



**A pre-Annual Conference IG workshop in the context of ESIL's annual meeting
Vilnius 2024**

ESIL Interest Group on International Bio Law

Call for Papers

Gene Editing and Technological Advances: Which Role for International Law?

This international workshop will explore the bioethical and legal implications of the emerging biotechnologies such as CRISPR-Cas 9 and gene drives that are ushering in a new era of genetic engineering (in particular, germline gene editing). The possibility to modify the genes of human embryos for therapeutic or enhancement purposes will be scrutinized under the lens of the concept of human genome as a “common heritage of humankind” and of our responsibilities towards future generations.

To this end, the workshop will be articulated in three main sessions. The first session will be dedicated to the philosophical and bioethical underpinning of germline-editing technologies. Then, the second section of the workshop will consider the main issues related to germline- editing technologies from the point of view of international law and human rights law. The third session will be dedicated to comparative constitutional law with the aim of assessing how germline-editing technologies are currently regulated and understood across different legal and constitutional frameworks.

Submission of Abstracts

We invite the submission of abstracts on all aspects of gene editing and their interrelationship with human rights law, including but not limited to topics falling within the following domains:

- Human Genome as Common Heritage of Humankind
- Gene Editing and Our Responsibilities Towards Future Generations
- Is there a Right to inherit an Unmodified Genome Heritage?
- Gene Editing under Constitutional Law
- Gene Editing and Human Rights: is there any Contradiction?
- Gene Editing and the Right to a Healty Life
- Gene Editing and the Right to a Healthy Child
- Gene Editing and Freedom of Scientific Research

Please send all submissions (in word or PDF format, not exceeding 400 words), including a short bio to: ilja.pavone@cnr.it; abautista@uma.es, c.kuppuswamy@herts.ac.uk, rvy21@cam.ac.uk

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 15 May 2024

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

The workshop will be held online through zoom or teams and is scheduled on Wednesday 4 September 2024.

The Interest Group is unable to provide funding for travel and accommodation. Selected speakers will be expected to bear the costs of their own travel and accommodation. Some ESIL travel grants and ESIL carers' grants will be available to offer partial financial support to speakers who have exhausted other potential sources of funding. Please see the ESIL website for all relevant information about the conference. All participants at ESIL Interest Group workshops are required to register for the Annual Conference. There will be an option to register to attend only the IG workshops; however, all participants are warmly invited to attend the entire event. Selected speakers should indicate their interest in being considered for the ESIL Early-Career Scholar Prize, if they meet the eligibility conditions as stated on the ESIL website. The ESIL Secretariat must be informed of all selected speakers who wish to be considered for the Prize before 30 April.

The Coordinating Committee: Andrés Bautista-Hernández, Chamu Kuppuswamy, Ilja Richard Pavone, Rumiana Yotova