

Erasmus
School of
Law

A photograph of three people in a hallway. On the left, a man with glasses and a beard, wearing a dark blazer over a light blue shirt, is smiling and looking towards the center. In the middle, a woman with blonde hair, wearing a black blazer over a pink top, is smiling and looking towards the right. On the right, a man in a light purple button-down shirt is gesturing with his right hand while speaking to the woman. The background shows a hallway with framed pictures on the wall and a wooden ceiling.

PhD Guide 2016

Erasmus University Rotterdam
Make it happen.

The Erasmus University logo, featuring the word "Erasmus" in a white, cursive script font.



Introduction

Although each PhD candidate follows his or her own path, they are all committed to the same goal: obtaining the doctorate degree. They are motivated to do so for various reasons. For some, it is the 'ticket' for their academic career, for others it means no more than an 'investment' in their own personal and intellectual development as a basis for a future yet undirected. Everyone is somehow fascinated by his or her own research topic, whereas the research topics being studied – or the way in which topics are being studied – diverse greatly.

PhD Candidates at the Erasmus School of Law (ESL) have at least one thing in common: their membership in PILAR. As of 2016, the JAR (Juridische AIO-vereniging Rotterdam) association has undergone a name change. Now it is named PILAR, which stands for PhD In Law Association Rotterdam. PILAR is (still) the association for all ESL PhD Candidates, and therefore closely related to the Erasmus Graduate School of Law (EGSL). In 2016, the PILAR board decided that it was time for a new PhD Guide, as the latest version dated back in 2013. The purpose of the 2016 PhD Guide has not changed with respect to the previous version. The Guide intends to inform ESL colleagues as well as outside scholars about the PhD Candidates' research topics and to make them more visible. Furthermore, the Guide aims at contributing to future collaboration in research and at being a source of inspiration for everyone.

The PILAR board would like to express its gratitude to everyone who has contributed to this guide. First we would like to thank the PhD candidates who participated by sending in their contributions and by joining our photo sessions. We would also like to thank the ESL Dean Prof. Suzan Stoter, Vice-dean Prof. Fabian Amtenbrink and the 'EGSL-team' (Prof. Klaus Heine, dr. Karin van Wingerde and dr. Wouter Verheyen) for their inspiring contributions. Finally yet importantly, we would like to thank Jolanda Bloem and John Brussel for their assistance in making this Guide look fancy.

The PILAR board 2015/2016

Marnix Hebly – President

Teun van Ruitenburg – Treasurer

Myrto Vasili – Secretary

Aspasia Karampetsou – Board member and EPAR representative

Cheng Bian – Board member and ECLC representative



Preface

Each year Erasmus Graduate School of Law attracts more talented PhD students from abroad. Erasmus School of Law is a place that seeks to achieve academic excellence. An interest that is shared with your PhD track at Erasmus School of Law.

Over the next few years, each of us hopes to develop in a personal and professional way in order to invest in our academic career and to promote ESL's reputation. As a dean I am pleased to give you the opportunity to be part of this international, dynamic academic environment. In the coming years we foster your personal and professional development. Together we will build your academic career. A career that is in line with Erasmus School of Law's excellent academic reputation.

You may get a sense of our school's intellectual life from the variety of research programs. Erasmus School of Law is a diverse and vibrant community dedicated to discovery, to making knowledge matter, and to developing all of its members to their utmost potential. Our community of excellent professors, highly qualified students, and distinguished alumni is constantly growing and advancing.

By collaborating with colleagues from all around the world, we can learn from each other and expand our network. ESL has attractive and useful contacts with research institutes worldwide. Maintaining contacts with colleagues that are familiar with the legal academic environment is an important source of inspiration and innovation. By spending a research period abroad, you can expand your network even further and strengthen your academic resume.

ESL is home to a wide range of legal research disciplines, and you can specialise in the subject of your choice. However, in addition to enjoying this specialisation, it is also important to stay connected to other disciplines, because the insights gained there could well be relevant for your own research.

By organising regular meetings, the Erasmus Graduate School of Law makes sure that PhD researchers remain connected.

My own thesis was focused on the principles of lawful regulation – in particular on the balancing of interests – at the University of Amsterdam. When I was a PhD candidate, I learned that in order to be successful in research, it is necessary to develop strong skills in independent and effective thinking, in critical analysis, and also in time management. And the only way to develop these skills is to take full responsibility for your PhD project. My suggestion to you would be to embrace failures as challenges and consider them as training exercises for future successes. If you simply follow directions and close the door behind you at the end of the day, you will never progress in your research. Tenacity is essential. Furthermore, I advise you to be active rather than passive in your approach to research. Seek out the right people for advice, and never be afraid to ask for it. You won't get anywhere if you sit back and wait for the magic to happen.

I look forward to spending time together with you on our campus, and to fruitful years, rich in learning and exciting in discoveries. If I can assist you during your PhD period, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. As partners in this university's research and education mission, you are important to our university's future and mutual success.

Prof. Suzan Stoter

Dean Erasmus School of Law



Preface

If you are a PhD researcher at Erasmus School of Law, consider yourself lucky. In fact, as far as I am concerned this is our faculty's maxim. Let me explain.

Erasmus School of Law (ESL) provides a stimulating and internationally oriented research environment. Our researchers are well regarded in the academic community in the Netherlands and abroad, as they set high standards in legal research, and publish in reputable peer-reviewed national and international scientific journals and with top international publishing houses. You should take full advantage of this.

By being able to participate in one of the faculty's research programmes and projects, you have the opportunity to profit fully from ESL's academic setting. In fact, right from the start of your academic career, you can make a significant contribution to ESL's research output. That this possibility is highly valued becomes clear from the fact that PhD theses in the past have regularly been considered as key scientific output in the context of the external evaluation of the research conducted at our faculty. You can present your research during dedicated PhD lunch lectures, during the annual poster presentations, or on the occasion of the annual PhD review day. Thus, there is ample opportunity to share and to discuss your research ideas with peers and, at least equally important, to inspire other researchers and to be inspired yourself.

ESL recognises the importance of doctoral education. This is why all PhD researchers are members of the Erasmus Graduate School of Law (EGSL). You have not only the right to receive substantive coaching and assistance from your supervisor(s) and the comments you receive from other members of the doctoral committee, but also to benefit from an accompanying PhD education programme offered by EGSL. As a faculty, we take pride in promoting critical reflection, multidisciplinary, and the

exchange of ideas. It is our conviction that experiences shared amongst senior and junior researchers play a substantial role in this regard. In this manner, you can further develop your skills as a researcher in order to become an outstanding, socially engaged, and inspired academic professional.

During your time as a PhD candidate, you will lay the foundation for a personal research network from which you will benefit long after you have finished your doctoral thesis. ESL encourages you in your network-building efforts by offering logistical and financial assistance, such as for research visits abroad and by supporting the faculty's PhD Candidate Association (JAR) and the Erasmus PhD Candidate Association Rotterdam (EPAR).

PhD researchers at ESL are considered as colleagues, whose opinions are valued and whose well-being is high on everybody's agenda. As Vice Dean in charge of research, I take a keen interest in ensuring that you find a professional academic environment that allows you to excel in your research. It goes without saying that there is always room for improvement. Hence, my colleagues at EGSL and I are always open to your suggestions, and also to discuss in confidence any matters that you feel may be hampering your research.

In summary, ESL's serious commitment to PhD research and to those who conduct it justifies the proclamation at the beginning of this introduction. For all those, like myself, who completed their PhD at an institution other than ESL, there rests only the comforting certitude that they have succeeded despite this apparent disadvantage.

Prof. Dr. Fabian Amtenbrink
Vice Dean Erasmus School of Law

'There is no friend as loyal as a book'

Ernest Hemingway

The introduction of the previous PhD guide (2013) started with a reference to the above quote, which in itself was already a reference to the PhD guide 2010. EGSL, however, believes that this quote does not adequately describe the PhD experience at ESL, neither should it! Let us explain.

Erasmus Graduate School of Law (EGSL) was established in September 2012 to set up a high-quality PhD programme in an inspiring research environment which helps young researchers to improve their skills. Key elements implemented to that end have been the development of an (1) educational programme which offers a methodological and substantive basis for the individual research project, (2) daily supervision and regular performance reviews by a Doctorate Committee, and (3) the organisation of many PhD activities throughout the PhD trajectory to create an inspiring and dynamic research environment.

But what really distinguishes EGSL from other graduate schools is the way in which EGSL provides guidance to PhD candidates and makes them feel embedded in the research community. PhD candidates are included in the ESL research community at all levels, by maintaining close contacts with fellow PhD researchers, with their supervisors, and indeed with the entire academic staff and researchers from other disciplines at ESL. Each PhD candidate is assigned to two supervisors, and a doctorate committee. The doctorate committee is appointed to monitor the progress and achievements of the PhD candidate and shall ensure the academic quality of the output. The doctorate committee consists of three senior researchers (including the Director or Dean of the PhD programme of EGSL) with relevant expertise. It provides professional input, critical reflection, and enthusiasm to the PhD candidate.

All PhD candidates are part of cohesive cohorts, based in the year in which they started their project. Every year, all first year PhD candidates start together in September which enables them to really get to know each other and to form strong bonds that are of value throughout the PhD trajectory.

In sum, if there is one thing in which EGSL has been very successful then it is in bringing researchers from different backgrounds together and to stimulate looking beyond their personal research projects. This is for example demonstrated by the annual Call for Ideas – an initiative where PhD candidates can submit a proposal to organise joint activities contributing to the PhD experience. EGSL supports the winners with a budget and organizational capacity. Over the past few years, we have seen quite a few very successful collaborations between PhD candidates from different disciplines amongst the winners of the Call for Ideas. For example, the first Call for Ideas was won by Thomas Riesthuis from the department of Sociology, Theory and Methodology and Jing Hiah, from the department of Criminology. Their proposal for a discussion group even led to a special issue of Erasmus Law Review which was published and edited by Thomas and Jing

EGSL provides a supportive, international research environment in which critical reflection, a multidisciplinary approach, and the exchange of ideas between all ESL researchers are center stage. This creates an environment in which PhD candidates no longer work in splendid isolation but enables them to establish a strong professional and personal network. To come back to Ernest Hemingway, we believe that a book should never be a PhD candidate's most loyal friend, but has to be simply the result of a PhD-project!



EGSL is led by the following persons: (from left to right) dr. Karin van Wingerde, dr. Wouter Verheyen, prof. Klaus Heine, Brenda de Groot and Alex Verhoeff.

The EGSL team

The EGSL Director is in charge of the management of EGSL, and is responsible to the Dean of Research. The Director discusses relevant matters in meetings of the Board of Research at ESL. The EGSL PhD Dean of Education coordinates the educational programme, and acts as a confidential counsellor for PhD researchers. The PhD Dean and the PhD coordinator invite PhD researchers for an informative talk at the start of the probationary year, and on a yearly basis further on in the PhD trajectory. Furthermore they organise the aforementioned EGSL-events. If needed, the PhD Dean can always be approached regarding confidential or practical matters.

The EGSL Policy Advisor assists EGSL on strategic points. The EGSL coordinator is responsible for the practical organisation of PhD courses and other EGSL activities.

Current members of the EGSL team are Professor Klaus Heine (Director), Dr. Karin van Wingerde (PhD Dean of Education), Dr. Wouter Verheyen (PhD Coordinator) Alex Verhoeff (Policy Advisor), and Brenda De Groot (Coordinator). The team is supported by a student-assistant.

Should you wish to learn more about EGSL, contact us at egsl@law.eur.nl



'Competition concerns arise, however, when cooperation between insurance companies goes beyond what is necessary for a proper functioning of the insurance market'

Department

Private Law

Research programme

Lex Mercatoria

Title of your research

Competition and Insurance law

Supervisor

prof. mr. N. van Tiggele - van der Velde

Time of Commencement

2014

E-mail

baak@law.eur.nl

Gerard Baak

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I am from the Netherlands and I live in Kinderdijk, a small village well-known for its world heritage windmills. I have studied at the Erasmus University for five years in the program Economics & Business and Law. I specialized in the field of private law, in the areas of liability and insurance law. This master specialization at the Erasmus School of Law gave me the opportunity to start a PhD research focusing on the competition aspects in insurance law & practice.

What is the topic of your research?

In my PhD research I focus on the competition law aspects in (business) insurance law and practice. Shortly, I describe the (European) competition law regulatory framework which is relevant for the (Dutch) insurance sector and evaluate that framework. Most important in my research is the detection and solution of problems that arise by the application of competition law in the insurance sector. Competition, on the one side, tries to guarantee the well and optimal functioning of markets, by forbidding cooperation between competitors which restricts competition. The insurance sector is, on the other side, for a long time, based on a collaboration and information exchange in order to facilitate an efficient process of placing business risks in the market. Competition concerns arise, however, when cooperation between insurance companies goes beyond what is necessary for a proper functioning of the insurance market. In my research I try to balance the conflicts between these two (law) areas and provide, also against the economic and historical background, solutions and recommendations.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

Besides that I am proud to be part of the department of private law of the Erasmus School of Law, in the inspiring Erasmus campus environment, a highlight of my academic career is to be secretary of a leading Dutch law journal specializing in liability and insurance law. That gives me the opportunity to reflect with leading professors and/or lawyers on substantial issues in the field of law.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

As the future is uncertain, that is always difficult to predict. I remember that 5 years ago I did not see myself in the position I have now. My desire is to get a nice job after my PhD, either in the business (insurance) practice or in the academic world. It would be nice to combine practical work and input with an (part-time) academic job at Erasmus School of Law.



'This research will discuss the contentions and implications of China's national security review system'

Department

Law and Economics/Erasmus China Law Center

Research programme

Behavioural Approaches to Contract and Tort:
Relevance for Policymaking

Title of your research

Comparative Analysis on National Security
Review Systems of Cross-border Mergers and
Acquisitions in China, the US, and the EU

Supervisors

prof. dr. M. Faure and prof. dr. Y. Li

Time of Commencement

2014

E-mail

bian@law.eur.nl

Cheng Bian

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Cheng Bian, I am from the city of Wuhan, in China. I obtained my bachelor and master degree in law in Zhongnan University of Economics and Law in China. I applied for the research program of Erasmus China Law Center of the Erasmus School of Law in 2014, and with the scholarship granted by China Scholarship Council, I was accepted by ESL as a PhD candidate since September 2014.

