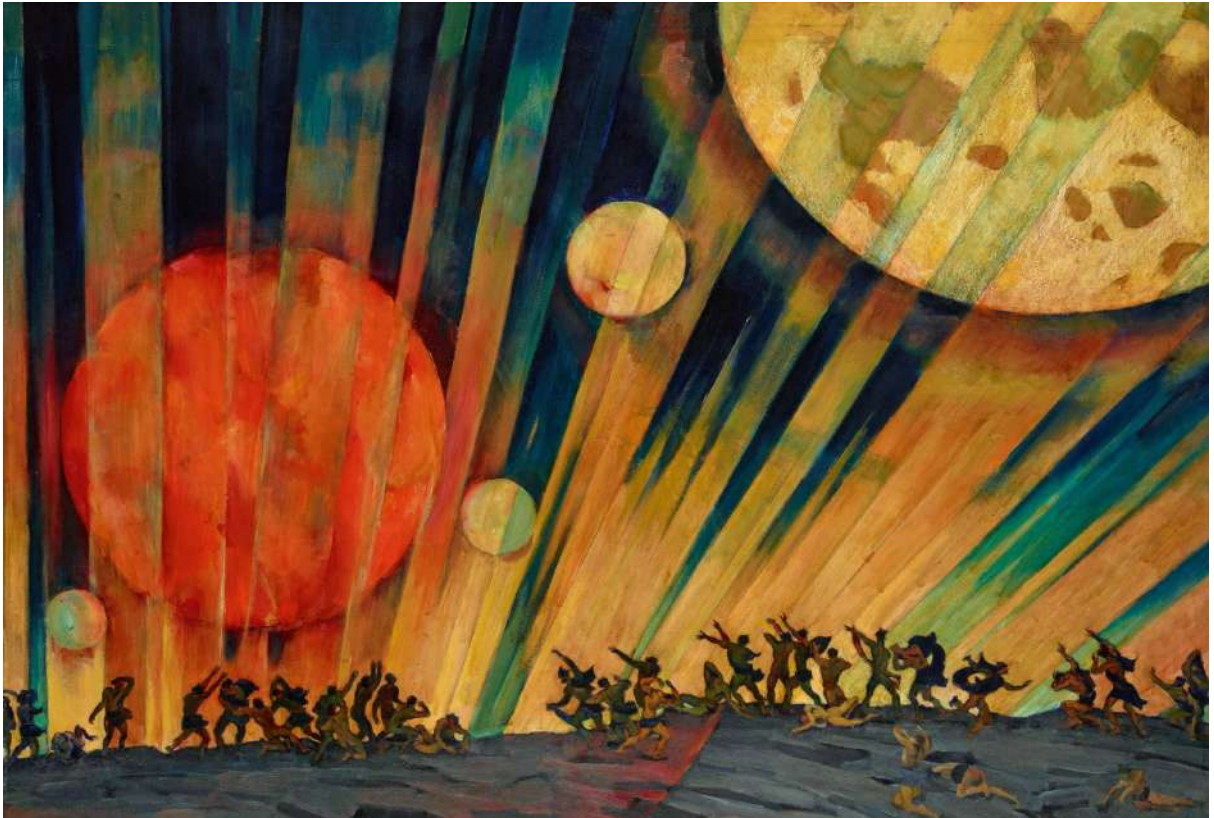


Law & Revolution: Abolition or Prefiguration?



[New Planet, 1921. Konstantin Juon]

4-5 September 2025
European University Institute
Florence, Italy



Law & Revolution: Abolition or Prefiguration?

This event explores the complex and contested role of law in revolutionary politics, asking whether law can prefigure the future we seek - or whether it must be abolished to make it possible. Drawing on anarchist, Marxist, and Black feminist thought, it invites critical reflection on the possibilities and limits of law in building radically democratic, anti-racist futures.

