

Yearbook of Socio-Economic Constitutions (YSEC) Series

OPEN CALL

The Yearbook of Socio-Economic Constitutions is pleased to announce a call for submissions for the fourth volume of the Yearbook (2023).

The Yearbook consists of three parts, a specific part covering a specific theme for the particular volume, a general part covering the broad theme of the Yearbook, and a book review part devoted to book reviews, conference reports and the like relevant to socio-economic perspectives on constitutional law. We encourage submissions for all parts.

Call for contributions to Part I of YSEC 2023 (Vol IV)

Law and the Governance of Artificial Intelligence

Artificial intelligence (AI) has the potential to radically transform our society. It may lead to a massive increase in the capabilities of humankind and allow us to address some of our most intractable challenges. It may also entail profound disruption to structures and processes that have sustained our society over centuries.

These developments present a unique challenge to the socio-economic constitutional arrangements which govern our world at national, regional and international level. The deployment of increasingly powerful AI systems, able to function with increasing degree of autonomy, has led to concerns over loss of human control of important societal processes, over the disruption of existing economic, social and legal relationships, and over the empowerment of some societal actors at the expense of others, together with the entrenchment of situations of domination or discrimination. It has also made increasingly clear how tremendous the potential benefits that these technologies may bring, are to those who successfully develop and deploy them.

There is therefore great pressure on governments, international institutions, public authorities, civil society organisations, industry bodies and individual firms to introduce or adapt mechanisms and structures that will avoid the potentially negative outcomes of AI, and achieve the positive ones. These mechanisms and structures, which have been given the umbrella term 'AI governance', cover a wide range of approaches, from individual firms introducing ethical principles which they volunteer to abide by, to the European Union proposing to legislate an AI Act, which will prohibit certain types of AI applications and impose binding obligations on AI developers and users. The fast pace of innovation in the development of AI technologies is mirrored by the fast pace of development of the emerging field of AI governance, where traditional legislation by public bodies is complemented with more innovative approaches, such as hybrid and adaptive governance, ethical alignment, governance by design and the creation of regulatory sandboxes.

There is an urgent need to understand the implications of these developments for our Socio-Economic Constitutions, and to that end, YSEC invites scholars to contribute original submissions on legal aspects of AI governance.

Contributions will be welcome to engage with law at the national, regional, or international level, as well as comparative perspectives. AI governance will be understood broadly. It is to include both approaches concerned with AI safety, and with avoiding future existential risks to mankind, as well as approaches focused on more immediate problems or benefits. YSEC will welcome both contributions which map out or delineate the field as well as contributions which engage with, evaluate or criticise existing or proposed governance arrangements. Submissions may explore the interaction between AI governance and legal fields such as e.g.:

- Data protection law
- Competition law
- Health and safety law
- Consumer law
- Labour law
- Health law
- Education law
- Private law
- All aspects of procedural law, including civil, criminal and administrative procedural law

This list is not intended to be exhaustive, and is merely provided to illustrate the breadth of the intended scope of the issue. The key criterion is that the submission makes a contribution to the field of AI governance

Submissions which adopt an inter- or transdisciplinary approach, and engage with sociology, economics, philosophy or politics are welcome, as are submissions that adopt a more ‘black letter’ legal methodology. The only criterion is that the focus of the paper is on a legal question.

Call for contributions to Parts II and III of YSEC 2023 (Vol IV)

The YSEC also welcomes contributions for its general part (**Part II**) focused on any relevant current developments in the broader field of the Yearbook’s coverage, which can be summarized as contemporary analysis of the challenges that constitutional frameworks face in balancing fundamental economic and social interests at the local, national, regional, and global level. Prospective contributors may consider that the Yearbook’s mission is to present current research on legal issues of socio-economic constitutional importance without limitations regarding approaches and theoretical perspectives, while establishing a forum for doctrinal legal treatment of the questions that various socio-economic constitutions are faced with in today’s globalized context.

For **Part III** we warmly welcome proposals for book reviews.

Deadline for proposals (for all three parts of YSEC IV): **30 September 2022**.

Submission of proposals: Proposals of no more than 500 words should be uploaded to the YSEC Submissions Platform. Successful applicants will be notified in **October 2022**. The deadline to submit the paper is **1 March 2023**. The manuscripts will be subjected to double blind peer review and authors will receive the comments from the editors and the reviewers. The deadline for final submission of the contribution is **30 June 2023**. Authors will use the template provided by the YSEC and follow the YSEC's style guide, both of which will be provided upon successful application.

The full Call can be downloaded here: <https://www.ysec-yearbook.eu/upcoming-volumes/>

About YSEC

The English-language, peer-reviewed Yearbook of Socio-Economic Constitutions (YSEC) presents contemporary analysis of the challenges that constitutional frameworks face in balancing fundamental economic and social interests at the local, national, regional, and global level. YSEC is addressed to academics, professionals, politicians, and others involved or interested in socio-economic constitutional processes. Please visit our website for more information at <https://www.ysec-yearbook.eu/>.

The Yearbook aims to provide a forum for doctrinal legal treatment of the questions that various socio-economic constitutions are faced with in today's globalized context, while at the same time remains open to neighbouring disciplines to the extent that they inform the analysis.

The reference to "constitutions" mirrors the Yearbook's ambition to contribute to a better understanding of those legal rules which provide the very foundations for our economic and social well-being within a community. While the broad theme of the series revolves around constitutional frameworks for economic activities and their interaction with the social sphere, each volume in the series has a specific topical theme.

In terms of structure, the Yearbook has three sections (Part I-III). The theme specifically chosen for each volume is at the forefront in Part I, followed by Part II which includes contributions on other current developments, including case notes, in the broader theme of the Yearbook. The third and final section of each volume (Part III) is devoted to book reviews and conference reports related to research on socio-economic constitutions