What is the topic of your research?

In recent years, China, the US, and three EU Member States, namely France, Germany and the UK, have either promulgated new rules or drastically revised existing regimes, aiming to aggravate the government control of inward M&A deals in certain sectors. While insisting to protecting national security in the means of legitimate domestic regulation, those states have almost simultaneously encountered the accusation of the insidious rise of investment protectionism. To address such heated debate, this research intends to examine the incentives and rationales behind nations' interference of cross-border M&A's to explain why such interference exists in the first place. Then followed by a descriptive inventory of domestic regulations in various jurisdictions, this research conducts a systematic comparison of the similarities and distinctions of the currently effective substantial and procedural regulations regarding the national security review mechanisms of those states. Finally, to benefit from the above comparative analysis, this research will discuss the contentions and implications of China's national security review system and conclude by offering recommendations to improve and further clarify the law.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

The highlight of my academic career would be my experience as a visiting scholar at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law Hamburg from 4 January 2016 to 29 February 2016, in Hamburg Germany. I had a productive and fulfilling stay at the Institute, and laid a solid foundation for my future research.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

In 5 years from now, after having obtained my PhD degree, I would like to see myself as a scientific researcher working in the university. I would like to continue my research on international investment law. Having said that, I also envisage myself, looking even further into the future, as a practitioner of the law in general, and as a lawyer in international commercial arbitration in specific.



'I picture myself in five years from now as a lawyer putting corporate and financial law into practice and staying in touch with academia'

Department

Corporate and Financial Law

Research programme

Lex Mercatoria

Title of your research

Loyalty Shares

Supervisors

prof. mr. H.M. Vletter-van Dort and
prof. dr. M.G. Faure

Time of Commencement

2011

E-mail

bootsma@law.eur.nl

Bart Bootsma

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Bart Bootsma. I was born in 1986 in Leeuwarden, the Netherlands. I hold an MSc degree in Economics and Business and an LL.M. degree in Company Law (*cum laude*) from Erasmus University Rotterdam. Before and during my employment as a PhD Candidate, I participated in several research projects for the Dutch Corporate Governance Code Monitoring Committee. The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research funds my research.

What is the topic of your research?

The topic of my research is loyalty shares. Loyalty shares intend to strengthen the long-term commitment of shareholders in public companies. Loyalty shares can take different forms: financial incentives, such as an increased dividend, or control incentives, such as multiple voting rights for long-term shareholders. In 2006, Royal DSM N.V. proposed the introduction of a loyalty dividend structure, which ultimately led to an appeal in cassation in the interests of the law. More recently, three companies incorporated under the laws of the Netherlands – CNH Industrial N.V., Fiat Chrysler Automobiles N.V. and Ferrari N.V. – introduced a loyalty voting structure.

Loyalty shares are analysed from a corporate law and economics and corporate constitutional perspective. The theoretical framework revisits Albert Hirschman's classic *Exit, Voice, and Loyalty* (1970). Furthermore, the research takes a comparative legal perspective. The comparative legal research includes France, Italy, and the U.S. The French *Code de Commerce* explicitly allows loyalty dividend and double voting rights for loyal shareholders. The *Loi Florange* of 2014 introduced double voting rights for loyal shareholders as default rule for French public companies. In Italy, loyalty dividend is allowed since 2010,

and double voting rights for loyal shareholders since 2014. Under Delaware law, a system of so-called tenure voting or time-phased voting is possible. However, the listing rules of U.S. stock exchanges include some limitations for public companies. The research formulates policy recommendations, as a blueprint for Dutch legislation on loyalty shares.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

I hope the greatest highlight of my academic career is yet to come, by successfully defending my PhD thesis. Highlights so far include: winning master's thesis prizes and publication of my master's thesis as a book; receiving a grant in the NWO Open Competition for the Social Sciences; treasurer of the PILAR board; supervising student research trips, with stays at Florida International University and New York University; teaching in a corporate law course at Rotterdam School of Management; managing editor of *Ondernemingsrecht*, the leading company law journal in the Netherlands; supervising numerous master's theses; secretary of the Company Law Committee, a standing advisory committee of the Ministry of Security and Justice in the Netherlands; guest editor of a special issue of *Erasmus Law Review*; presenting outcomes of my research to Dutch lawmakers and interest groups.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Although a crystal ball gazer could probably best answer this question, I picture myself in five years from now as a lawyer putting corporate and financial law into practice and staying in touch with academia. Of course, I aim to stay loyal to my PhD topic, but I would also like to broaden the scope in teaching and conducting research in the larger field of corporate law and corporate governance.



'The societal relevance of the research lies in new insights into several societal phenomena, by combining theoretical and empirical knowledge'

Department

Criminology

Research programme

Monitoring Safety & Security

Title of your research

The Moroccans Panic. A study into the societal reactions to Moroccan Dutch in the Netherlands and the way they cope with negative labelling processes.

Supervisors

prof. dr. R. van Swaaningen and
prof. dr. R.H.J.M. Staring

Time of Commencement

2011

E-mail

bouabid@law.eur.nl

Abdessamad Bouabid

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I studied Criminology at the ESL from 2006 to 2010. After finishing the Bachelor and Master I have worked at the COT Institute for Safety, Security and Crisis Management as a researcher-advisor. During my work here, I have written a research proposal together with professor René van Swaaningen and Richard Staring, for which I was granted a NOW Mosaic grant in November 2011. Since then, 80% of my time is dedicated to this PhD thesis and 20% to giving criminology courses to ESL students.

What is the topic of your research?

This research project entails, on the one hand, an inquiry into the societal reactions to Moroccan Dutchmen, through a qualitative analysis of Dutch media discourse. And on the other hand, an inquiry into the effects this labelling has on the daily lives of Moroccan Dutch males in terms of coping strategies, such as resistance, isolation, disintegration, radicalisation or adaptation, inspiration and motivation, through face-to-face interviews, focus group interviews and (participant) observations of social gatherings. This research arised from an academic curiosity about the (positive or negative) effects of labelling processes on social deviants and focuses on the moral panic (negative societal overreaction) as the facilitator of these effects. It will provide further elaboration and deeper understanding of the theoretical concept of the moral panic, which nowadays lacks scrutiny and explicit conceptualisation. The societal relevance of the research lies in new insights into several societal phenomena, by combining theoretical and empirical knowledge. It will deliver new and relevant insights from within Moroccan communities that can help policy makers and street-level bureaucrats in understanding and dealing with a wide variety of social problems of Moroccan youths.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

The publication of an article on riots in the Netherlands, based on my PhD-thesis, in a special issue on riots in the European Journal of Criminology.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Definitely working in academia, doing research on all of the topics I came across during my PhD-thesis and had to skip because of time and focus, and teaching students how to do qualitative research with a good sociological imagination and guided by proper theories.



'I ended up speaking with some of the most knowledgeable, creative and entrepreneurial people from around the world'

Department

Tax Law

Research programme

Fiscal Autonomy and its Boundaries

Title of your research

Charitable fundraising for the Arts in an Era of Globalisation: International Tax Barriers for Arts Organisations

Supervisors

prof. dr. S.J.C. Hemels and dr. D. Molenaar

Time of Commencement

2012

E-mail

Buijze@law.eur.nl

Renate Buijze

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Renate Buijze and I am from the Netherlands. I obtained my master's degree in Cultural Economics and Entrepreneurship at the Erasmus School of History, Culture, and Communication. After graduation, I worked as a fundraiser for cultural events. I was eager to learn more about the mechanisms at work behind philanthropy for the arts, so when I saw the vacancy for a PhD position on this topic, I applied.

What is the topic of your research?

My research is about the tax issues involved in cross-border philanthropy for the arts. Donations to the arts are often supported by tax incentives. When donations cross borders, tax incentives do not always apply, hindering international philanthropy. Several solutions exist to make international donations possible, with the benefits of tax incentives. These solutions can be public (e.g. domestic legislation, tax treaties and supranational agreements) or private initiatives making use of public measures (e.g. foundations operating abroad, 'friends of' charities and intermediary charities). Still it is difficult for arts organizations to find the right solution to facilitate their foreign benefactors with a tax incentive, since information costs are high. Therefore, my research evaluates the solutions from the perspective of the arts organizations, in order to identify best practices in context. Fundraisers for arts organizations, benefactors, as well as policy makers can benefit from the research. The main research question is: "How can the current existing solutions for tax efficient international charitable giving be used optimally by arts organizations?" Combining the approach of tax law and social sciences an assessment framework is developed, to evaluate the existing solutions and find the most suitable solution for specific cross-border situations.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

My time at university has been really pleasant so far, but two experiences really stand out. My research required me to interview professionals in the art sector. I was pleasantly surprised by how open and approachable the majority of these professionals are. I ended up speaking with some of the most knowledgeable, creative and entrepreneurial people from around the world.

Another highlight was to discuss my research at the 'Young Researchers' Workshop' during the 2014 conference of the Association of Cultural Economics International in Montreal. The workshop was led by the eminent professor David Throsby. To discuss my research with him and other well-known academics was a real highlight!

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Ha! A short answer suffices here: with a PhD degree and a published thesis!



'Presenting and defending my work before an international audience has been instructive, and attending conferences has brought me in contact with many interesting people'

Department

Rotterdam Institute of Law and Economics

Research programme

European Doctorate in Law and Economics

Title of your research

Economics of European Integration: Topics in Consumer Law and Competition Law

Supervisors

prof. dr. N.J. Rickman and
prof. dr. R.J. van den Bergh

Time of Commencement

2012

E-mail

buiten@law.eur.nl

Miriam Buiten

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Miriam Buiten, I am Dutch and I obtained my bachelor degrees in Economics and in Law here at Erasmus University. I then left for Hamburg, Bologna and Mumbai as part of the European Master in Law and Economics. This led me to apply for the European Doctorate in Law and Economics, which, after a stay in Bologna and Hamburg, brought me back to Rotterdam.

What is the topic of your research?

My PhD research focuses on the costs and benefits of European integration in the fields of consumer (contract) law and competition law. Using economic models, I evaluate the impact of various EU policies on cross-border shopping in the internal market, and on welfare more broadly. I aim to identify the costs and benefits involved in specific EU legislative initiatives, such as the change from minimum harmonization to full harmonization in the Consumer Rights Directive, the introduction of an optional European sales law, and the harmonization of specific civil and procedural legal rules in the Antitrust Damages Directive. For these EU policies, I evaluate whether the benefits of harmonization, such as achieving spillovers and reducing transaction costs, outweigh the costs of imposing uniform rules on countries with varying preferences.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

The highlight of my academic career is definitely to have had the opportunity to present my papers at international conferences. Presenting and defending my work before an international audience has been instructive, and attending conferences has brought me in contact with many interesting people.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Five years is far away, but for this year I hope to finish my PhD and find an interesting job.



'The PhD-research focuses on the meaning of the local fiscal autonomy, both in economic, philosophic, historic and fiscal-legal way and how this is established in the legal systems'

Department

Tax law, ESBL (research centre)

Research programme

Fiscal autonomy and its boundaries

Title of your research

Rechtsvergelijkend onderzoek naar de beperking van de lokale fiscale autonomie door het beginsel van détournement de pouvoir (comparative study on the principle of abuse of competence restricting the local fiscal autonomy)

Supervisors

prof. dr. M.J.M. De Jonckheere and
prof. dr. S.J.C. Hemels

Time of Commencement

2013

E-mail

a.monsma@law.eur.nl

Anneke Monsma

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Anneke Monsma and I am from the Netherlands. In 2005, I graduated in tax law at the ESL, with specialization in taxes of sub-central governments. Since 2008, I am a researcher at the Erasmus Study Centre for Local Taxation (ESBL). After my ESBL-colleague Arjen Schep finished his PhD-thesis, I was granted the opportunity to conduct PhD-research as well.

What is the topic of your research?

The PhD-research focuses on the meaning of the local fiscal autonomy, both in economic, philosophic, historic and fiscal-legal way and how this is established in the legal systems of the examined countries (Netherlands and Belgium).

Secondly, the boundaries of the fiscal competence of sub-central governments will be investigated. Those boundaries are expected to be different, according to the type of legal system. For example, in the Netherlands the system of local taxes is a closed one, i.e. the central government decides which taxes can be levied and to what extent. Main boundary is thus the principle of legality, in the sense communities cannot overstep the competence given by the higher authority. In Belgium, an open local tax system is founded; communities can set taxes as they see fit, as long as it is in the public interest. Therefore, limits to the fiscal autonomy are rather to be found in the jurisprudence on common legal principles than in laws and regulations of higher authorities.

Last and main part of the research will be the analysis of a specific boundary of local fiscal autonomy, namely the prohibition of abuse of (fiscal) competence. Jurisprudence on this legal principle (of proper legislation instead of proper governance) in the Netherlands, Belgium and Europe will be examined.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

The publication of articles in peer reviewed and international journals, the organization of ESBL-conferences, the presentation of research results at national and international conferences and the contact with several international colleagues.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Hopefully a lot wiser and finishing my PhD-research. Apart from work, I also hope to have developed myself in all other roles in life I have, to have contributed to the community and to have been caring for the people around.



*'This research, therefore,
attempts to look at
the phenomenon
with different eyes'*

Department

Tax Law

Research programme

Fiscal Autonomy and its Boundaries

Title of your research

Redefining the meaning of sovereignty based on the practices of the Bretton Woods institutions in shaping the tax systems of Soviet style post-communist countries.

Supervisors

prof. dr. mr. A.C.G.A.C. de Graaf

Time of Commencement

2013

E-mail

dorlig@law.eur.nl

Uyanga Dorlig

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Uyanga Dorlig. I come from Mongolia, but I have been living in the Netherlands for the last 12 years. I studied Public International Law (bachelor's degree programme) at National University of Mongolia. After immigrating to the Netherlands, I completed (Civil-law) Notarial Law (bachelor and master's degree programmes) at Leiden University and International and European Tax Law (master's degree programme) at University of Amsterdam. During my study in Leiden, I participated in the Talent Programme, an extra-curricular study of Leiden University, offered to outstanding students in addition to their master's degree programme and spent a semester on the Erasmus Programme at University of East Anglia, the UK. Prior to starting with my PhD project at Erasmus University Rotterdam, I have worked for one and a half year in practice as a tax lawyer.

