

SUMMARY OF THE HABILITATION THESIS IN ENGLISH

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The habilitation thesis “**International Law between Reaction and Anticipation and Its New Directions of Evolution**” synthesises and evaluates my academic, professional, and scientific activity following the award of my PhD in Law, confirmed in 2016, seeking to demonstrate the coherence of an autonomous research trajectory, the originality of my personal contributions, the internationalisation of my activity, international recognition, and my capacity for the future development and supervision of doctoral research. The thesis is structured into two main sections: the first devoted to academic, professional, and scientific achievements, and the second to plans for the evolution and development of my academic, professional, and scientific career, followed, of course, by the bibliography used.

Section I – Academic, Professional, and Scientific Achievements reconstructs the evolution of my research from my doctoral specialisation in international investment law towards the development of a more elaborate research trajectory concerning the transformations of contemporary international law. My doctoral research, subsequently developed into the monograph *Introduction to International Investment Law*, focused on the relationships between investment protection, international standards of treatment, State sovereignty, and the State’s regulatory power. I progressively expanded this background towards the analysis of crises, corporate responsibility, human rights, digitalisation, artificial intelligence, international peace and security, the environment, and risks with the potential for international propagation.

Among my works representative of this evolution are the textbook *Public International Law* (C.H. Beck, 2022), the monographs *Vers un droit de l’âme et des bioénergies du vivant* (L’Harmattan, 2022) and *Le dynamisme du droit international public contemporain et la transdisciplinarité* (L’Harmattan, 2023), as well as *A Transdisciplinary Legal Methodology Guide and Lexicon for Crisis Response*, published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2025. To these, I have added studies on State immunity, transdisciplinarity in international law, climate change and security, gene editing, artificial intelligence, cyberspace, and international obligations. Broadly speaking, these scientific works reflect the transition from research in a specialised field towards the formulation of my own research agenda concerning the methodological and anticipatory adaptation of international law.

A distinct contribution is the development of a transdisciplinary legal methodology that also takes interdisciplinarity and multidisciplinary into account. Doctrinal research, treaty interpretation,

case-law analysis, comparative law, and case studies are brought into dialogue, where required by the nature of the issue, with risk studies, technology, economics, security, ethics, and governance theory. Transdisciplinarity is not used as a substitute for legal methodology, but as a controlled instrument for its development and adaptation to the study of phenomena whose technical, social, or scientific components cannot be ignored by legal research.

Internationalisation represents a significant component of my academic and research trajectory. I conducted research at the **Institut de Recherches Europe-Asie (IREA), Aix-Marseille Université**, where my research on EU–China investment relations resulted in a published study, as well as in my capacity as an **Academic Visitor in Public International Law at the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law, University of Cambridge**, from 28 April to 4 July 2025, with the research topic “*Reimagining Investment Treaties for the AI Era: Shared Responsibilities of States, Tech Investors, and Key Stakeholders*”. At present, my academic activity is pursued at the **Faculty of Law and International Governance of Danubius International University**, alongside my involvement in international structures and networks such as the **European Society of International Law (ESIL)**, **CIRET Paris and the International Observatory for Law and Transdisciplinarity**, the **World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS)**, the **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**, and **European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) networks**. These experiences mark the transition from individual participation in research towards coordination, representation, and institution-building.

Section I also analyses the relationship between research and teaching activity. Scientific results have been transferred into the courses taught and into the development of new disciplines and educational tools, using case law, case studies, *moot courts*, interactive methods, and the participation of international specialists. The establishment of the FDGI Law Moot Society, the development of the student journal *GAUDEAMUS – Journal of Law and International Governance*, international mobility programmes, and the development of English-language master’s programmes complement this dimension of my activity.

Section II – Plans for the Evolution and Development of the Academic, Professional, and Scientific Career sets out the continuation of my research within a framework that I summarise through the formula “**international law of anticipation, resilience, and responsible transformations.**” The principal direction concerns the conceptualisation of the notion of the **anticipatory State in international law**, starting from the question of whether existing obligations of prevention, precaution, *due diligence*, cooperation, and notification can provide the foundation for a

transversal legal function of anticipation in situations where risks are serious, transboundary, or irreversible.

The future plan also includes the development of a legal typology of internationally relevant omissions and of the concept of existential diligence; the analysis of the status of neighbouring States receiving the spillover effects of conflicts; research into the relationships between artificial intelligence, autonomy, and responsibility; the continuation of investigations into investment and shared responsibility; and the further development of research on climate, oceans, forms of life, and future generations. An important intended outcome is the preparation of the monograph *The Anticipatory State in International Law: Legal Duties, Institutional Design and Conflict Prevention*.

A core component of Section II concerns doctoral supervision. Doctoral projects will be built around original legal problems rather than the reproduction of the doctoral supervisor's own research topics. Doctoral candidates will be trained to work with the primary sources of international law, case law, the practice of States and international organisations, specialised literature, and advanced legal methods, while being progressively involved in publications, seminars, projects, and international scientific networks. The proposed flagship directions are anticipatory law and conflict prevention; artificial intelligence and international law; autonomy and responsibility in international law; foreign investment, corporations, and responsible transformations and human rights; while international environmental law, transdisciplinarity, and the protection of future generations will play a transversal role.

Taken as a whole, the thesis highlights the continuity between my postdoctoral achievements and my future research programme. The evolution from international investment law towards research on crises, technologies, and global interdependencies, the development of transdisciplinary methodology, and the formulation of the concept of the anticipatory State converge towards the same fundamental question: **to what extent can (or will) international law complement its traditional reactive and reparative function through legal mechanisms capable of identifying and managing risks before they produce irreversible effects, without abandoning legality, freedom, responsibility, and democratic oversight?**