Conference venue: Villa Salviati, Law Department, European University
Institute

Scientific Organiser(s):

[Lala Darchinova \(European University Institute – Department of Law\)](#)

[Maximilian Reymann \(European University Institute – Department of Law\)](#)

[Julia Galera \(European University Institute – Department of Law\)](#)

[Martijn Hesselink \(European University Institute – Department of Law\)](#)

Conference Secretariat:

[Valeria Raso](#)

DRAFT CONFERENCE PROGRAM

DAY 1 – THURSDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2025 – VILLA SALVIATI

09:00 – 09:30	Registration
09:30 – 09:40	Welcome and Introduction (<i>Room: Sala del Consiglio, Villa Salviati</i>)
09:40 – 11:10	Plenary Session with Keynote Speeches by: Lena Salaymeh , École Pratique des Hautes Études – “Decolonial Revolution Of/In International Law”, and Daniel Loick , University of Amsterdam – “The Right to Cruelty. The Punishment of Survival and Abolitionist Politics” (<i>Room: Sala del Consiglio, Villa Salviati</i>)
11:10 – 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 13:00	Parallel Sessions (Sessions I-IV)
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	Parallel Sessions (Sessions V-VII)
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee Break
	Plenary Session with Keynote Speeches by: Amna A. Akbar , University of Minnesota – “Big

16:00 – 17:30

Questions” and **Robert Knox**, Liverpool University – “Neither Prefiguration Nor Abolition: Class, Materialism and the Politics of Transition”
(Room: *Sala del Consiglio, Villa Salviati*)

20:00

Dinner [*for presenters*] at Il Foyer (Via S. Gallo, 57, Firenze)

SESSION I: CONSTITUTIONALISM AND REVOLUTION

04.09.2025 11:30 – 13:00 (Room: *Sala del Camino, Villa Salviati*)

Chair: Lala Darchinova

Gaetano Marco Latronico – Prefiguring Liberty and Equality. Revolution, Republicanism and the Limits of “Subaltern Constitutionalism”

Rohit Sarma – Prefiguring Constitutionalism: Insights from Attempts at ‘Assembling India’s Constitution’

Daniel Epstein – To “Live Violence Free Lives”: The “INCITE! - Critical Resistance Statement” and Abolitionist Constitutionalism

Alexandre Aloy – Law-Making Beyond the Confines of State Law: The Revolutionary Praxis of the Pirates

Max Reymann – Transnational Constitutional Futures: Justice Beyond the Nation-State Frame

SESSION II: INTERNATIONAL LAW AND DECOLONIAL CRITIQUE

04.09.2025 11:30 – 13:00 (Room: *Sala del Torrino, Villa Salviati*)

Chair: Bruna Gonçalves

Soheil Ghasemi – Between ‘Civilizational Developmentalism’ and ‘Occidentosis’:
Contesting Discourses of Human Rights in Iran

Marus Gbomagba – Revolutionary Legalism and the Crisis of Democratic
Legitimacy: Reflections from the Alliance of Sahel States

Julia Galera Oliva – *As If We Were, Perhaps*, Unbound: Friendship, Legal
Attachments, and the Prefigurative Horizon of the International Community

SESSION III: ACCUMULATION, SUBJECTIVITIES, FEMINISM/QUEER THEORY

04.09.2025 11:30 – 13:00 (*Room: Sala del Consiglio, Villa Salviati*)

Chair: Martijn Hesselink

Marina Veličković – Abolishing International Criminal Law: A Marxist Critique

Eliana Cusato & Emily Jones – Abolition Feminism and International Law: Critiques
of Carcerality meet Environmental Justice

Davide Tomaselli – Critiquing EU Law: About Queer Materialist Visions of
Transformation

SESSION IV: LAW, THE PLANETARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

04.09.2025 11:30 – 13:00 (*Room: Sala dei Levrieri, Villa Salviati*)

Chair: Sjors Polm

Marie Petersmann – “Law Otherwise or Otherwise Laws? (Pre)figurative,
(Para)ontological, and (De/re)worlding”

Laura Mai – International Law’s Im/Possibilities: On Transformations and
Continuities in the New Climatic Regime

Gabi Waldig – Earth System Law as Prefiguration

Meindert Boersma – “Prefigurative Politics and Passive Revolution: A Gramscian
Perspective on Prefiguration”

SESSION V: PASHUKANIS AND LEGAL FORM

04.09.2025 14:00 – 15:30 (*Room: Sala del Camino, Villa Salviati*)

Chair: Julia Galera Oliva

Eduardo A. Chia – Abolition Or Transformation? Pashukanis and Neumann on Modern Law

Bruna Gonçalves – International Law is Un-Decolonisable: A Pashukanist Critique of International Legal Rights of Colonies