What is the topic of your research?

After the collapse of Soviet communism in the late 1980s, post-communist countries made a transition from their centrally planned economy into capitalism. Due to the poor state of their economies, they needed not only advice, but also financial support and both were provided by *inter alia* international financial institutions. This practice that made this international financial institutions relatively autonomous vis-à-vis (recipient) states still endures and is kept alive by issues that are getting more complex and technical in nature due to more intensified globalization process triggered by the spread of neoliberal capitalism on the international level.

Viewed through the lens of traditional theories of International Relations on state sovereignty as an organizing principle of international relations, the above practice of international

financial institutions is in conflict with state sovereignty. This research, therefore, attempts to look at the phenomenon with different eyes. Instead of understanding the sovereignty as a transcendental notion that is valid everywhere and anytime, this study applies the constructivist framework of 'intersubjectivity' and 'contingency' in understanding the state sovereignty. Based on this framework, this research attempts to display the role of the Bretton Woods institution in shaping the tax systems in the Soviet style post-communist countries.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

The highlight of my academic career so far has been the selection of my PhD research proposal by the selection committee of the Erasmus School of Law as a result of an open recruitment round in 2014. At the moment, next to working on my PhD project, I am supervising theses of bachelor's degree students and teaching a seminar course for master's degree students in Tax Law of the Erasmus School of Law. Furthermore, my research poster was given an honorary mention during the annual poster presentation event of the Erasmus School of Law in 2015.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

In 5 years from now, I wish to get my PhD degree by completing my research project, with which I hope to make a contribution both to the scientific knowledge and the society.



'My PhD research intrigues me because of its societal relevance and constant developments'

Department

Corporate and Financial Law

Research programme

Lex Mercatoria

Title of your research

Governance of audit firms

Supervisors

prof.mr. H.M. Vletter - van Dort and
prof.mr. J.B.S. Hijink

Time of Commencement

2014

E-mail

eijkelenboom@law.eur.nl

Eva Eijkelenboom

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

From 2006 till 2013 I had the privilege to be part of the Erasmus School of Economics and the Erasmus School of Law, both as a student in Law and Economics (mr.dr.s.-student) and a student-assistant. As a student-assistant at the Corporate Law department I supported research into the diversity of the boards of directors and supervisory boards in the public sector. After graduating I got the chance to start as an academic researcher at this department, conducting research into audit firms. In October 2014 the EGSL granted me the opportunity to start as a PhD-student.

What is the topic of your research?

The last two decades the audit profession received a lot of attention. A variety of 'auditing scandals' – in the United States as well as in Europe – and the financial crisis resulted in diminished trust in the financial sector and a critical attitude towards auditors and audit firms. The Netherlands Authority for the Financial Markets (AFM), the Dutch regulator, published in the years 2006 – 2015 a number of critical research reports showing that the quality of audit firms should be improved.

As a result, new legislation is drafted, designed to restore trust in the audit profession at the European, national and industry level. Although new legislation regarding auditors and audit firms is implemented throughout Europe, The Netherlands is pioneering by drafting additional, unique requirements regarding the governance of audit firms. The focus of this research project is on the governance of Dutch audit firms from a legal, historical, and economical point of view.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

Researching audit firms without being an auditor or working at an audit firm is challenging. A highlight of my academic career is the fact that I worked for several months as a 'temporary-supervisor' at the AFM through which I gained a unique insight in the supervisory world. Furthermore this experience enabled me to come close to Dutch audit firms and obtain some valuable contacts with several experts in the field.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

My PhD research intrigues me because of its societal relevance and constant developments. Consequently, 'practice' is needed in my research to create value. After obtaining my PhD I hope to be able to contribute to the audit profession by putting research into practice. I desire to combine academic life and practice since I believe collaboration between research and practice leads to progress.



'The personal injury claims process, for example, is quite problematic, as adversarial legal systems, such as the Netherlands, create antithetical interests among the parties involved'

Department

Private law

Research programme

Behavioural Approaches to Contract and Tort: Relevance for Policymaking

Title of your research

Improvement Initiatives to the Personal Injury Claims Process in Different Jurisdictions: a Search for Success Factors

Supervisors

prof. mr. S.D. Lindenberg and
prof. mr. H.N. Schelhaas

Time of Commencement

2014

E-mail

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Evelien Engelhard

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Evelien Engelhard and in 2014 I graduated in both civil and criminal law at the Erasmus School of Law. During my bachelor studies I also took part in an exchange programme in Lund, Sweden. As a master student I enrolled in the course 'Research Lab' to find out more about conducting research. At the end of the year, my proposal was selected and I was granted a PhD position.

What is the topic of your research?

The value of comparative research in the legal domain has long been recognized: it can aid the legislator in producing new laws and in solving problems by scrutinizing (superior) solutions introduced by other countries, as a response to the occurrence of similar issues. This function of comparative law has not, however, been fully utilized yet. The personal injury claims process, for example, is quite problematic, as adversarial legal systems, such as the Netherlands, create antithetical interests among the parties involved. Common problems regarding this process include the poorer health of claimants as opposed to non-claimants (secondary gain and secondary victimization), the duration of the process and the discrepancy between financial and 'emotional' compensation.

Although other countries have experienced similar issues and have addressed them by introducing different solutions, few comparative studies have been conducted on this topic. Therefore, this research aims to identify 'success factors' in improving the personal injury claims process. In doing so, several improvement initiatives to this process in different jurisdictions – also relating to different types of problems – are examined. The legal systems scrutinized in this study include The Netherlands (the partial dispute procedure), Ireland (Injuries

Board), England (Pre-action Protocols and the Rehabilitation Code) and the United States (the 'Michigan Model').

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

The highlight of my academic career is participating in a European study which aims to identify the processes by which personal injury claims are resolved in practice in three countries: England and Wales, Norway and The Netherlands (A Socio-Legal Analysis of Personal Injury Claims). For this study, I have interviewed many Dutch personal injury practitioners and in March 2016, I presented the results of these interviews in London (BIICL). Participating in this study has aided me in my own research and more conferences (also in Dutch) will be organized.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Five years from now, I will have returned from living and working abroad – where hopefully I will be able to work at a university to teach and conduct more research on this subject – and making a journey around the world. After my return, I hope to pursue a career in organizations helping (personal injury) victims, such as *Slachtofferhulp Nederland* or *Schadefonds Geweldsmisdrijven*, as a case manager or in policymaking.



*'I use some econometric tools
to find out the determinants
of judicial efficiency change
and its consequences'*

Department

The Rotterdam Institute of Law and
Economics

Research programme

European Doctorate in Law and Economics

Title of your research

Judicial Performance: An Empirical Analysis
of its Causes and Consequences

Supervisor

Dr. Louis Visscher

Time of Commencement

October 2015

E-mail

Thiago.fauvrelle@edle-phd.eu

Thiago Fauvrelle

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I was born in France, grew up in Brazil where I studied a Bachelor of Economics and a Bachelor of Law. Then I came back to Europe to do my master in Law and Economics at the Erasmus University Rotterdam, University of Hamburg and Aix-Marseille University. During my studies in Rotterdam, I discovered the European Doctorate in Law and Economics and was fascinated by it.

What is the topic of your research?

My general area is institutional economics, specifically Law and Economics. I conduct basically Empirical legal studies. My Phd thesis is an empirical analysis of the causes and consequences of judicial efficiency. Briefly, I use some econometric tools to find out the determinants of judicial efficiency change and its consequences (on access to courts, credit supply, crime rate and so on).

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

I hold two different bachelor degrees (studied in two different universities), passed the bar exam even before my graduation ceremony in Law. Published already 3 papers in academic journals and presented papers in several international conferences.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

As a researcher in some think tank, consulting firm or academia.



*'Recommendations for improving
the Chinese system will be achieved
at the end of this research'*

Department

Company and Commercial Law Department

Research programme

Company Law

Title of your research

Minority Shareholder Protection in Chinese Listed Companies: A Comparative Study with US and the Netherlands

Supervisors

prof. mr. dr. M.J. van Ginneken,
prof. dr. Y. Li and
mr. M.A. Verbrugh

Time of Commencement

2013

E-mail

fu@law.eur.nl

Qiqi Fu

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I am a PhD candidate from China, after I finished my double Masters from both Hamburg University and China University of Political Science and Law, I decided to further continue my legal research at the Erasmus School of Law.

What is the topic of your research?

My research aims at examining the status quo of minority shareholder protection in Chinese listed companies, and to further propose recommendations for improvement. To achieve this goal, the research has been conducted by comparing corporate governance systems in three jurisdictions, namely China, US and the Netherlands. Firstly, this research applies the agency theory, which depicts minority shareholders as the principal and the controlling shareholder and management as the agents, to demonstrate the principal-agent conflicts exist in Chinese listed companies. Secondly, targeting at the conflicts of interests identified above, this research focus on legal strategies for mitigating the agency problem from two aspects, namely by granting rights to minority shareholders and by enhancing monitoring of the agents. Lastly, by following the above structure, comparative study will be conducted among China, US and the Netherlands. Through which, minority shareholder protection in these three jurisdictions will be presented, similarities and differences will be analyzed, and recommendations for improving the Chinese system will be achieved at the end of this research.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

I have successfully finished the one-year academic training provided by Erasmus Graduate School of Law, participated in international conferences in the Netherlands, UK, Italy, and published a chapter (co-author) in the book *East Asia's Renewed Respect For the Rule of Law in the 21st Century: The Future of Legal and Judicial Landscapes in East Asia*.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

I would like to further develop my legal expertise in the field of company law, and to use my legal knowledge, academic skills and legal practice experience to serve my professional career in the coming future.



*'The Chinese workers were deported,
and the Dutch Supreme Court
convicted the restaurant owner
of human trafficking'*

Department

Criminology

Research programme

Monitoring Safety & Security

Title of your research

Having a Chinese Job. Exploring Labour relations in Chinese ethnic enterprises in the Netherlands and Romania in the context of Labour exploitation.

Supervisors

prof. dr. R.H.J.M. Staring and
prof. dr. R. van Swaeningen

Time of Commencement

2013

E-mail

Hiah@law.eur.nl

Jing Hiah

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

Jing Hiah, born in Penang, Malaysia (1986), I have however been living in the Netherlands from a very young age. Being raised in a cultural Chinese household, yet living in the Netherlands, I have always been aware of how I live in two different cultures, although never thought too much about this. Only after I started studying Criminology at ESL and as a student got involved in a research project on the livelihood of (undocumented) migrant youngsters in the Netherlands I became academically interested in the topic of sub-cultural settings/pluralism. Subcultural settings/pluralism now forms one of the underlying main topics of my thesis.

What is the topic of your research?

In June 2006, the Dutch Social Intelligence and Investigation Service encountered eight Chinese illegal aliens during an inspection of a Chinese restaurant in Eindhoven. The Chinese workers were deported, and the Dutch Supreme Court convicted the restaurant owner of human trafficking, arguing that the employer was well aware of the illegal status of the Chinese workers and subsequently their vulnerable position. The court stated that – compared with Dutch norms – the labour conditions in which these illegal workers were found should be defined as exploitative. However, neither the employers nor the illegal workers perceived themselves to be either perpetrators or victims.

This example elicits questions as to how these informal labour relations and labour conditions are perceived by the different actors (employers, employees, and governmental representatives), how these different perspectives can be explained, and what the consequences are. This incident also raises questions on the impact of human trafficking and immigration policies on labour relations. In my project I aim to describe and explain these different perspectives on labour relations in Chinese niches in

the Netherlands and Romania, through mainly qualitative methods as participant observation and interviews in both the Netherlands and Romania.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

Central in my research is a comparison between labour relations in Chinese ethnic enterprises in the Netherlands and Romania. To conduct my fieldwork in Romania I visited Bucharest for a 6 months stay in 2015. This research visit granted me the opportunity to carry out my research activities, get introduced to the Romanian academic world and experience living abroad, exploring a new culture and people.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Well, I first hope to finish my PhD project successfully and afterwards, we will have to see how things go from there. I however have enjoyed working in an academic environment a lot these past few years as it is challenging, gives you a lot of room to work on the topics you find interesting and develop your own ideas.



'Being able to present my work and discuss it with many distinguished academics was a real highlight'

Department

Private International Law and Comparative
Private Law

Research programme

BACT

Title of your research

Free movement of civil judgments in the EU
and the right to a fair trial

Supervisors

prof. dr. X.E. Kramer and
prof. dr. K.A.M. Henrard

Time of Commencement

2012

E-mail

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Monique Hazelhorst

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

In 2005 I commenced my bachelor's degree in law at the University of Utrecht. Feeling that I had not yet learned enough about the law when I graduated I started a two-year Master's Programme in Legal Research at the same university. I greatly enjoyed the challenge of research, so when a PhD position was offered at Erasmus School of Law, I did not hesitate in applying.

What is the topic of your research?

The central problem is whether courts in EU Member States should be allowed to refuse to recognize or enforce a civil judgment from a court in another EU Member State, and on what grounds. Effective recognition (which means you can rely on the judgment) and enforcement (which means you can take measures such as seizing goods) is essential to safeguarding legal certainty and to facilitating cross-border trade. For that reason, judgments from courts in the EU should in principle be recognized and enforced in all other Member States. However, the question is what should happen when the judgment in question was the result of a procedure that was not in conformity with the right to a fair trial (as guaranteed by the European Convention on Human Rights and the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights). To my mind, it is a responsibility of the European Union to safeguard fundamental rights effectively. In the context of free circulation of judgments, the most effective way of doing this is by allowing courts to refuse recognition and enforcement, but only in exceptional cases.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

With our department we recently organized a conference on the theme "From common rules to best practices in EU civil procedure". Being able to present my work and discuss it with many distinguished academics was a real highlight. Bringing together experts from various fields and from practice as well as academia was a very inspiring and thought-provoking experience.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Hopefully in a job that combines my academic way of thinking with practical issues, and that has a connection with international or European Union topics.



