

2022

MEMORANDUM OF ACTIVITIES

Observatori de Dret Públic IDP Barcelona

Observatori de Dret Public - IDP Barcelona

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Research lines and activities

The research and transfer activity developed by the Observatory throughout 2022 has a basic continuity with previous years and can be grouped into the following thematic areas:

Presentation

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The activity of the Observatory of Public Law - IDP Barcelona during 2022 reflects the progressive recovery of post-pandemic normality and the return to face-to-face activity both in the academic environment and, more generally, in almost the entire society. Every year, research activities, analyses and publications try to cover both the analysis of the most immediate and current reality, as well as the trends and problems in the medium and long term in the field of Public Law.

In order to meet the challenges of the present, the Observatory continues to promote periodical publications, which are an unavoidable reference in our autonomous State, such as the Autonomous Communities Report or the Local Government Yearbook (co-published with the Democracy and Local Government Foundation), and promote shared spaces for debate with notable public transcendence, either on an annual basis, through the organization of the Forum of Autonomies in the Senate, or the Federalism Observatory (co-organized with the Giménez-Abad Foundation), or by collaborating in other relevant initiatives, such as the organization of the Conference on the Promotion of the Special Regime of Barcelona.

Similarly, in 2022, activities related to the Observatory's research projects, whose call for proposals had been opened at the end of the previous year, began to unfold. Various research groups, of different sizes, profiles and working topics, have been able to organize seminars and workshops and produce studies and publications. Likewise, some of these activities have generated "Working Papers", or even posts on the Nova Icària Blog, facilitating the monitoring of issues related to national and international current affairs.

The very positive reception of the last call for projects has convinced the board of directors and the members of the Observatory of the desirability of continuing it, having closed a new package of projects to be deployed in 2023, adding and/or complementing the existing ones. The generation of its lines of research allows the Observatory to set up projects and research teams with a medium-term work vocation, which not only reinforces research in traditional areas of the Observatory but also in new areas, promoting interdisciplinary approaches oriented, especially, to younger teachers. The projects selected this year begin to point in this direction, with some projects in which senior professors share leadership with younger professors.

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With the idea of initiating possible lines of work for the future, powerful and transversal to the whole Observatory, the management team has taken the initiative to open a new line of research, under the name of "Public Law and Digital Society", which starts with a seminar of a dozen sessions during the academic year 2022-2023 and whose objective is not only to offer an approach to the study of the impact and regulation of some of the technologies that have burst into our society but also to generate teams of researchers linked to it, as well as to include them in the most important national networks in this field. This is a new and promising line of work that we hope will help us to position ourselves in some of the most pressing legal challenges that are still considered to be of the future, but which are already present in our daily lives.

Also, with the future in mind, the Observatory is trying to build up its technical capacity, both in the field of communication and in support of research. The Observatory is growing in membership, as shown by the latest expansion approved by the Assembly, bringing together several dozen researchers. Likewise, for this reason, the management team has been enlarged and strengthened since December 2022.

Finally, we cannot fail to remember with affection and admiration the figure of Dr Eliseo Aja, director of this Observatory for almost a decade and a true reference of our Public Law, who left us last August. To keep his important legacy alive, the Observatory, with the support of the Law School of the University of Barcelona and a large number of collaborators and friends, organized the "I Eliseo Aja Seminar", which we hope will have a long continuity as a forum for meeting and reflection on all those issues that Public Law will have to face in the coming years.

We hope that this Annual Report will give the reader an idea of the Observatory's activity during this period, as well as the contribution of its members to the challenges we have briefly described here.

In Barcelona, March 10, 2023.

The Management Team

Dr David Moya

Dr Laura Huici

Dr Ricard Gracia

Autonomous Communities and Federalism

In this area, the normative and institutional activity developed within the framework of the Autonomous State is analysed, as well as the federal experiences of comparative law that can serve as a reference for autonomous problems.