Jenny Logan – Taking Law Seriously as Terrain of Struggle: Tax Policy and Non-Reformist Reforms

SESSION VI: POST-REVOLUTIONARY AND ANARCHIST IMAGINATIONS (I)

04.09.2025 14:00 – 15:30 (*Room: Sala del Consiglio, Villa Salviati*)

Chair: Lala Darchinova

Mostafa Taherkhani – Against Marcionism in Critical Legal Theories: A Post-Anarchist Intervention

Martijn Hesselink – Prefigurative EU Law

Roxana Willis – Reimagining Modern Law for Transformative Ends

SESSION VII: THEORY OF LAW, VIOLENCE, AND NORMATIVITY (I)

04.09.2025 14:00 – 15:30 (*Room: Sala del Torrino, Villa Salviati*)

Chair: Julia Galera Oliva

Nour Benghellab-Outtas – The Law That Failed Twice Foreclosure, Revolution, and the Prefigurative Trace

Rajab Ali Hedayati & Nawroz Ali Rohani Nizhad – From Liberation Theology to Radical Anti-Racist Law: Possibilities and Challenges of Convergence

Theodoros Skalidakis – Law and Revolution: A Kantian Argument

DAY 2 – FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2025 – VILLA SALVIATI

09:00-10:30	Plenary session with Keynote Speeches by: Lyn KL Tjon Soei Len, Ohio State University – “Contract as Unfreedom” and Ruth Kinna, University of Loughborough – “In search of the Anarchist Constitution: Anti-Constitutionalism and Anarchy” (<i>Room: Sala del Consiglio, Villa Salviati</i>)
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 12:30	Parallel Sessions (Sessions VIII – XI)
12:30 – 13:30	Organizing Revolution
13:30 – 14:00	Lunch

SESSION VIII: THEORY OF LAW, VIOLENCE, AND NORMATIVITY (II)

05.09.2025 11:00 – 12:30 (*Room: Sala del Camino, Villa Salviati*)

Chair: Nour Benghellab-Outtas

Yonathan Listik – Epistemic Disobedience as Law-Annihilating Violence

Cyrus Multhauf – Aftershocks: Predictive Policing, Mythic Violence, and the Future of Guilt

Cristian González Arévalo – Subversive Enterprise: Redefining Sadomasochism through Foucault's Lens

SESSION IX: POST-REVOLUTIONARY AND ANARCHIST IMAGINATIONS (II)

05.09.2025 11:00 – 12:30 (*Room: Sala dei Levrieri, Villa Salviati*)

Chair: Max Reymann

Igor Shoikhedbrod – Revolution and Law: Rethinking Law During Revolutionary Transition

Lala Darchinova – Imagination as a Method: Deconstructing the Legal Real

Homero Chiaraba Gouveia – Toward a Grammar of Emancipation: Law, Destiny, and the Good Life

Marghareta Pieraccini - Prefigurative Legality and its Forms: Reflections from Italian Commons Movements

SESSION X: SOCIAL JUSTICE AND MATERIAL TRANSFORMATION

05.09.2025 11:00 – 12:30 (*Room: Sala del Consiglio, Villa Salviati*)

Chair: Martijn Hesselink

Carolina Paulesu – Who Cares for Sustainable Consumption? A Social Reproductive Labour Critique

Clare Williams – Ability Capitalism: Prefiguring Challenges to Disability Oppression

Niall O'Shaughnessy – The Dual History of Industrial Democracy in Western Europe

Telemaque Masson-Renaudin – On the Unconditional Basic Income Ideal

Gildelen Aty-Biyo – The Limits of Property Law Transformation

SESSION XI: PERFORMING LAW/ACTIVISM – EXPERIMENTS IN PREFIGURATION

05.09.2025 11:00 – 12:30 (*Room: Sala del Torrino, Villa Salviati*)

Chair: Julia Galera Oliva

Kirsten Campbell – Prefiguring Law: Lessons From The Womens' Court For The Former Yugoslavia

Sjors Polm – Peoples' Tribunals and the Instability of Opportunism

Sirius Epron Fauchard – From Prefigurative Art to Informal Justice: Are New Forms Possible Outside the Rule of Law?

Julia Emtseva – Prefiguring Transitional Justice: An Anarchist Manifesto

Nerges Azizi – Prefiguring Freedom of Movement: Requesting Interim Measures to Prevent Pushback