'Does the law of damages advantage or disadvantage a party, just because of the sometimes randomly determined time of the assessment of damage?'

Department

Private Law

Research programme

Behavioural Approaches to Contract and Tort

Title of your research

Time aspects in the assessment of damages

Supervisor

prof. mr. S.D. Lindenberg

Time of Commencement

2014

E-mail

hebly@law.eur.nl

Marnix Hebly

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

After obtaining my Bachelor's Degree in (Dutch) Law at the Utrecht University in 2009, I came to Rotterdam for the Liability and Insurance LLM programme. I got fascinated by the versatile field of the law of torts and damages. After 2,5 years of teaching at both the Erasmus School of Law and the Utrecht University, it was time for me to start my PhD research.

What is the topic of your research?

My research focuses on aspects of time in the assessment of damages. The seemingly simple theory underlying the law of damages, prescribing that 'the financial situation must be created in which the injured party would be if his or her rights were not violated', needs to account for the course of time which is present in virtually all cases (if only because legal procedures themselves take time). Damage can extend over a period of time, and it can make a difference at what time, or as of what time, damages are being assessed, when they are being paid by way of a lump sum (as is customary in many jurisdictions). Is this a problem? How does this 'work', both in theory and in practice: does the law of damages advantage or disadvantage a party, just because of the sometimes randomly determined time of the assessment of damage? There seems to be a lack of overview and coherence on this matter.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

Highlight in my career was my role as a co-author of two scientific reports (one on asbestos claims and limitation periods, and one on the experiences of crime victims seeking compensation). People reacted interestingly and enthusiastic, both legal scholars as well as law practitioners. To this day, I still write and read about these topics.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Of course, I hope to finish my dissertation in the upcoming years, and after that I hope that it helps me to gain a position at one of the Dutch universities in which I can further develop myself as a teacher and a legal scholar.



'I am assessing criminological theories on their validity when they are confronted with a non-human actor'

Department

Criminology

Research programme

Monitoring Safety & Security

Title of your research

Risks and Dangers of AI-systems on the Financial Markets,
Enabling a Criminological Interpretation

Supervisors

prof. dr. H.G. van de Bunt and
prof. mr. M. Hildebrandt

Time of Commencement

2015

E-mail

hopster@law.eur.nl

Gerald Hopster

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Gerald and I started my PhD-research last September after being selected in the EGSL open round 2015. I studied Criminology at the VU University Amsterdam with a focus on white-collar crime, organized crime and terrorism. Because I did not study or live in this area, this first year in Rotterdam is a whole new experience!

What is the topic of your research?

My research concerns the theoretical implications and practical risks and dangers of the use of Artificial Intelligent (AI) systems, specifically – but not only – on the financial markets. I am assessing criminological theories on their validity when they are confronted with a non-human actor and I will conduct a cross-case analysis of cases where these AI-systems are involved in deviant or criminal behavior.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

The highlight of my academic career is so far is being selected in the EGSL open round and receiving very positive feedback on my research proposal.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Being a short-term planner, I have no specific expectations of the long-term future. My PhD-research should be completed in 5 years, and I hope to contribute to more research on technology and crime.



*'A great honour, now doing
my best to live up
to the expectations!'*

Department

Criminology

Research programme

Monitoring Safety & Security

Title of your research

Controlling cartels: dynamics between legal and internal control of illegal business cartels

Supervisors

prof. dr. J.G. van Erp and
prof. dr. H.G. van de Bunt

Time of Commencement

2014

E-mail

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Jelle Jaspers

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I am from Groningen and came to Rotterdam, ESL, to conduct my studies in Criminology. So far, I have conducted both my studies and research at Erasmus School of Law. After finishing my studies, I received a master thesis award from ESL and consequently worked on different contract research projects in collaboration with different national monitoring agencies, such as the Dutch Tax Authorities and the Dutch Competition Authority. I received a grant to conduct my PhD-research in 2014, which I have been working on since.

What is the topic of your research?

Business cartels cause severe financial damage and harm consumer trust; cartel enforcement authorities use heavy penalties and leniency in their efforts to control cartel behaviour. However, corporations may react to increased *external* control by strengthening the *internal* control and secrecy of their cartel conduct. Therefore, sanctions not always deter sufficiently, and cartelists use the leniency (whistle-blowing) arrangement strategically. This project empirically investigates internal control mechanisms in cartels. Through case studies of detected cartels and interviews with insiders, I aim to answer the question when external control of cartels undermines the internal control within cartels, or what forms of internal control make cartels impenetrable by external control.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

In order to conduct my PhD-research I received a 'research talent grant' from NWO, the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research. Because of this, I had the honor to be awarded a 'Talent Extraordinary' award from the rector magnificus of Erasmus University Rotterdam, Huibert Pols. A great honour, now doing my best to live up to the expectations!

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Five years ago, I did not imagine being in the position I am in now and in five years time (thankfully) the future will be as unforeseen as it was then. However, hopefully I am still able to conduct work on interesting new (research) questions, whether this is working in academia or elsewhere. Wherever my career will be at that point, I aspire mostly to (still) take a highly critical and constructive stand on things, as I have learned in university, during my studies and research so far. This is an invaluable asset and a great privilege to be able to obtain.



*'I presented part of my PhD Research
in the Legal Department of Maersk
Shipping Line Company, in its
headquarters in Copenhagen'*

Department

Commercial, Company & Financial Law

Research programme

Lex Mercatoria

Title of your research

"Juridical implications of Information
gathering, storing & sharing by carriers"

Supervisors

prof. mr. F.G.M. Smeele,
prof. dr. M.F.W.H.A. Janssen and
dr. W. Verheyen

Time of Commencement

2014

E-mail

karampetsou@law.eur.nl

Aspasia Konstantina Karampetsou

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Aspasia Konstantina Karampetsou and I am from Greece. In 2008, I commenced my bachelor studies (LLB) at the Law School of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. In 2013, I decided to come to the Netherlands to do my master in Commercial law (LLM). This challenging academic experience at the Erasmus School of Law strengthened me to continue even further my legal studies abroad and in 2014, I applied for the PhD-position, which is funded by NWO under the ISCOM funding program. After having successfully passed all the required interviews, I was selected to become the PhD Candidate for the Just Project.

What is the topic of your research?

The topic of my PhD research is part of the Just Project, which is an acronym for juridical and context-aware sharing of information for ensuring compliance. The Just Project, sponsored by the NWO under the ISCOM Program, is a co-operative interdisciplinary research project between EUR and TU Delft. My individual research focuses on the question how to enable information sharing with regard to the containerized cargo between carriers and customs from a legal point of view.

To be more specific, for both carriers and customs, containerization causes uncertainty about the exact nature and (possibly dangerous or unlawful) attributes of cargo stowed in these boxes. Increasingly, carriers actively gather relevant information about the nature and dangers of containerized cargoes carried on their ships, as part of their risk assessment and management. Information gained from these controls may allow customs to improve their inspections and monitor better the flood of containerized cargo crossing their national borders each day. However, this information sharing is a complex and

difficult task, which cannot be easily achieved, mostly due to legal considerations, such as privacy protection and goal binding of information collected. Therefore, this research is aimed at exploring the legal obstacles to the aforementioned information sharing and at answering the question whether and if so, what legal changes need to be done in order to achieve this.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

In January 2016, I presented part of my PhD Research in the Legal Department of Maersk Shipping Line Company, in its headquarters in Copenhagen. In addition, in July 2015, I participated as a Lecturer in two ELSA International Summer Law Schools in both Athens and Rotterdam.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Hopefully, I will have obtained my PhD degree by that time. Afterwards, it would be wonderful, if I get the opportunity to work in the legal department of a large and well-known maritime or transport law company, where I can practice my expert knowledge. Of course, teaching (as a part time or guest lecturer) will always be an intellectually challenging experience for me, which I would like to combine with my main job.



*'Upon completing the Research Lab,
I was offered a PhD-scholarship.
It was a dream coming true'*

Department

Private Law (Corporate & Financial Law)

Research programme

Lex Mercatoria

Title of your research

Shares without profit entitlements or voting rights at the Dutch Limited

Supervisors

prof. mr. M.J. Kroeze and
prof. mr. H.M. Vletter – van Dort

Time of Commencement

2015

E-mail

keijzer@law.eur.nl

Titiaan Keijzer

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Titiaan Keijzer. I was raised in a small town in the east of The Netherlands. In 2009, I commenced studying Law and Tax Law at the Erasmus School of Law. In 2014/2015, I participated in the EGSL Research Lab as a Master's student. This exciting experience strengthened me even further in my ambitions of pursuing an academic career. Upon completing the Research Lab, I was offered a PhD-scholarship. It was a dream coming true.

What is the topic of your research?

My research focuses on non-voting and non-profit shares at the Dutch Limited. In principle, a share grants its holder i) a right to receive (a part of the) corporate profits (dividend) and ii) a right to vote at the General Meeting of Shareholders. The Dutch Private Limited Company, however, in 2012 saw its statute modified, allowing for the issuance of non-voting or non-profit shares – previously, this was not possible. Such shares may result in a better 'fit' compared to the preferences of investors. The statute of the Dutch Public Limited Company has remained unchanged, however. This may create a competitive disadvantage for Dutch corporate law. The aim of my PhD-thesis is therefore to study whether, in the future, the Dutch Public Limited Company should be allowed as well to issue non-voting or non-profit shares.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

Since my academic career has only just begun, I hope that at least some of my professional highlights are still ahead of me. However, working with and being inspired by fellow researchers, particularly those of the Corporate Law department, has been a real pleasure.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

The aspirations are quite straightforward. First, I hope to have gained a much deeper understanding of (Dutch) Corporate Law and its economic background. Second, I hope this has resulted in the completion of my PhD-thesis and other work. Afterwards, I feel it would be wonderful to continue contributing academically to the field of Corporate Law.



'I would like to work on the legal projects improving business activities of European enterprises'

Department

Private International Law

Research programme

Behavioral Approaches To Contract and Tort

Title of your research

CARGO BUNDLING

Legal solutions for the horizontal collaboration aiming at smart bundling of goods flows of different companies

Supervisors

prof. mr. dr. X.E. Kramer,
prof.mr. F.G.M. Smeele and dr. W. Verheyen

Time of Commencement

2015

E-mail

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Marta Katarzyna Kołacz

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I obtained my first master's degree in Law at the University of Gdansk, Poland in 2013. In the same year I continued my studies at the Erasmus University where I was awarded the degree of Master of Laws (LLM) in Commercial Law. Before starting my PhD in the Department of Private International Law in 2015, I was working as a junior legal assistant in the law firm providing legal services to the top Polish and foreign ship owners.

What is the topic of your research?

Nowadays, the shipping sector is facing an emerging and innovative practice facilitating supply chains, that is the cooperative logistics. In my thesis I focus particularly on the one example of such cooperation which is horizontal cargo bundling performed by shippers before engaging a carrier. To precise, the shippers that regularly ship certain amounts of cargo to common destinations agree to cooperate that is to provide their goods in a sufficient quantity to fill at one time the whole container and send it to the same destination.

This practice although very promising and profitable is not investigated as far as legal aspects, including the allocation of responsibility, are concerned. Therefore, raising a question of how one shipper is liable towards another is unavoidable. The answer is not evident though. In the absence of explicit provisions on multiparty relations in transport conventions, their application to horizontal cargo bundling highly depends upon the national judge's discretionary decision. Furthermore, parties interactions, which originate from compilation of different cargo in a one container, veer between the partnership and contractual chain but also touch joint and several responsibility. My project investigates the practice of horizontal cargo bundling, creates an institutional and contractual framework to minimize

potential legal risks related to it and contributes to popularization of innovative solutions in logistics.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

I presented the topic on the international transport conferences in London and Helsinki in 2014 and 2015:

- The Sixth Maritime Law & Policy International Postgraduate Research Conference, City University London (April 2015) – speaker, presentation title: 'New services- old regimes. How to keep up with new trends in transportation? Shippers performing cargo bundling'.
- European Intermodal Sustainable Transport – Quo Vadis? University of Helsinki (September 2014) – speaker, presentation title: 'Cargo pooling as a future for the development of supply chains. Legal concerns'. The post-conference publication published in *Marlus* 459 (2015).

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

I would like to work on the legal projects improving business activities of European enterprises.



'I believe that the highlight is yet to come in the form of a publication which will give unauthorized migrants a voice'

Department

Criminology

Research programme

Monitoring Safety & Security

Title of your research

Unauthorized migrants' understandings of the Dutch immigration system

Supervisors

prof. dr. R.H.J.M. Staring and
prof. dr. M.M. Boone

Time of Commencement

2013

E-mail

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Mieke Kox

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

In 2007, I obtained my criminology degree at Utrecht University on the basis of a master's thesis on the experiences of immigration detainees in the Netherlands. This topic has had my attention ever since. After several studies on unauthorized migrants and immigration detention for different kind of organizations and after some beautiful journeys in South America and Asia, I came into contact with Richard Staring. He asked me whether I was interested in writing a publication on immigration detention for a journal that he was editing. In the end, this resulted in an EGSL scholarship for a PhD trajectory at the Criminology department.

What is the topic of your research?

After timeframes of welcoming migrants, tolerating unauthorized migrants and marginalizing these migrants, a new timeframe of criminalizing unauthorized migrants has been introduced in the Netherlands. In this so-called timeframe of crimmigration, crime control and migration control practices have become increasingly intertwined at the levels of legislation, policy and enforcement. Both current and previous Dutch governments believe that such restrictive and criminalizing policies are needed for tightening the possibilities of staying unauthorized in the Netherlands, discouraging unauthorized residency, and forcing unauthorized migrants to leave the Netherlands. Besides, these policies have a strong symbolic function as well as they mirror and confirm the dominant public view on unauthorized residency.