Within this line of work, the main activities that have been carried out throughout the year 2022 are the following:

Publication of the Autonomous Communities 2021 Report

The Report, which has been published uninterruptedly since 1989, constitutes a complete and rigorous annual analysis of all institutional activity affecting the Autonomous Communities, to articulate a plural debate on the future of our model of territorial organization.



Currently, the Autonomous Communities Report, under the direction of Dr Francisco Javier García Roca, Dr David Moya Malapeira and the coordination of Dr Natalia Caicedo, incorporates three monographic works on current issues that were discussed in the eleventh edition of the Autonomies Forum, with the collaboration of the Giménez Abad Foundation, the Senate and 12 Autonomous Communities. The 2021 Report offers an overview of the development of the autonomous State during that year, based on a series of synthetic studies on the main provisions and acts of autonomic relevance, including, among others, the rules of the State of the Autonomous Communities the European Union, the Rulings of the Constitutional Court, and the activity of the Senate. All these studies are the basis for the general assessment of the situation of the State of the Autonomous Communities in 2021.

The studies contained in the report have been carried out by professors of Constitutional, Administrative, Financial and Political Science Law from various Spanish Universities.

In addition to these studies, the report includes current monographic works such as "Study of the housing law and its implications for the powers"; "The Next Generation funds: their application in Spain from the perspective of the territorial distribution system" and "The design and governance of the recovery, transformation and resilience plan in a territorial key", documents discussed at the Forum of the Autonomies held in the Senate.

The case studies of the Report, as well as its General Assessment, were analysed and discussed at the XI Forum of Autonomies, organized by the Observatory of Public Law - IDP Barcelona, with the support of the Senate, the Manuel Giménez Abad Foundation and most of the Autonomous Communities on Thursday, June 16, 2022.

Celebration of the Forum of the Autonomies 2022

Organized jointly with the Manuel Giménez Abad Foundation, and with the collaboration of the Senate and most of the Autonomous Communities, it was a meeting point for the political and academic world to discuss the main aspects affecting the autonomous State and the evolution of the institutions of self-government, with the participation of the protagonists themselves, as numerous Councillors and other senior officials of the autonomous governments took part. The celebration of the XI edition of the Forum of the Autonomies took place on June 16, 2022, in hybrid format, in person at the Senate and remotely through the Zoom platform.

The day was inaugurated by the Minister of the Presidency, Mr Félix Bolaños García, by Mr Francisco Manuel Fajardo Palarea, First Secretary of the Senate and by the Director of the Observatory of Public Law - IDP Barcelona, Dr David Moya Malapeira. It began with a general assessment of the autonomous State presented by Professor Javier García Roca. This was followed by an open discussion moderated by Dr José Tudela, Secretary General of the Manuel Giménez Abad Foundation. Later, a round table discussion on "Housing Law" was held, with the participation of Dr Marcos Vaquer Caballería, Professor of Administrative Law at the Carlos III University of Madrid and of Mr Arturo Aliaga López, Vice President of the Government of Aragón and Mr Ignacio Hernando Serrano, Minister of Public Works of Castilla-La Mancha, followed by an open discussion moderated by Dr Joaquín Tornos, Professor of Administrative Law at the University of Barcelona.

Later, the round table discussion "Design and deployment of the Next Generation EU Fund" began, led by Prof. Jose María Gimeno Feliu and with the participation of the representatives of the Autonomous Communities, Mr Juan Carlos Suárez-Quíñones Fernández, Minister of Environment, Housing and Territorial Planning of the Junta de Castilla y León and Mr Héctor Illueca Ballester, Second Vice President of the Consell and Minister of Housing and Bioclimatic Architecture of the Region of Valencia. Finally, a colloquium was opened, moderated by Dr Natalia Caicedo Camacho, Professor of Constitutional Law at the UB and coordinator of the Report.

