the European Court of Human Rights and national high courts through presentations and tutorials. They will discuss theoretical developments and consider whether – and how – the gathered data can advance the collective understanding of judicial behaviour.

All participants will receive guidance in the hands-on coding sessions exploring parts of datasets using R programming language. The day before the official start of the workshop, Monday 10 October, we are organizing an intensive introductory coding session for interested participants without prior knowledge of R. The lecturers will offer continuous assistance with R during the week.

In addition to practical work with data, participants will get to hear from leading authorities on empirical research on law and courts. **Professor Lee Epstein** (Washington University in St. Louis) will speak about the US Supreme Court Database and comparative judicial behaviour. Building on his seminal work on judicial behaviour and international institutions, **Professor Erik Voeten** (Georgetown University) will lead a seminar on the European Court of Human Rights (with Øyvind Stiansen). Participants will also have a chance to speak to senior scholars from the IUROPA network, including Professors Urška Šadl, Daniel Naurin, Johan Lindholm and Anna Wallerman Ghavanini.

The workshop will conclude with an official launch of the CJEU Database on October 14. The Database is the richest resource on any international court to date, featuring information on the outcomes, processes and actors involved in the decision-making of the CJEU (www.iuropa.pol.gu.se).

Due to the format and the focus, the workshop is limited to 25 PhD and early career researchers with a keen interest in judicial law-making and judicial behaviour. Participants will be expected to actively engage in discussions and present their research relating to the theme of the workshop during a poster session. Senior scholars will be available to provide feedback. Upon completing the workshop, students are eligible for 6 EUI credits. Recognition and conversion of these credits at participants' home institution is, however, the sole responsibility of the participants.

To apply, send an up-to-date CV and a short motivation letter outlining how your research fits with the theme of the workshop to michal.ovadek@gu.se as a single PDF file. Applications must be received by midnight **15 June 2022**. The workshop is organized in cooperation with PluriCourts at the University of Oslo and the organizers will offer a limited number of scholarships to cover travel and accommodation expenses (up to 400 EUR). No participation fee will be charged.