However, it is not clear to what extent these contribute to the achievement of the governmental aims in terms of return and there is no reason to be too optimistic on causal influences of these policies. Since people's willingness to comply with the law is supposed to be determined by their view about the law and legal authorities, studying the unauthorized migrants' views

about the Dutch immigration laws and authorities might provide insight in why immigration laws and policies as they are embodied in the immigration system do not have the intended impact on these migrants. Therefore, I am studying how law in interaction with the risks of apprehension, (alternatives for) immigration detention and/or deportation matters to unauthorized migrants by focusing on the lived experiences of unauthorized migrants during the unbroken and partially overlapping stages of the Dutch immigration system that are related to the (forced) departure of unauthorized immigrants.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

My PhD trajectory has resulted in some, for me, motivating moments in terms of publications and presentations. Especially, my first steps in the research field and my first interviews were very inspiring and helped me clarifying my theoretical framework. Nevertheless, I believe that the highlight is yet to come in the form of a publication which will give unauthorized migrants a voice and which will, hopefully, find its way into immigration policies.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

In five years, I hope to have successfully defended a dissertation that has/will contribute to the immigration policies development and the scientific crimmigration debate. At a personal level, I hope to continue my research on immigration issues either in an academic environment or in another setting.



'PhD-students are sometimes asked to supervise study trips and in 2014, I was the lucky one!'

Department

Handels- en Ondernemingsrecht & Financieel recht

Research programme

Lex Mercatoria

Title of your research

Banks and State Aid Control:
An Equal Treatment Perspective

Supervisors

prof. mr. H.M. Vletter-van Dort

Time of Commencement

2012

E-mail

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Randolf van Lambalgen

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

In October 2012, I started my PhD at Erasmus University Rotterdam, where I had studied previously for six years. From 2004-2010, I participated in the 'mr. drs.-programma', which means that I have completed two studies: Economics (MSc) and Dutch Law (LL.M.). After graduating, I became 'quatrième référendaire' (i.e. legal assistant) at the European Court of Justice. I worked for the Dutch judge (Marc van der Woude) at the General Court. After two fulfilling years, I left Luxembourg and returned to the Netherlands to begin my PhD.

What is the topic of your research?

The European Commission has taken many decisions in which it assesses state aid measures to banks. It is important that the Commission decisions are perceived as 'fair' or 'just' by the banks concerned. This underlines the importance of the principle of equal treatment, which will be the perspective taken in this research. The aim of this study is to identify the characteristics of the case that are relevant to the Commission's assessment. Which characteristics are relevant and why are they relevant? How are they elaborated in the Commission decisions? And are they taken into account in every decision?

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

There are several highlights, but the most enjoyable one was the study trip to Rio de Janeiro in April 2014. PhD-students are sometimes asked to supervise study trips and in 2014, I was the lucky one!

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

That is hard to say, because I do not have a "five year plan". One never knows which opportunities will crop up. For instance, I never envisaged an international career, but when I was asked to work at the European Court of Justice in 2010, I gladly accepted this offer and my time in Luxembourg proved to be a very nice experience. And five years ago, I did not know that I would be doing a PhD right now. So who knows what the future holds...

**Department**

Rotterdam Institute of Law and Economics

Research programme

European Doctorate in Law & Economics

Title of your research

A Law and Economic Analysis on Incentive-based Policy Instruments in Forestry Governance concerning GHG Mitigation in Developing Country

Supervisors

prof. dr. M. Faure and prof. dr. S. Oded

Time of Commencement

2014

E-mail

lan@law.eur.nl

Chih-Ching Lan

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I am Chih-Ching Lan from Taiwan. I hold an MSc in environmental science, policy and management. My research focus is on environmental law and economics and thus came to affiliate with ESL via EDLE.

What is the topic of your research?

My research project concerns a law and economic analysis on incentive-based policy instruments in forestry governance concerning greenhouse gas mitigation in developing country, in particular: How can mixes of incentive-based policy instruments be designed to efficiently and equitably govern the challenges of reversing deforestation and forest degradation under the global climate change regime in developing countries?

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

The highlight of my career has been writing papers, and attending seminars and conferences.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Working for an international organization dealing with environmental affairs.



*'I am sure I will
bring back to Brazil
promising contributions'*

Department

Rotterdam Institute of Law & Economics

Research programme

European Doctorate in Law & Economics

Title of your research

Shadow mergers and acquisitions:
a comparative study of collaborative
agreements and the challenges for merger
control policies in Brazil

Supervisor

prof. dr. R.J. Van den Bergh

Time of Commencement

2015

E-mail

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Maria Fernanda Caporale Madi

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I am a Brazilian lawyer and economist, 28 years old, and my specialties are (i) antitrust and competition counseling and litigation and (ii) legal research in Law & Economics, mainly Competition Law, Merger Control Policies, Anticompetitive Agreements and Cartels. I discovered the ESL through an Erasmus Mundus master program "European Master in Law & Economics".

What is the topic of your research?

In November 2014, the Brazilian Competition Authority (CADE) published a Resolution indicating that some types of contractual arrangements, including collaborative arrangements as outsourcing agreements, product licensing, cooperative research, should also be subjected to merger control (Resolution CADE No. 10/2014).

However, the lack of clarification of the regulation has brought a huge legal uncertainty for the parties. It is important to point out that in time of economic crises, collaborative agreements might be the only solution for increasing productivity and therefore should be carefully analyzed by antitrust authorities.

I am motivated to enhance a comparative study about the challenges for the Competition Authorities to design merger control policies in order to deal with different types of collaborative arrangements, such as outsourcing arrangements. The objective of the research will be to identify how the competition authorities in the European Union and in the U.S. have decided about the application of a merger control analysis for outsourcing arrangements and, therefore, to indicate some policy recommendations to other competition authorities, especially the ones from emerging countries as Brazil.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

My academic interests were focused on discussions related to the economic analysis of law. For instance, in 2010/2011 my undergraduate monographs discussed the evolution and the effectiveness of Brazilian competition laws and policies in the fight against cartels. In addition, I participated in research projects that examined market competitive conditions, regulatory issues and public policies for different economic sectors. Moreover, in 2013/2014 I was part of the European Master of Law & Economics and my research relied on Competition Law. The analysis focused the merger remedies in Brazil after 2012, in the context of a new Competition Law that introduced the pre-merger control system. After my PhD experience at the ESL, I am sure I will bring back to Brazil promising contributions on Competition Law and Economics' practices, regulatory issues and public policies.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

In 5 years from now I plan to have my PhD book ready and published. I also intend to be working as an academic researcher and legal consultant. I am certain that the outcome of my PhD experience at the Erasmus School of Law will have direct applications on the Brazilian economic and legal context since I will be able to engage in discussions about the economic and legal challenges faced by Brazilian development.



'Since the Dutch criminal law system is the root of the Indonesian criminal law system, it is important to understand the development of the corporate criminal liability in the Netherlands'

Department

Criminal Law

Research programme

external PhD in Criminal Law Department

Title of your research

Corporate Criminal Liability in the Indonesian Criminal Legal System

Supervisor

prof.mr. H. de Doelder

Time of Commencement

2014

E-mail

Maradonallm@law.eur.nl

Maradona

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I am a criminal law lecturer in Faculty of Law, Airlangga University Surabaya, East Java, Indonesia. The Indonesian Government supports me to pursue a PhD at the Erasmus School of Law through DIKTI Scholarship. Erasmus Law School is one of the Netherlands well-known law schools in Indonesia, therefore I am proud to have the opportunity to pursue PhD in this institution.

What is the topic of your research?

Indonesian criminal legal system recognizes the criminal liability of corporations through many Laws outside its criminal code since 1951. But, until now, rarely corporations have been brought before the criminal court. My research discusses the development of the corporate criminal liability regime in the Indonesian criminal legal system. It tries to picture the theoretical obstacle in imputing the criminal liability to the corporation, problems in legislation related to the criminal liability of corporation as well as problems in implementation both in prosecution and trial process. This research then aims to give a recommendation to deal with those problems that offers the best system in establishing the corporate criminal liability in the Indonesian criminal legal system. Comparative law perspective is also used to enrich this research. Since the Dutch criminal law system is the root of the Indonesian criminal law system, it is important to understand the development of the corporate criminal liability in the Netherlands which will be used as one of lessons learnt.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

As a criminal law lecturer in Indonesia, I have conducted several researches and published several articles and books on specific issues related to Indonesian criminal law. In addition, I also often give legal advices both to legal enforcers and defendants in criminal cases. I chose corporate criminal liability in the Indonesian criminal legal system as my PhD research topic because of the fact that there are many legal problems faced by the Indonesian legal enforcers when handling the corporate crime cases, moreover, I would like to contribute more to give solution to that problems.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Having an academic career as a lecturer has become my destiny. It will be my lifelong career. Pursuing PhD for a lecturer will give a solid foundation in the development of knowledge. This will enhance the quality of teaching, research, community services and also give an opportunity to have an international network. My experience during my study in the Erasmus Law School will give me a valuable influence when I return to my institution. I will not only bring back and transfer my valuable knowledge that I have got from ESL, but also strengthen the academic network that can be used to develop cooperation among legal scholars.



'My focus is on corporate investigations into wrong-doing by employees of organisations and the settlements that follow the investigations'

Department

Criminology

Research programme

Monitoring safety & security

Title of your research

Corporate security and private settlement: when cooperation with law enforcement is the exception

Supervisors

prof. dr. R. van Swaaningen and
prof. dr. N. Dorn

Time of Commencement

2012

E-mail

meerts@law.eur.nl

Clarissa Meerts

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Clarissa Meerts and I am from The Netherlands. I have studied criminology at the ESL and wanted to pursue an academic career after that. After having worked as a junior researcher and lecturer at ESL – during which time I have cooperated in interesting research, mostly on organized crime and fraud – my supervisors and I applied successfully for an NWO grant, which made my PhD research at the EUR possible.

What is the topic of your research?

My research focuses on what I call the corporate security industry. Criminology has traditionally focused mostly on state provided crime control, however there is a large (and growing) private side to security. We know surprisingly little about the specific part of private security of corporate security. My focus is on corporate investigations into wrong-doing by employees of organisations and the settlements that follow the investigations. My project is partly descriptive – in answering questions such as what kind of private investigative methods are there, which settlement options are there, what are the rules regulating both activities, etc. There is also a more theoretical side to the project, as a major question is how to define the private/public relationships in this particular field. Many more traditional theoretical notions on the public/private divide seem not to apply to corporate security. My methods in researching this topic are qualitative – predominantly interviews with investigators, clients and law enforcement professionals, but also two six weeks observations with corporate investigators and case studies derived from these observations.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

I would say there are multiple highlights in my academic career so far. I have enjoyed both teaching and participating in big research projects very much but I think one of the major highlights was the NWO grant. My publications and the (international) conferences that I attended also qualify as a personal highlight. Finally, I have organised and hosted a seminar in Liverpool around the topic of my PhD, which was a great experience.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

I would like to see myself still in academia in five years. There is still a lot of researching to do on corporate security and other interesting topics and I would very much like to be a part of that. Of course, given the shortage of academic positions this might not prove to be where I end up but my heart lies with scientific research and teaching. Having a project as large as a PhD to work on has convinced me even more of this.



*'My Ph.D. thesis will be
the highlight of
my professional career'*

Department

Tax Law

Research programme

Fiscal Autonomy and Its Boundaries

Title of your research

Judicial Safeguards in Exchange of
Information for Tax Purposes

Supervisors

prof. dr. A.C.G.A.C. de Graaf and
prof. mr. R.J.G.M. Widdershoven

Time of Commencement

2013

E-mail

neve@law.eur.nl

Leo Neve

1. Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I graduated from the University of Leiden in November 1975 and have worked as a tax inspector (up to 1988) and in private practice since. Exchange of information for tax purposes has been the topic of my master thesis in 1975. It seemed to me an interesting idea to try to re-do my master thesis in a Ph.D. and to reflect on the changes on that subject in the time between. The difference is the quest for legal protection of the tax subject.

2. What is the topic of your research?

My research is about the judicial safeguards available for the tax subject and the third party informant in the process of exchange of information for tax purposes. In between 1975 and 2016 the Standard for Exchange of Information has developed from mutual assistance between States with respect to the application of an agreement for the prevention of double taxation into an obligation of States to provide each other assistance on mutual basis with respect to the enforcement of domestic tax rules of the requesting State. The assistance can be identified into 1) assistance with respect to collection of information and production of documents with the taxpayer or a third party in the requested State, 2) the transfer of this information by the authorities of the requested State to the requesting State and 3) the use of the received information in the requesting State for the assessment of a tax liability. The judicial safeguards come into play with respect to the collection of the information (private life considerations), with respect to the transfer of that information (data-protection considerations) and with respect to the use of the information (access to Court and rules on evidence). In all these stages the interested person should be able to seek judicial protection against unauthorized use of information gathering methods, against unauthorized transfer of information and against domestic use of illegally obtained

foreign information. The procedure is between two States, but the legal protection is only available in the requesting State (home state of taxpayer). With the result that the actions in the requested State escape judicial scrutiny. Intention of the research is to evaluate the legal protection of the actions in the requested State and to make suggestions for improvement.

3. What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

I am not pursuing an academic career, but I have written a number of articles and case-notes. My Ph.D. thesis will be the highlight of my professional career.

4. How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

I intend to continue with publications on the subject.



*'This study aims to address
the three core topics
of wreck removal'*

Department

Commercial Law (HOF)

Research programme

Lex Meccratoria

Title of your research

The removal of hazardous shipwrecks

Supervisors

prof. mr. F.G.M. Smeele and
prof. mr. dr. G.A. Van der Veen

Time of Commencement

2014

E-mail

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Elize Niemeijer

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I was born in Rotterdam and raised nearby. I graduated from the Erasmus University Rotterdam School of Law as LL.M in Private Law in 2012. During 2012 and 2014 I worked as the course coordinator of the Masters Maritime & Transport Law and Commercial & Company Law and participated in the teaching and reformation of the Bachelor course in Commercial law. In August 2014 I became junior research fellow because I wanted to evolve professionally within academia in within the field of Maritime Law.

What is the topic of your research?