Celebration of the 13th edition of the Federalism Observatory

The seminar on new developments in federalism in Europe was developed to examine, from a theoretical and practical point of view, the different dimensions of federalism and its possible application to our legal system. It took place in Barcelona on October 4, 2022, organized by the Manuel Giménez Abad Foundation, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, and the Observatory of Public Law.

It is a space for collaboration and debate aimed at foreign and Spanish specialists in the field of federalism to analyse reforms and trends in the different federal countries, disseminate good practices and promote studies related to federalism.

The 2022 edition focused on the implementation of Next Generation EU funds in federal systems: Academic and practical perspectives.

The conference was opened by Mario Kölling, Researcher and Project Coordinator, Manuel Giménez Abad Foundation; Luise Rürup, Delegate in Spain of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and David Moya Malapeira, Director of the Observatory of Public Law-IDP Barcelona.

The program was divided into two main sessions: during the first one, national recovery and resilience plans and their application in the context of the European Union, Germany, Italy and Spain were analysed from an academic perspective thanks to the interventions of Mario Kölling, Professor of Political Science at UNED; Henrik Scheller, Team Leader Economy and Finance at the German Institute of Urban Affairs; Giacomo Menegus, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Università di Macerata and Encarnación Murillo, Professor of Applied Economics at the University Rey Juan Carlos. In the second session, the national plans were analyzed from a practical perspective through a round table with Ángel Luis Tarrío Tobar, Director General of Cohesion Policy and European Funds of the Xunta de Galicia; Gabriel Navarro Molines, Head of the European Funds Service of the Government of Aragón; Florencio Larrea Villarroya, Head of the Fundraising and External Action Service of the Government of La Rioja and moderated by Jorge Hernández-Moreno, IPP-CSIC.

Eliseo Aja Seminar: "The Autonomous State under debate"

The event, organized by the Observatory of Public Law IDP Barcelona and the Manuel Giménez Abad Foundation, was held online and in a face-to-face format in the Faculty of Law of the UB, on December 14. The Seminar was chaired by the Dean of the Faculty, Dr Xavier Pons and moderated by Dr Joaquín Tornos. It was opened and closed by Dr José Tudela and Dr David Moya Malapeira. The Seminar aims to become a space for annual debate and reflection on the main challenges facing the Spanish social and democratic rule of law in memory of Dr Aja, founding member of the Observatory of Public Law and director of the same between 2001 and 2009. As Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Barcelona, Dr Eliseo Aja was a reference for generations of jurists, author of numerous publications on constitutional law, and promoter of studies on the State of Autonomies, founding the Autonomous Communities Report. In its first edition, the event was dedicated to the problems of the Autonomous State and included speeches by Dr Juan José Solozábal, Professor of Constitutional Law at the Autonomous University of Madrid, Luís Martín Rebollo, Professor of Administrative Law at the University of Cantabria and Dr Laura Díez, Vice-President of the Consell de Garanties Estatutàries de Catalunya (Council of Statutory Guarantees of Catalonia).



Local Government and Administration

The objective of this line of research is to develop instruments for analysing and assessing the degree of consolidation of local autonomy. In this sense, among the different activities carried out, the publication of the Local Government Yearbook stands out, as well as the performance of periodic studies on Local Administration, territorial organization or the management of public services.

Within this line of work, the main activities carried out throughout the year 2022 have been the following:

Publication of the Local Government Yearbook 2022.

The Observatory of Public Law - IDP Barcelona elaborates, since 1995, the Yearbook, was published in September and co-directed by Dr Tomàs Font i Llovet and Dr Marc Vilalta Reixach and coordinated by Dr Ricard Gracia Retortillo and Dr Alexandre Peñalver i Cabré.



The Local Government Yearbook 2021 deals in-depth and in a monographic manner with such a relevant aspect for the local - and global - institutional system as climate change. The contents of the issue are organized into five doctrinal studies, prepared by renowned academic experts and professionals in the field of environmental law, which deal specifically with the international regulatory framework in this area, local climate planning, the role of public procurement, as well as the regulation of local energy activity.

