



**Evolutionary interpretation in different legal systems:
Towards consistency or fragmentation?**

4th and 5th of October 2018

Call for papers

Theme of the conference

The University of Geneva's Law Faculty, together with the Global Studies Institute, is organizing a conference on evolutionary interpretation on the 4th and 5th of October 2018. In this context, a call for papers is launched in support of young academics.

Evolutionary interpretation is an important notion of international law. Due to the slow nature of negotiation and amendment processes, as well as the hurdles found in reaching a consensus, international treaties are subject to few changes in their lifetimes. Therefore, how is it possible to ensure a convention, possibly signed more than a century ago, remains relevant to this day? Evolutionary interpretation precisely allows a judge to adapt its reading of the text to new social, environmental or technological realities. The text does not change, its interpretation does.

This conference will gather experts on the topic in various themes of international law. Whether discussing general consideration on evolutionary interpretation or its application in economic law, humanitarian law, environmental law or even EU law, this conference aims at clarifying the notion and building bridges between those domains. There are different ways to adapt a treaty's reading through time, and the conference will also explore the possible limits of those approaches.

The conference's focus being on evolutionary interpretation, we invite interested candidates to submit proposals in relation with the topic. Proposals can not only deal with legal aspects of the notion, but also sociological, historical or political elements. The focus of the candidates should be on either **environment, international health law, investment law or the European Union**.

The conference will then be an occasion to gather experts of those fields in panels. Each panel will be moderated.

Eligibility

Candidates shall have obtained their last degree no more than five years ago. Proposals can be submitted in English or in French.

Deadline

The paper proposals can be sent, jointly with a resume, until the **10th of June 2018** to clement.marquet@unige.ch. The proposals should not exceed 600 words. The paper itself will be due by the **31st of August 2018**.

For any further inquiry, contact clement.marquet@unige.ch.