All parties involved in the maritime enterprise benefit from avoiding collisions nevertheless collisions continue to occur, often resulting into a number of potential or actual shipwrecks both in international and territorial waters each year. When a wreck is located in navigable waters it can pose a serious threat to the safety of navigation whilst endangering the (safe) passage of vessels and thus passengers, cargo, the marine and coastal environment. Therefore, wrecks should be marked rapidly, followed by an immediate commencement of the removal, both of which are costly operations.

Considering the dangers and cost involved one would expect that a clear legal framework would have been developed. However, the parties involved generally struggle with various national Wreck Acts and until recently the absence of a clear international legal framework. Finally, in 2015 the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007 (WRC 2007) entered into force. The WRC 2007 is an attempt to get one step closer to harmonization and its provisions seem clear. Nevertheless, some questions may be raised regarding the interplay with existing law on national, European and international level.

This study aims to address the three core topics of wreck removal. Firstly, the topic of duties of interested parties deriving from the WRC 2007, European Law and National law will be examined. Secondly, whether there is a competent authority to remove a wreck. And thirdly, a study concerning the legal ground for (re) covering of the costs involved in wreck removal will be conducted.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

Presenting at an international conference and teaching.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Happy and engaged in a new adventure whether that will be in practice or academics will have to become clear within the next couple of years, but hopefully there will always be a bit of teaching involved.



*'I was one of the three
researchers who conducted
the Study on the
End-to-End Process mapping
of the Criminal Justice System
in Rwanda'*

Department

Sociologies, theories and methodologies

Research programme

Rethinking the Rule of Law in an Era of
Globalisation, Privatisation, and
Multiculturalisation

Title of your research

Remedies for unlawful detention in Rwanda

Supervisors

prof. mr. dr. N.J.H. Huls and
prof. dr. A. Ngagi

Time of Commencement

2014

E-mail

niyibizi@law.eur.nl

Tite Niyibizi

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I am from Rwanda. I studied Law at Kigali Independent University where I obtained a LL.B in 2007. I later on pursued a Master's degree at the University of Rwanda, in 2008. In 2009, I joined the Institute of Legal Practice and Development (ILPD) where I have been working as a lecturer and part time lecturer at Kigali Independent University. Since 2012, I joined the Rwandan Bar as practicing advocate. I found my way to the Erasmus School of Law through my promotor.

What is the topic of your research?

Despite the strict conditions for detention in Rwandan legal system and in ratified human rights instruments, situation of unlawful detention nevertheless happens in practice. To the best of our knowledge, the few from the many unlawfully detained persons in Rwanda that claimed release and compensation at the Rwandan courts or before the established human rights mechanisms at international and regional levels obtained no compensation. This study seeks to explore which institutional and legal framework can ease the realization of release and compensation for unlawful detention in Rwanda. In order to respond to the research question, a doctrinal approach and comparative study with Uganda, France and the United Kingdom will be conducted.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

Since 2013-2015, I served as Academic Dean of ILPD. In that capacity, I served on various institutional bodies in Rwanda like the High Council of Judiciary and Disciplinary Committee of Rwanda Bar Association. I was one of the three researchers who conducted the Study on the End-to-End Process mapping of the Criminal Justice System in Rwanda, which has been conducted on behalf of the Rwandan Ministry of Justice in May 2013.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Researcher, lecturer and advocate who will contribute in the development of law and legal practice.



'Water policy has been too often shaped only based on economic theories or, alternatively, on rights-based claims'

Department

Rotterdam Institute of Law and Economics

Research programme

BACT

Title of your research

Building a New Water Policy: Giving Water its 'Full Value'

Supervisors

prof. dr. K. Heine, prof. dr. E. Hey and
prof. dr. A. Alemanno

Time of Commencement

2015

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Alberto Quintavalla

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Alberto Quintavalla and I come from Parma (Italy). Since I would like to pursue a PhD and I have already been in the Netherlands for the completion of my Master's thesis (Utrecht), I thought EUR was a good place to continue my academic career.

What is the topic of your research?

My research deals with water management in the EU. Water is a complex resource, possessing not only physical peculiarities – such as mobility and variability – but also a 'special significance'. However, this distinctive feature has been overlooked in managing water. Water policy has been too often shaped only based on economic theories or, alternatively, on rights-based claims. Therefore, my research aims at balancing economic welfare maximization and human rights protection in the EU water policy. An economic analysis that takes into account legal concerns – especially the human right to water – allows for the draft of important policy recommendations on how to manage water effectively, giving water its 'full value'.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

I believe that my academic career is only at the beginning and therefore the true highlights of my academic career are yet to come. However, for the time being, I consider the study trip to the Hebrew Jerusalem University that I won this year as the highlight of my academic career.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

I am hopeful that in 5 years the results of my research would be making a real difference on how we manage water and have important impact on optimising the usage of this precious resource. I would like it if I were able to further my academic career through research, but also impart my knowledge through teaching. Furthermore, I hope to be hands-on engaged in the creation of policies based on the findings of my research or in tackling issues related to the implementation of the new policies on water management.



'I am especially interested in explaining differences in workplace violence initiated by citizens, as experienced by police officers, firefighters and emergency medical workers'

Department

Criminology

Research programme

Monitoring Safety and Security

Title of your research

External workplace violence: Explaining differences in victimization of police officers, firefighters and emergency medical workers

Supervisors

prof. dr. H.G. van de Bunt,
prof. dr. P.G.M. van der Heijden and
dr. T.F.C. Fischer

Time of Commencement

2013

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Lisa van Reemst

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I am Lisa van Reemst, a PhD candidate at the department of Criminology. Previously, I studied (Social) Psychology at Utrecht University. I have always liked conducting research, but I wasn't quite sure whether I wanted to pursue a PhD. Therefore, I first applied for a job as a junior researcher and teacher at the department of Criminology. At Erasmus School of Law (ESL), I have become more convinced I want to pursue a PhD.

What is the topic of your research?

As a junior researcher, I worked on multiple research projects about violence against employees. These were short-term projects and they increased my interest and motivation to explore this topic more in-depth. In my PhD research, I am especially interested in explaining differences in workplace violence initiated by citizens, as experienced by police officers, firefighters and emergency medical workers. To what extent do employees who are less often victimized differ from those who are more often victimized? I focus on a selection of characteristics related to the employee (especially psychological characteristics) and the work situation. These characteristics were derived from victimological theories (i.e. victim precipitation theory and criminal opportunity theory) and interviews that I have conducted. These interviews aim to explore how employees perceive and explain the differences in workplace violence. I use a longitudinal survey design and secondary data analysis to test the relationships between characteristics and workplace violence, at a specific moment in time and over time. I also explore differences in the relationships between the three professions.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

There have been multiple highlights: One of them was getting the position of PhD candidate, as this allowed me to stay at ESL and to conduct the study that I developed. Additionally, a conference abroad allowed me to combine doing a presentation about my study, speaking with many colleagues, and my passion for travelling. Finally, I love teaching as well, and I am very happy with the opportunity to teach the Psychology course in 2016.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

At the moment, my ideal future job would be a combination of research and teaching. However, I am aware that it is currently not the best job market and that my own interests may change over time, so who knows! Most of all, I hope to be happy in my professional and personal life, like I am now.



*'The shipping industry
is the backbone of
our world economy'*

Department

Erasmus School of Law

Research programme

Lex Mercatoria: Globalising Business Law in the 21st century

Title of your research

Sustainable Shipping; It's all about the money.

Supervisors

prof. dr. F.G.M. Smeele and
prof. dr. H. Geerlings

Time of Commencement

2015

E-mail

rensen@symphonyshipping.com

Natasja Rensen

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Natasja Rensen. From 2007, I have been working as a financial manager in the maritime industry. July 10th 2014 I obtained a Master's degree in Commercial law with a specialization in Maritime & Transport Law. Afterwards I was granted the opportunity to participate at the course program of the EGSL.

What is the topic of your research?

I have taken an interest in a stakeholder-oriented regulatory study on the subject of Sustainable Shipping. No less than 90% of worldwide freight-transport is waterborne. As such the shipping industry is the backbone of our world economy. Taking the expansion of economic activities into consideration sustainable use of resources is one of the main challenges of the present time. Shipping has the potential to contribute to sustainable transport since it can be operated as a cost- and energy-effective transport mode. Unfortunately shipping is more often associated with negative aspects concerning the environment, safety issues and public health.

There is a general awareness among governments and other stakeholders that new approaches and policy measures that support sustainable development are much needed.

The regulatory measures that support Sustainable Shipping are taken by different governments (flag-state and coastal-state) as well as supranational and international bodies, such as the European Union, the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization. My research is focusing on the interplay of these regulatory measures including stakeholder opportunities to embrace and support these measures as such.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

The participation at the EGSL course program has challenged me to develop my skills and has given me the opportunity to meet various inspiring Professors, fellows and PhD-colleagues.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Within five years from now I hope to have presented substantial research on the topic of Sustainable Shipping, adding to the body of knowledge with regard to a holistic approach of materializing regulatory measures.



*'In 5 years from now
I see myself teaching
again, since it is
something I greatly enjoy'*

Department

Rotterdam Institute of Law and Economics

Research programme

European Doctorate in Law and Economics

Title of your research

Regulatory Governance Cycle: The Proposal
for Latin American Countries

Supervisors

prof. dr. A.M. Paccès and prof. dr. A. Renda

Time of Commencement

2015

E-mail

reyesreyes@law.eur.nl

Renny Reyes

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I am a lawyer from the Dominican Republic with a background in Economic Regulation and Law & Economics. I practiced law in my home country in both the private and public sector, and I also taught Law & Economics and Administrative Law at the Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra. In the year 2012 I graduated from the EMLE and in 2015 I decided to further my academic formation and I began the European Doctorate in Law and Economics (EDLE)

What is the topic of your research?

My main research question is "How can a Regulatory Governance Cycle be introduced and implemented in Latin American countries as an instrument to guide regulations to help achieve the country's goals?" I am seeking to answer this question taking into account the existing methodologies for regulatory assessment (for both ex ante and ex post assessments), the existing regulatory governance structures that have been used and proposed and the interaction among them, in order to determine what combination of methodologies and regulatory governance is suitable for a Latin American country at a given point in their regulatory structuring process.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

I would say: the opportunity to teach for the last eight years to young law students in the Dominican Republic. Teaching Administrative Law and Law & Economics was a challenge because of their specialty and their relative novelty in the country, which required more effort to keep the students interested. To now have students pursuing master degrees in those areas, who let me know how my courses influenced their decision, has been the highlight of my academic career so far.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

In 5 years from now I see myself teaching again, since it is something I greatly enjoy. Likewise, I see myself advising and offering consultation for Latin American countries on the adoption and implementation of their regulatory governance structures.



*'I have thoroughly
enjoyed my time
as a PhD candidate'*

Department

Sociology, Theory and Methodology

Research programme

Rethinking the Rule of Law in an Era of
Globalisation, Privatisation, and
Multiculturalisation

Title of your research

Reconceptualizing the Intertwinement of
Legal Orders: Perspectives from Legal
Theory

Supervisors

prof. mr. dr. H.S. Taekema and
prof. dr. mr. W. van der Burg

Time of Commencement

2013

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Thomas Riesthuis

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

Currently I am a PhD candidate in jurisprudence at the department of Sociology, Theory and Methodology. I studied law and philosophy of science at this university. During my studies here in Rotterdam I also worked as a student-assistant at the department.

What is the topic of your research?

My doctoral research concerns a topic in the field of transnational legal theory. In the research I explore the relations between legal orders in multi-level legal systems. Think, for example, of the relation between the Dutch and EU legal order. As a legal philosopher, I investigate the relations between legal orders by focusing on norms and actors. In complex multi-level legal systems for example, norms can conflict and actors such as courts may have to address possible norm conflicts. I consider it to be important for existing theories of law to be able to explain how norms and actors should be understood in the context of contemporary multi-level legal systems. Therefore, I develop and compare legal positivist, interpretivist and pragmatist accounts of the relations between legal orders. The research builds further on the work of for example H.L.A. Hart, Ronald Dworkin and Philip Selznick. The main aim of my doctoral research is to provide a better philosophical understanding of the relations between legal orders. By comparing different philosophical perspectives their strengths and weaknesses can be demonstrated. Additionally, based on this investigation an improved legal philosophical understanding of norms and actors in multi-level legal systems can be constructed.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

As a PhD candidate I consider it to be a great privilege to be able to travel in the Netherlands and abroad to present my work to other scholars and to be engaged in the academic debate on the topic of my research. One of the highlights of my academic career thus far has been to organize a workshop on transnational legal theory together with one of my supervisors, professor Sanne Taekema, at an international conference.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

As I am in the last year of my PhD trajectory my main concern is to finish writing the manuscript. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as a PhD candidate and therefore can imagine that I would be working in academia in 5 years from now. Next to my interests in academic research and jurisprudence, I am also fascinated by public law, politics and public administration. I think there is also a chance that in 5 years I will have pursued these interests further.



'Talking about your research in public can help to take a critical stance to your own research as well'

Department

Criminology

Research programme

Monitoring Safety & Security

Title of your research

Raising Barriers to 'Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs' in the Netherlands

Supervisors

prof. dr. H.G. Van de Bunt and
dr. W.J. Verhoeven

Time of Commencement

2014

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Teun van Ruitenburg

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I studied Criminology at the Vrije universiteit Amsterdam and graduated in December 2013. For my master's thesis, I conducted a research into the multi-agency approach towards outlaw motorcycle gangs in the Netherlands. After finishing my thesis, I was very much interested in doing a more in-depth study into this topic, which urged me to apply for a PhD-position at the Erasmus School of Law.

What is the topic of your research?