The Local Government Yearbook 2021 also includes a General Assessment, carried out by the co-directors of the Yearbook, which examines the situation of local governments after the COVID-19 pandemic and in the face of the Next Generation funds. The final section of the Yearbook contains, as usual, the jurisprudential chronicles of the Constitutional Court and the Supreme Court on local autonomy, as well as a compilation of the main publications on local administration both in Spain and abroad.

Program for the promotion of the special regime of Barcelona

As a result of the collaboration between the Barcelona City Council, the Carles Pi i Sunyer Foundation and the Observatory of Public Law IDP of the University of Barcelona, the actions included in the Program for the Promotion of the Special Regime of Barcelona were carried out with the aim of analysing, from an academic point of view, the projection and strengthening of the special regime of the city of Barcelona in its legal and administrative activity.

Within the framework of this agreement, a series of doctrinal analysis actions were organized, with working groups made up of experts in the special regime, from universities and public administrations of the territory. All these actions culminated last June 29, with the celebration of an academic conference and the publication of the book "La Carta Municipal de Barcelona i el dret de la ciutat. Bases per al seu impuls i actualització (Barcelona Municipal Charter and the right of the city. Bases for boosting and updating), Barcelona Council, Observatory of Public Law, Carles Pi i Sunyer Foundation, Barcelona 2022". In addition, on November 28th, an institutional act of presentation of the work was held in the Saló de Cent of the Barcelona City Council, in the framework of the 25th anniversary of its approval.

Seminar "Diversity in public procurement. The case of Barcelona in context".

On Monday, October 3, the seminar "Diversity in public procurement. The case of Barcelona in context" was held as part of the GESDI seminar series. It was attended by Dr Sònia Parella, PhD in Sociology and Professor of Sociology at the UAB; Ms Núria Serra, Director of the Department of Coordination and Administrative Contracting; and Mr Ramon Sanahuja, Technician of the Department of Interculturalism and Religious Pluralism. The moderator of the session was Dr David Moya Malapeira, Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Barcelona.

Immigration law

Another line of research of the Observatory of Public Law - IDP Barcelona is related to the migration phenomenon, through GESDI (Study Group on Immigrants' Rights), an interdisciplinary working group of university professors and professionals who jointly investigate the legal status of migrants. As a result of this work, several research projects, conferences, seminars, and studies on the main legal problems posed by the migratory phenomenon have been developed.

Within this line of work, the main activities developed throughout the year 2022 are the following:

Delivery of the XV edition of the "Interuniversity Master in Contemporary Migrations".

The master's is coordinated jointly with the Autonomous University of Barcelona and co-directed by Dr David Moya Malapeira and Dr Sònia Parella Rubio. The Master addresses the need for a complex look at the phenomenon of migration by providing practical and theoretical knowledge that equips students with a wide range of skills, competencies, and knowledge.

Conference "Ukrainian refugees and EU reaction: state of play".

On Thursday, March 3, a Conversatory on "Ukrainian Refugees and EU reaction: state of the question" was held to share the changing current affairs on the subject, but also because situations with enormous legal relevance are occurring that may condition the approach to the external dimension, legal and safe ways, the European Pact with national dimension, with the simple intention of generating a space for open debate and therefore as a space to share information and ideas.

Roundtable "International protection and forced migratory movements for environmental reasons"

The roundtable was organized in a collaboration between the Observatory of Public Law - IDP Barcelona, the Institute of Human Rights of Catalonia, the Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation and the Generalitat de Catalunya. Dr Beatriz Felipe Pérez, Researcher at CICrA Environmental Justice, and Associate Researcher at CEDAT-University Rovira i Virgili, specialising in climate research, discussed possible lines of progress in international protection to address human movements caused by environmental causes through the presentation of research on four countries with the moderation of Dr Karlos Castilla, Research Coordinator of the IHRC.

