

Call for papers

Systemic discrimination and the law. Conceptualization and legal remedies.

University of Barcelona – 12th March 2024

On the 12th March 2024, the University of Barcelona will host a conference on systemic discrimination and the law. This conference is part of the UNDETERRED project. UNDETERRED (Unintentional discrimination detected and racism revealed and deactivated) is an EU-funded multidisciplinary and interdisciplinarity project on systemic and unintentional discrimination.

The concept of systemic discrimination is defined differently depending on the legal context and often is not part of the Law at all. Yet, it is of tremendous interest and of utmost importance in the field of social sciences. For the purposes of this project, we have established a working definition of systemic discrimination as being discrimination that is both *structural* and *durable*. The *structural* aspect refers to institutional/sectoral discrimination (processes of discrimination which are specific to one sector/institution) and/or cross-sectoral discrimination (intentional and unintentional processes of discrimination that cut across several or all sectors of social life). The *durable* aspect refers to circular processes (a loop of interactions in which the discriminatory outcomes reinforce the discrimination factors) and/or “ephemeral-multiple” processes (multiple micro-aggressions that are constantly repeated). This working definition is, obviously, open to discussion. The ambition of the project is to study the norms, rules and practices that lead to systemic discrimination processes at the heart of institutions and society.

The UNDETERRED project comprises a legal sub-work package composed of 6 national teams (Canada, France, the Netherlands, Romania, Spain, Switzerland) whose aim is to analyze national Law and Case Law in order to assess whether systemic discrimination is tackled efficiently under the current national (and, if applicable, EU) legal framework.

A part of the conference will be dedicated to the findings of the 6 national teams of the project. The rest of the conference is open to academics wishing to present a paper on how

systemic discrimination is addressed (or not) in one given country (preferably but not necessarily an EU Member State), or to provide a more comparative or conceptual analysis. This call for papers is open-ended, and each paper can focus on the conceptualization/definition of systemic discrimination (or lack thereof) in one or several countries and/or the strengths and weaknesses of national/regional/international law when it comes to tackling such discrimination.

Please send your draft proposals **before the 31st October 2023** to the following address:
sebastien.platon@u-bordeaux.fr

If your paper is selected, your travel and accommodation will be paid for.

Please note that the written versions will have to be submitted for publication before the 20th April 2024.

PROJECT PARTNERS