In the past decades, the culture of crime control shifted from a reactive response to criminal offences to a more proactive approach. Prior studies have revealed that contemporary western societies are increasingly concerned with anticipating to criminal offences by means of prevention and precaution. Taking this development into account, this research focuses on the implementation of different crime control strategies towards 'outlaw motorcycle gangs' by Dutch state agencies such as local governments, the Dutch National Police and other enforcement agencies. The case of 'outlaw motorcycle gangs' is relevant and interesting, since various approaches at different levels are being implemented; that is, at the level of the members as well as at the level of the clubs as a whole. Moreover, while police-cases indicate that members of various clubs are involved in criminal activities, the organizations as such have not yet been prohibited in the Netherlands. Overall, the aim of this qualitative study is to give insight into the governance of security in the current 'pre-crime' society as well as reflect on the Dutch approach towards 'outlaw motorcycle gangs' itself.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

One highlight of my academic career was being a guest lecturer for master students in Criminology. This was the first time I spoke extensively about my research in front of a large group of people. Albeit a rather modest highlight, I really enjoyed the interaction with the students and I realized that talking about your research in public can help to take a critical stance to your own research as well.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

As time seems to fly, I have the feeling I have only recently started my research. Fortunately, I still have some years to finish my manuscript and for obvious reasons, that is what I will be focusing on during the upcoming years. I have really enjoyed my time at EUR so far, so I would definitely see myself pursuing an academic career. At the same time, I have always been interested in working for governmental organizations such as the Dutch National Police and the Dutch Ministry of Security and Justice.



'When I was still an external PhD candidate, I was awarded a prestigious grant by the Dutch Prince Bernhard Culture Foundation to go for five months (2013) to the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law'

Department

International and European Union Law

Research programme

Rethinking the Rule of Law in an Era of Globalization, Privatization and Multiculturalisation

Title of your research

Inclusionary Governance for International Institutions: towards a Dynamic Model for Citizens' Involvement

Supervisors

prof. dr. E. Hey and
mr. dr. drs. J.D. Temperman

Time of Commencement

2013

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Marjolein Schaap – Rubio Imbers

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I hold a LL.M. in international and European Public Law (2009) and a LL.B. in Dutch Law (2008) from the Erasmus School of Law. After my studies I worked for three years as a lecturer in public international law at the ESL. In my spare time I developed the PhD proposal and presented my research ideas at various international fora, e.g. at the EUI (2011), University of Minho (2012), and the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law (2013, 2014). In October 2013, I joined the department as fulltime PhD Candidate.

What is the topic of your research?

International institutions increasingly adopt decisions that may directly affect individuals without sufficiently including them in the administrative decision-making procedures. The exclusion of individuals by international institutions has a significant negative impact on the accountability and legitimacy of the decision-making, think here of the example of the UN Security Council with their targeted sanction regime. This project asserts that procedural arrangements – either in combination with substantive rules or in themselves – are capable of decreasing the accountability and legitimacy deficit. Procedural arrangements are in this context referred to as inclusionary governance (i.e. right to information, participation, and access to review). Even though, there is agreement on the necessity of these three elements with decision-making procedures of international institutions, its precise contours in terms of substantive elements, limitations, constraints are not yet clear. Therefore the project develops a dynamic model which serve as a normative yardstick for designing inclusionary governance for international institutions. The model thereby stipulates minimum norms for access to information, participation and review and identifies contextual factors which play a role in the realization of the type & amount

of inclusionary governance by international institutions. The dynamic model thus ensures that individuals are properly included in the decision-making while also doing justice to the context in which international institutions are exercising their public powers.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

The highlight of my academic career so far was the acquisition of the two research grants which both were of great importance for my doctoral research. When I was still an external PhD candidate, I was awarded a prestigious grant by the Dutch Prince Bernhard Culture Foundation to go for five months (2013) to the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law. In 2014, I was awarded a scholarship by the Max Planck Gesellschaft to return for a two-month period.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

After the successful defense of my doctoral thesis I hope to acquire an assistant professor position (or something a like) in public international law on a Dutch university of interest where I will be able to teach international law and do research in my field of interest. Preferably, in five years, I have acquired a post-doc position which would enable me to continue researching the topic of accountability of international institutions by, amongst others, further studying the application of the inclusionary governance model to other international institutions and further theorizing the dynamism of the model.



'The research is of interest because it involves the ongoing discussion on the convergence between transfer pricing and customs valuation'

Department

Tax Law

Research Programme

Fiscal Autonomy and its Boundaries

Title of your research

Customs Valuation from an EU law perspective

Supervisor

prof. dr. W. de Wit

Time of Commencement

2014

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Martijn Schippers

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I studied Company Law, Tax Law and EU Customs Law at ESL. My research interest lies in the field of Indirect Taxation and Global Trade. Currently, I am working on a PhD project on Customs Valuation (part time). I am also the Programme Coordinator of the Post-Master in EU Customs Law of the Foundation for European Fiscal Studies, a board member of the Alumni Association for Tax Law and Economics "Aanmerkelijk Belang" (AB), coordinator of the master course "Capita Selecta Customs Law" and I teach VAT, Customs and Excises in the master course called "European Tax Law". Finally, since October 2014, I am a Tax Lawyer with EYs Customs Department in Rotterdam.

What is the topic of your research?

In my PhD thesis, it is investigated how the concept of customs valuation is embedded in EU customs law and how globalization influenced the composition of the EU customs law provisions on customs valuation. This is a very topical issue, because new EU customs legislation, called the Union Customs Code (UCC), became applicable on 1 May 2016. As a result of the Treaty of Lisbon, the set of procedures through which EU countries control how the EC implements EU law under the UCC, differs from the procedures applicable under the predecessor of the UCC. Since, the most critical adaptations to the customs valuation provisions – compared to the predecessor of the UCC – have been adapted by the UCC Implementing Act (UCC IA) drafted by the EC, the questions rises in how far such 'lower' legislation can change the scope of 'higher' legislation.

Furthermore, the research is of interest because it involves the ongoing discussion on the convergence between transfer pricing and customs valuation. The timing of this research makes

this part a very topical issue, because the final BEPS reports of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) are now in a stage that they are being implemented. Having regard to these reports, it is expected that the implementation of the outcomes will have effect on customs valuation. Finally, customs valuation from an EU law perspective is a very topical issue, because the outcome of my research will have direct impact on VAT, since in the EU the taxable amount of VAT on import is the customs value.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

In December 2015, Walter and I were asked to provide input from a Dutch perspective on a project of the International Bureau Fiscal Documentation (IBFD) called "Special Tax Zones". In April 2016, I presented the Dutch input during the Special Tax Zones Seminar at the University of Vigo, where I also took part in the panel discussions.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

In five years' time, I have obtained my PhD degree. I will still work as a Tax Lawyer at EY as well as being employed at the Tax Law Department of ESL. In the latter capacity, I will work on expanding the Customs Group of the Tax Law Department.



'The theme of my research stretches out to many areas of the law of obligations, varying from contract to tort law'

Department

Civil Law

Research programme

Behavioural Approaches to Contract and Tort: Relevance for Policymaking

Title of your research

The weight of the qualities of parties: norm or fact?

Supervisors

prof. mr. S.D. Lindenberg and
prof. mr. H.N. Schelhaas

Time of Commencement

2015

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Aster Schreuder

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Aster Schreuder. I was born in Utrecht and currently live in The Hague, after having lived in Nijmegen and Amsterdam during my studies. I wound up at the Erasmus School of Law because of the master Liability and Insurance they offer here, and ended up staying here after my masters, first as a lecturer and now as a PhD candidate.

What is the topic of your research?

The general theme of my research is the weight of the capacity and individual qualities of parties in the law of obligations. This pertains to the relevance of aspects such as the knowledge, expertise and capabilities of parties. To give a simple example: a consumer involves a real estate agent to buy a house. The seller of the house informs the real estate agent that there is asbestos in the house, but the agent negligently forgets to inform the consumer. Can the knowledge of the real estate agent be imputed to the buyer, in judging whether it is possible to rescind the contract due to misrepresentation?

This is just one illustration, but the theme of my research stretches out to many areas of the law of obligations, varying from contract to tort law. Within each area, the general issue is the same: to what extent are the individual qualities of parties relevant in the legal assessment? My aim in this regard is to provide a systemic analysis, and to assess if it is possible to develop an 'overarching' framework to decide on this aspect.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

No specific highlight comes to mind, but what I have enjoyed most thus far is the chance to get to read a great deal of literature and case law, and trying to make – some – sense of it through writing.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

In 5 years I hope to have successfully completed my PhD research and be able to look back on a positive experience. Right now, I see myself working in legal practice then, perhaps with some 'side projects' in academia.



'I have always had a very keen interest in political science, following courses in European Studies and attending masterclasses'

Department

International and European Union Law

Research programme

Rethinking the Rule of Law in an Era of Globalisation, Privatisation, and Multiculturalisation

Title of your research

Democratic Functionality of Parliaments in the EMU

Supervisors

prof. dr. F. Amtenbrink and
Prof. dr. M. Haverland

Time of Commencement

2012

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Anna Sting

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

Originally from Germany, I had spent a year in the UK before I went to study European law and Dutch law in Maastricht. I came to ESL for my master's in International and European Public Law, but after joining the Research Lab during that time and submitting a research proposal I stayed on in Rotterdam. Also, I have always had a very keen interest in political science, following courses in European Studies and attending masterclasses. This is also reflected in my research.

What is the topic of your research?

My research concerns the role of national parliaments in the economic governance of the European Union and changes that have occurred as a result of the reforms to the system during the economic crisis. To that end, my research introduces the notion of democratic functionality of parliaments based on a comparative constitutional analysis of three countries. Thereby, three main functions of parliaments in Europe are discerned as a common denominator: Identification of citizens' will, formulating and informing of citizens' will into policy, and the instrumentalisation of policy into law and scrutiny of government. In doing so, a theoretical framework of democratic functionality of parliaments is developed, also introducing further elements and indicators for these three functions. In application, the research aims to find out to what extent the reformed economic governance system of the EU has impacted the democratic functionality of parliaments with regards to the budget right. It tries to find out, if parliamentary functions are still exercised by parliaments or if their functions have shifted to other institutions on national or EU level. My research thereby combines insights from both law and political science.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

The day I met Jürgen Habermas. On the occasion of his receipt of the Erasmus Prize, selected PhD students took part in a symposium on the future of democracy with this truly inspirational scholar. The cherry on the top was a letter by the King of the Netherlands, inviting me to the Erasmus Prize ceremony at the Palace in Amsterdam - where we as a group were introduced to Queen Maxima, another incredibly impressive persona.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

After eight years in the Netherlands, I feel the time has come to go back to Germany. With my international experience, I hope to be able to contribute to the process of making law a bit less "egocentric". I could also see myself working in the public service, communicating law and politics and their increasing internationalization. It would be great to be able to make EU and international law more accessible to the average person. The lack of accessibility of law and politics is a big problem that we need to solve if we want to solve the current democracy crisis.



*'Wherever I will be after five years,
I will give my best in my job and will try
to be always optimistic and positive'*

Department

Private International Law

Research programme

Behavioural Approaches to Contract and
Tort

Title of your research

Competition of Civil Justice Systems in the
European Union

Supervisors

prof. dr. X.E. Kramer and
prof. dr. M.W. Scheltema

Time of Commencement

2012

E-mail

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Erlis Themeli

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I am Erlis from Albania. I finished my law studies at the University of Tirana in 2006. From 2005 until 2011, I worked in Albania first as a lawyer and later for the Albanian High Council of Justice. In 2010, I became fellow of the European Fund for the Balkans and finished my training at the Justizbehörde of the Land of Hamburg in Germany. In 2012, I finished my master studies in Private International Law and Comparative Private Law at the University of Groningen. In November 2012, I started as a PhD candidate at the Erasmus Graduate School of Law.

What is the topic of your research?

My research is concerned with the competition of civil justice systems in the EU. The competition of civil justice systems is the process where two or more jurisdictions try to attract users to their civil justice system. The most recognizable element of the civil justice system is the court system and the law of civil procedure. From the onset the Brussels I Regulation facilitates choice of courts and recognition and enforcement of judgments in the EU. In view of this, some countries in the EU seem to be interested in attracting cross-border litigants. Litigants potentially can better allocate their resources and make a choice of court that would better benefit their needs. While, the reasons why governments compete are not entirely clear. The interaction between states as supply and litigants as demand and the competition they create is the focus of my research. To analyze the behavior of the litigants I distributed a survey among the top 100 law firms in the EU. This will be enriched by interviews with government officials from different Member States on the official view and problems related to this kind of competition. I hope that my research will be a valuable contribution to the already existing research.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

In 2015, I was awarded by the EGLS the Best Poster Presentation 2015 prize. In 2016, I published my first peer review paper titled "Sculpturing Adjudication as a Public Good" in *Evolution in Dispute Resolution*. A second paper written together with Prof. Kramer and titled "The party autonomy paradigm: European and global developments on choice of forum" is expected in 2016.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

It is difficult to make predictions for the future. My professional life is connected with law and legal studies and I hope that after five years it will still be. Wherever I will be after five years, I will give my best in my job and will try to be always optimistic and positive.



*'Undoubtedly, I work on my skills
day by day in order to be fully
prepared for the life after the PhD'*

Department

Commercial Law

Research programme

Lex Mercatoria

Title of your research

Legal Obligation to provide precautionary
measures against the risk of maritime piracy:
A shipowners' perspective.

Supervisor

prof. dr. F.G.M. Smeele

Time of Commencement

2012

E-mail

Vasili@law.eur.nl

Myrto Vasili

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Myrto Vasili, I come from Greece and I am a qualified lawyer admitted to the Bar Association of Athens. In August 2011, I moved to the Netherlands where I live since then. In June 2012, I graduated from the Master 'Commercial Law' at the Erasmus University Rotterdam. Shortly after my graduation, I was appointed as PhD Candidate at the department of Commercial Law.

What is the topic of your research?

My research focuses on maritime piracy and more specifically, on the extent the existing duty of care imposed to shipowners in the context of three contractual relations, namely the contracts of carriage of goods, employment and insurance, contains any obligation to provide precautionary measures against the risk of maritime piracy.

Shipowners are under an obligation to provide a vessel fit for the intended voyage, a safe working environment for the seafarers and ascertain the insured property is adequate to proceed to the voyage without incurring any loss. These obligations derive from the three main contractual relations to which ship owners are engaged and each type of contract is regulated by mandatory rules of either national or international nature. Consequently, the legal obligations of ship owners are respectively determined by the relevant legislation.