Seminar "Community Immigration and Asylum Agencies in the European Union (EUAA and Frontex), as well as accountability mechanisms"

On Thursday, April 7, 2022, the seminar "Community Immigration and Asylum Agencies in the European Union (EUAA and Frontex), as well as accountability mechanisms" was held as

part of the cycle of seminars of the Study Group on Immigrants' Rights (GESDI). The session was given by Dr David Fernández Rojo, Professor in charge and researcher at the University of Deusto.

Seminar "Migrations and criminal system: an approach".

On Monday, May 30, 2022, the seminar "Immigration and Criminal Law" was held as part of the GESDI seminar series. On the occasion, migration and criminology of mobility, criminology and border criminality were discussed with Dr Cristina Fernández Bessa, PhD in Law and Political Science, Postdoctoral Researcher of the ECRIM group; on gender discourse and practices in illegal immigration: The Catalan case and the potential of multilevel governance with Dr Colleen Boland, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Autonomous University of Barcelona and thanks to the moderation of Dr Diego Boza, Professor of Criminal Law at the University of Cadiz.

Seminar "The reform of the Alien Regulation".

On September 20, the seminar "La reforma del Reglamento de Extranjería" was held as part of the GESDI seminar series. The session was given by Dr Diego Boza Martínez, Professor of Criminal Law at the University of Cadiz.

Kick-off meeting of the European project Migrants with irregular Status Safe Reporting of Crime

On December 1 and 2 took place the kick-off meeting of the European project Migrants with irregular Status Safe Reporting of Crime (VISA RoC) funded by the DGJ and coordinated by Dr Natalia Caicedo, Professor of Constitutional Law and member of the Observatory of Public Law - IDP Barcelona. The project aims to advance in the protection of the rights of migrants in an irregular situation and is part of the European Union's strategy for the protection of victims of crime. The University of Milan, the University of Utrecht, the Municipalities of Gent and Utrecht, ISPC, Migrastudium and PICUM are part of the project.

European Union Law

Another line of research that has been consolidated in recent years is the study of the European integration process, which has entailed a profound transformation of the internal legal systems of the member states.

Within this line of work, the main activities carried out throughout the year 2022 referred to the Cycle of Seminars on Fisheries Policy in the European Union within the framework of the Project "The European Union and Fisheries Policy", financed by the Observatory of Public Law - IDP Barcelona (Call 2021- 2022):

- "The Common Fisheries Policy of the European Union and the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans" which was attended by Dr Angel J. Rodrigo Hernandez, Professor of International Public Law at the University Pompeu Fabra on the theme of sustainable development goals: Goal 14. Dr Marta Abegón Novella, Serra Húnter Lecturer in International Public Law at the University of Barcelona, on the topic of the common fisheries policy in the face of SDG 14, moderated by Dr Andreu Olesti Rayo, Professor of International Public Law at the University of Barcelona.
- "The external dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy of the European Union", which was attended by Dr. Gabriela A. Oanta, Professor of International Public Law at the University of La Coruña. And on the topic of the European Union's Common Fisheries Policy and Regional Fisheries Management Organizations, Mr. Maximiliano Astorga Beltrán, pre-doctoral researcher (FI-SDUR2020) of the University of Barcelona with the moderation of Dr Marta Abegón Novella, Lecturer Serra Húnter of Public International Law of the University of Barcelona.
- "The Control of the Common Fisheries Policy of the European Union" in which Dr María Belén Sánchez Ramos, Professor of International Public Law at the University of Vigo, spoke on the subject of control and supervision of the CFP by the European Control Agency; and Dr Andreu Olesti Rayo, Professor of International Public Law at the University of Vigo, on the judicial control of the CFP by the CJEU, and with the moderation of Maximiliano Astorga Beltrán, Predoctoral Researcher at the University of Barcelona..
- "The reform of the Common Fisheries Policy of the European Union. A vision from the Autonomous Communities", the seminar was conducted by Dr Carlos Teijo García, Associate Professor of International Public Law and International Relations at the University of Santiago de Compostela and moderated by Dr Marta Abegón Novella, Serra Húnter Lecturer in International Public Law at the University of Barcelona, and Principal Researcher of the project.

Other activities

Two new news releases were published:

- The integral guarantee of sexual freedom in the Organic Law 10/22, of September 6 by Dr María Acale Sánchez.
- The sentence of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom regarding the call for a referendum on the independence of Scotland by Dr Joaquín Tornos Mas.

Last lecture by Dr. Joaquín Tornos Mas "Administrative Law as a guarantor of the social and democratic rule of law"

On May 16, Dr. Tornos' "last lecture", "Administrative Law as a guarantor of the social and democratic rule of law", took place before his academic retirement as Professor of Administrative Law at the University of Barcelona.

Seminar: Gender perspective and sexual crimes: the Case of the "La Manada - de Pamplona -" as a starting point for the ongoing reform

Within the framework of the Call for proposals for own research activities and projects funded by the Public Law Observatory (Call 2021-2022) a seminar was organized at the Faculty of Law of the University of Barcelona on September 16, 2022, under the title: Gender perspective and sexual crimes: Case of "La Manada - de Pamplona -" as a starting point for the ongoing reform.

The academic direction of the same oversaw Dr Carolina Bolea Bardon, Professor of Criminal Law at the University of Barcelona and Dr Juan Carlos Hortal Ibarra, Associate Professor of Criminal Law at the University of Barcelona and Principal Investigator of the Project. On this occasion, two renowned professors of Criminal Law participated, who, from divergent but complementary positions, provided us with the interpretative keys to the LO 10/2022, of Integral Guarantee of Sexual Freedom, journalistically known as the "Law of only yes is yes", and whose parliamentary gestation and judicial application have raised so much controversy politically, socially and technically-legally. In fact, some of the considerations formulated by both speakers will be addressed in the imminent modification of a legal text that came into force on October 7, 2022, and which has been the subject of numerous judicial decisions in which the Courts have revised downwards the sentences imposed and, in some cases, have decreed the controversial premature release from prison of convicts convicted of serious sexual crimes. The first table of a more technical-academic nature was excellently complemented by another of a more practical nature entitled "Gender, process and guarantees: an impossible trinomial?" in which the Delegate Prosecutor of Violence against Women in Barcelona and a magistrate of the Provincial Court of Seville intervened. In their excellent presentations, they highlighted the problems that the accreditation of crimes of gender and sexual violence poses in criminal proceedings. At the conclusion of each session, there was a lively debate in which the attendees reflected and asked the speakers the different questions they considered appropriate.

Seminar: Artificial Intelligence and Process

On Friday, September 30, the seminar Artificial Intelligence and Process was held within the framework of the Call for proposals of activities and own research projects funded by the Observatory of Public Law - IDP Barcelona (Call 2021-2022).

The academic direction of this session oversaw Dr David Vallespín Pérez, Professor of Procedural Law at the University of Barcelona and Principal Investigator of the Project; Valentina Colcelli, PhD Researcher at the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR); Dr. Pilar Martín Ríos, Professor of Procedural Law at the University of Seville and with the moderation of Dr. David Moya Malapeira, Director of the Observatory of Public Law - IDP Barcelona.

Workshop: Language policy in federal and devolved countries

On Thursday, November 10, the Observatory of Public Law - IDP Barcelona, the Forum of Federations, Eurac Research and Manuel Giménez Abad Foundation organized the Workshop: Language policy in federal and devolved countries, a round table to discuss and reflect on linguistic diversity in education, media, and public administration, from a comparative perspective. The day was opened by Dr David Moya Malapeira, Director of the Observatory of Public Law - IDP Barcelona; Mr. Felix Knüplix, Vice President of Program, Forum of Federations and Dr Elisabeth Alber, Research Group Leader - Institute of Comparative Federalism, Eurac Research.