Since ship owners are under a duty, absolute or due diligence one to be established, towards their counterparties, the question which can be raised, regarding the risk of piracy, is whether the application and implementation of precautionary measures fall under the scope of their duties. In order to find the answers to the legal research questions, a comparative study will be conducted among selected jurisdictions (UK, U.S.A., France,

Greece and The Netherlands). The aim of the comparison is to illustrate the general principles and common elements found, through the similarities and differences of the legal systems.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

I recall as a highlight of my academic career so far, first, the scholarship that I was granted by the Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law in Hamburg to facilitate my research visit in their facilities and second, my participation as a speaker at "The Seventh Maritime Law & Policy International Postgraduate Research Conference 2016" in London.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Even though my PhD trajectory is slowly coming to the end, my future plans still remain unclear. The reason is because I try to enjoy as much as possible the current productive period without worrying too much for what life will bring. Undoubtedly, I work on my skills day by day in order to be fully prepared for the life after the PhD, either within academia or in the open market. Nevertheless, I hope to be successful and happy!



'It is interesting to have contact with a wide range of colleagues from all over the world'

Department

Sociology, Theory & Methodology

Research programme

Rethinking the Rule of Law

Title of your research

Constitutional Dynamics of Religious Manifestations. On the Mechanism of Abstraction from the Religious Dimension

Supervisors

prof. dr. mr. W. van der Burg and
mr. dr. Drs. J.D. Temperman

Time of Commencement

2016

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Sohail Wahedi

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Sohail Wahedi. I am born in Afghanistan and came to the Netherlands at the age of 10. I have studied law in Utrecht and approached Sanne Taekema in 2014 to operate as my intended supervisor. However, since I focus on religious freedom and themes related to multiculturalism and law, she forwarded my request to prof. Van der Burg who approved to supervise me and guide me through the application process.

What is the topic of your research?

It is claimed that as a consequence of immigration, many liberal democracies have been confronted with religious practices that are considered problematic, as they seemingly infringe dominant majority standards, like the harm principle and the gender-equality norm. Hence, the acceptability of some major traditions, such as male circumcision and ritual slaughter, and even minor practices of orthodox believers, like wearing face-covering veils or avoiding to shake hands, have been continuously debated. However, immigration is not the only factor that gives rise to debate the extent of toleration for practices that are considered contrary to legal and social norms. Today, even practices of 'indigenous' believers, are debated in societies that have constitutionally protected the right to religious freedom. Hence, these manifestations are not challenged due to the absence of religious freedom. It is rather a mixed group of legal practitioners, scholars, opinion leaders and politicians who initiate debates about toleration for manifestations that cannot be allowed on moral grounds. One aspect of this debate is abstraction that neutralises, reframes and marginalises the religious dimension of challenged practices. This mechanism gives rise to rethink the constitutional value of religious freedom. This project theorises abstraction in light of theoretical and concrete debates.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

The ongoing process of editing a cross-disciplinary volume about the role of woman and gender in global politics. It is interesting to have contact with a wide range of colleagues from all over the world.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

I hope from the deepest of my heart that I have completed my PhD research and hopefully I can continue my scientific career. In case I cannot stay in the academia, I hope I have found a job as a lawyer or judge.



*'Presenting at a conference
in Washington D.C.
last April (2016) was memorable'*

Department

Corporate and Financial Law

Title of your research

Effectiveness of problem-based learning at
the Erasmus School of Law

Supervisors

prof. S.M.M. Loyens, dr. G. Smeets,
prof. H.T. van der Molen and
prof. mr. M.J. Kroeze

Time of Commencement

2013

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Marit Wijnen

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

Opposed to the majority of the PhD-students at ESL, I didn't study Law. I was a Psychology student at the EUR and I graduated at the master program 'Human Learning and Performing' (Educational Psychology) in August 2013. During my final year as a student, I wrote my thesis about problem-based learning (PBL), a student-centered educational method. In September 2012, the educational program of the bachelor within ESL shifted to a PBL program, and a PhD-project on the evaluation of this new method started in September 2013. I applied for the job and luckily I got it.

What is the topic of your research?

In September 2012, the curriculum of the bachelor programs of ESL (Dutch Law, Tax Law, and Criminology) changed into a PBL curriculum. PBL stresses tutorial meetings, in which students work collaboratively in small groups (approximately twelve students) on realistic, complex problems under guidance of a tutor. During these meetings, students are actively involved in their learning process.

It is assumed that PBL fosters student motivation and influences the way students learn. The focus of this PhD-project is on the effectiveness of PBL at ESL. The influence of PBL on several student outcomes, such as motivation, learning strategies, and study progress, is investigated in a number of studies. This PhD-project is interdisciplinary: both the Department of Psychology of the EUR as well as ESL are involved.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

I think presenting on conferences in general is a highlight in my academic career. However presenting at a conference in Washington D.C. last April (2016) was memorable. It was exciting to present one of my studies to researchers who are interested in the topic and I enjoyed meeting so many academics from all over the world. And, of course, visiting the highlights of Washington was incredible. Taking a walk to the White House in between sessions is not something you do every day!

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

This is a hard question. Especially since there are so many interesting things to do after the PhD life. I would like to continue doing research, but I would also like to do more practical activities. Perhaps a combination of the two would be ideal in a future profession.



*'I was part of a very inspiring
and intellectually stimulating
international academic community'*

Department

Sociology, Theory and Methodology

Research programme

Rethinking the Rule of Law in an Era of
Globalisation, Privatisation, and
Multiculturalisation

Title of your research

Linguistic Politeness in Judicial Deliberations
of the European Court of Human Rights:
The ECtHR's Judiciary and Its Audiences

Supervisor

prof. mr. dr. A.M.P. Gaakeer and
prof. dr. E. Mak

Time of Commencement

2013

E-mail

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Vera Willems

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

My name is Vera Willems. I hold a Bachelor's degree in English and a Research Master's degree in Linguistics from Leiden University, and a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Law (the latter *cum laude*) from Erasmus University Rotterdam. While my nationality is Dutch, ethnically, I am actually mixed race. That is, my father is from Aruba, one of the former Dutch colonies in the Antilles which has been an independent state within the Kingdom of the Netherlands since 1986, and my mother is from the Netherlands. Despite the fact that I am mixed race, I was born and raised in the Netherlands. I was offered a position as PhD candidate at Erasmus School of Law as a consequence of my participation in the course Research Lab in the academic year 2011–2012 which was at that time still a masterclass. However, because I had taken Research Lab as a Bachelor's student, I took my Master's degree first before I started my research project in 2013.

What is the topic of your research?

My research deals with the question what international courts and tribunals (ICs) do with words, given the discursive and argumentative nature of the international legal realm and, as such, an understanding of ICs' legitimacy as co-constituted. In doing so, I first of all conceptualise ICs as 'language users' and their audiences as 'addressees'. I argue that ICs should best be understood as Communities of Practice and I develop a typology of their audiences to enable a proper assessment of the directionality of the language found in ICs' judgments and decisions. I subsequently explore the usefulness of facework/linguistic politeness theory in order to make sense of the discursive level underlying any legitimisation strategies that ICs might employ. To assess the usefulness of facework/linguistic politeness theory empirically, I conduct a case study of several judgments of the European Court of Human Rights.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

My research visit to the Centre of Excellence for International Courts (iCourts) in the Faculty of Law at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, has been an absolute highlight so far. I stayed there from mid-October until mid-December of 2015. I was part of a very inspiring and intellectually stimulating international academic community, which greatly helped me further my research.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

Honestly, I think that five years is a long time from now and so I prefer instead to focus on the here and now and my immediate goal of finishing my research project in due course.



'Being able to discuss and debate my ideas with American scholars was unforgettable'

Department

Private International and Comparative Law

Research programme

Lex Mercatoria

Title of your research

The Arbitral Tribunal's Mandate: Post-Award Relief against its excess in International Commercial Arbitration.

Supervisors

prof. dr. F.J.M. De Ly and prof. mr. G.J. Meijer

Time of Commencement

2012

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Piotr Wilinski

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I obtained my first master's degree in Law from the University of Wrocław in 2010. In the same year, I have decided to continue my studies and have chosen Commercial Law LL.M. programme to do so. I graduated in 2011. Before starting the PhD in the Department of Private International and Comparative Law, I was working in arbitration and dispute resolution departments in international law firms both in Poland and in the Netherlands.

What is the topic of your research?

The arbitral tribunal's mandate to resolve a dispute between parties comes with the obligation not to exceed the authority. Consequently, if the tribunal's powers are abused, parties will have a legitimate right to seek a recourse against the arbitral award in a court.

In principle, such a challenge against the tribunal's excess of its mission is guaranteed at the post-award stage before the court of the seat of the arbitral tribunal or before the court in the country where the arbitral award is to be enforced.

Notably, in international commercial arbitration, determining when the tribunal goes beyond its mission might not be easy, because the national and international concepts regarding the "excess of mandate" challenge differ. The purpose of this study is to identify the differences and similarities of challenges and to determine (i) how the national courts review arbitral awards on the basis of "excess of mandate" and (ii) in what instances do they accept that a tribunal violated its mandate.

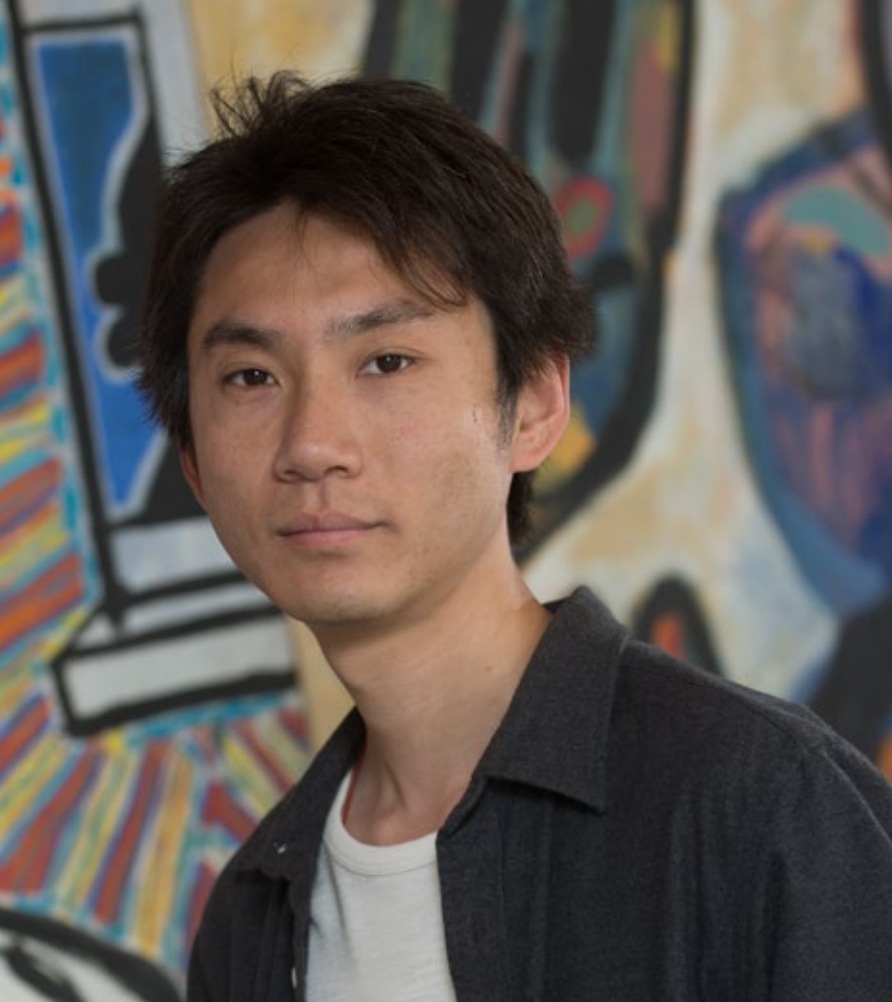
The research is of comparative character where comparison is made between three national concepts (i.e. England, U.S.A., France) and two international notions (i.e. the UNCITRAL Model Law and the New York Convention) of the "excess of mandate".

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

In my academic career so far, I find two experiences equally valuable. The first one worth mentioning is Arbitration Academy in Paris. I participated in it after the first year of my PhD and I was impressed with the advanced curriculum it provided. The second one, was a research visit at Pennsylvania State University. I was invited there for 2 months stay. Being able to discuss and debate my ideas with American scholars was unforgettable.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

I hope to be able to pursue my academic interest while working in a private practice.



*'I came to ESL with a cautious heart
to see Europe and a determination
to see my potentials in academy'*

Department

Erasmus China Law Centre & Rotterdam
Institute of Law and Economics (RILE)

Research programme

Behavioural Approaches to Contract and
Tort: Relevance for Policymaking

Title of your research

Foreign-related Commercial Dispute
Resolution in China: A Focus on Litigation
and Arbitration

Supervisors

prof. dr. M. Faure and prof. dr. Y. Li

Time of Commencement

2012

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Bo Yuan

Who are you, where are you from, and how did you find your way to the Erasmus School of Law (ESL)?

I am Bo Yuan from Beijing China. I came to ESL with a cautious heart to see Europe and a determination to see my potentials in academy.

What is the topic of your research?

Foreign investment and trade plays an important role in China's economy after the 1978 reform. The rapid development of foreign investment and trade brings not only the opportunities for economic growth, but also the challenges of increasing number of foreign-related commercial disputes. Foreign investors and traders, as well as their Chinese partners, demand reliable dispute resolution mechanisms, in which they can effectively solve their disputes and protect their rights. To respond to the needs of foreign-related commercial disputants, Chinese authorities adopts a dual-track approach which separates the governance of domestic and foreign-related commercial disputes in both law and practice, so as to increase the quality of legal service for foreign-related commercial dispute resolution. This research aims to study the differences between domestic and foreign-related commercial litigation and arbitration in China, assess the quality of the two mechanisms, identify the remaining deficiencies at the current stage and make recommendations for the further development of the two mechanisms.

What has been the highlight of your academic career so far?

The most valuable experience of my PhD life is the wonderful colleagues I have met during the four years.

How do you see yourself in 5 years from now?

I expect to take my first step as a lecturer in seeing the future of law and future of me.

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