The participants in the debate were Ms. Leslie Seidle, Senior advisor Forum of Federations; Dr Elisabeth Alber, Research Group Leader - Institute of Comparative Federalism, Eurac Research; Dr Antonio Lopez, Professor of Constitutional Law at the Autonomous University of Madrid; Dr Alberto Lopez Basaguren, Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of the Basque Country; Dr Patricia Poplier, Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Antwerp and Dr Eva Pons Parera, Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Barcelona.

Celebration of the Annual General Assembly

On December 21, 2022, the Annual General Assembly of the Observatory of Public Law - IDP Barcelona was held in a face-to-face format at the Faculty of Law of the UB.

During the assembly, the management of the previous management team was approved, and the main activities carried out in 2022 and the priorities for 2023 were presented, as well as the economic balance of the year that ended and the budgets for the following year, including the approval of the own research projects ("Calls IDP"). Likewise, the new management team was appointed, composed of Dr David Moya Malapeira, who continues as Director, and the new Deputy Directors, Drs Laura Huici and Ricard Gracia, and the Deputy Directors, Drs Diego Boza Martínez, Francisco Javier Donaire and Celia Diaz.

I Cycle of Seminars "New challenges of Public Law in the Digital Society".

In the new line of research: Public Law in the Digital Society, coordinated by Dr David Moya Malapeira, Director of the Observatory of Public Law - IDP Barcelona and Associate Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Barcelona, and Dévika Pérez Medina, Master's in Criminal System and Criminality by the University of Cadiz and Researcher specialized in Law and disruptive technologies, the main activities developed throughout the year 2022 are the following:

- Seminar "Analysis of the Digital Services Regulation" was held on October 14 and was given by Dr José Juan Castelló Pastor, Associate Professor of International Private Law at the University of Valencia.
- Seminar "New challenges and problems of video surveillance: facial and emotion recognition through artificial intelligence" was held on October 28. On this occasion Dr. Jose Francisco Etxeberria Guridi, Professor of Procedural Law at the University of the Basque Country.
- Seminar "Smart Cities, digital society and challenges for Public Law" was held on November 8 and featured Dr Magdalena Suárez Ojeda, Professor of Administrative Law at the Complutense University of Madrid.
- Seminar "Algorithms and Rights: biases, privacy and data protection" the fourth seminar of the cycle was held on November 30 and on this occasion Dr Jorge Castellanos Claramunt, Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Valencia, was present.
- Seminar "Algorithmic tools in police and judicial investigation in criminal proceedings" the fifth and last seminar of the cycle "New challenges of Public Law in Digital Societies" was held on December 2. On this occasion, Dr Silvia Barona Vilar, Professor of Procedural Law at the University of Valencia, was present.

Nova Icària Blog

In 2010 was created the Blog of the Observatory of Public Law - IDP Barcelona, which is currently called "Blog Nova Icària", to give a wider dissemination of the work and opinions of the members of the Observatory. Although most of the blog notes are written by members of the Observatory, others sent by university professors or senior officials from the rest of Spain are also published.

The topics published during the year 2022 have been the following:

Els temes publicats durant el 2022, han estat els següents:

- The Collective Security Treaty Organization and its intervention in Kazakhstan (January 6-11, 2022), Laura Huici Sancho, Professor of International Public Law at the University of Barcelona.
- Ukraine: temporary protection and discrimination, Diego Boza Martínez, Professor of Criminal Law at the University of Cadiz and visiting professor at the GESDI of the University of Barcelona.
- The accession of Ukraine to the European Union, Andreu Olesti Rayo, Professor of European Union Law at the University of Barcelona.
- The new European Public Prosecutor's Office and its relations with the national Public Prosecutor's Office, José María Asencio Gallego, Professor of Criminal Law at the University of Barcelona.
- Interview with Dr. Vicenç Aguado, regarding the Proposed Law on Transitory and Urgent Measures to Address and Eradicate Homelessness.
- New Regulations of the Conference of Presidents: progress or setback?, Gonzalo Gabriel Carranza Galaico, Assistant Professor of Constitutional Law, Department of State Public Law, Carlos III University of Madrid.
- Publication of the study "The Council: A second chamber for the European Union?", Javier García Roca, Professor of Constitutional Law, Universidad Complutense de Madrid; Rafael Bustos Gisbert, Professor of Constitutional Law, Universidad Complutense de Madrid; Ignacio García Vitoria, Professor of Constitutional Law, Complutense University of Madrid.
- An approach to artificial intelligence and its impact on fundamental rights, by Miguel Ángel Presno Linera, Professor of Constitutional Law in University of Oviedo.
- The European Union's Common Fisheries Policy and the Sustainable Development Objective 14, by Marta Abegón Novella, Lecturer Serra Húnter of Public International Law at the University of Barcelona.

- The participation of the European Union in Regional Fisheries Management Organizations, Maximiliano Astorga Beltrán, Predoctoral Researcher, Department of International Public Law and International Relations, University of Barcelona.
- Compulsory Mediation? (Italian-Spanish comparative analysis), Noemí Jiménez Cardona, Postdoctoral Researcher in Commercial Law, University of Barcelona.
- Artificial Intelligence and Process (Efficiency and Guarantees), David Vallespín Pérez, Professor of Procedural Law at the University of Barcelona.

Call for proposals for research activities and projects 2022-2023

On April 5, 2022, took place the constitutive meeting of the Scientific Advisory Council of the Observatory of Public Law - IDP Barcelona. The Council was created as a result of the Observatory's Research Plan 2021-2024 and aims to create a space for work and dynamization to coordinate the Observatory's research promotion objectives, as well as to deepen the interdisciplinary nature of the projects.

The Observatory has launched an internal call for research proposals for 2023 so that IDP members can make proposals for research activities in the main lines of the Observatory, present research projects or propose external stays or translations of their publications.

The call will provide funding to enhance consolidated lines of research and support new lines of interdisciplinary collaboration, as well as to promote the internationalization of researchers, depending on the modality of the Call. It aims, therefore, to stimulate and expand the activity of its members and collaborators.

They were opened in three modalities, and the following proposals were admitted for each one:

- Modality A

Support for consolidated research lines of the Observatory:

To defray the expenses of research projects or academic activities proposed by the different consolidated research lines (Autonomous Communities and Federalism, Local Government, Migration Law, EU Law).

Selected proposals:

- SHARED - Shared Responsibility in the Management of the External Borders of the European Union
- Creation of a working group on human trafficking for labour exploitation in the agricultural sector for the preparation of a future AMIF project
- EU competencies in tourism: towards a sustainable and responsible tourism strategy?
- The exercise by the Autonomous Communities of the regulatory powers attributed by the State on assigned taxes. Legal framework, political aspects and political-financial impact. Comparison with other foreign models of fiscal federalism.

- Modality B

To stimulate research collaboration among the Observatory's researchers, through the creation of innovative and transversal research projects, on any subject related to the Observatory's objectives and functions, as well as its main and emerging lines of research (impact of new technologies on public institutions, equality and gender policies, social rights and benefits, urban studies, etc.).

Selected proposals:

- Empirical-criminological analysis of individual and group rape as the ultimate expression of extreme sexual violence: criminal profiling, affective-sexual education, and secondary victimization
- Algorithmization of criminal justice
- Strategic environmental litigation: from theory to practice.

- Modality C

Support to researchers for the costs of participation in congresses or short research stays and/or translation of articles for international journals or book chapters to foreign publishers of recognized prestige for 2023

Selected proposals:

- Administrative silence in Spanish Administrative Law
- Environmental liability and sanctioning power in environmental matters.
- Legitimacy and democratic accountability in the European Banking Union

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