



J Institut des Études
et de la Recherche
sur le Droit et la Justice

The IERDJ, a reference
structure for research
on law and justice

The IERDJ promotes original and forward-looking thinking, develops and supports research, and mobilises and disseminates knowledge on standards, legal regulation, and the missions and operation of justice in all relevant disciplinary fields.

IERDJ is a public interest groupment (GIP) with thirty years' experience, resulting of the merger in 2022 of the Institut des hautes études sur la justice (IHEJ) and the Mission de recherche Droit et Justice (MRDJ).

By virtue of its status, governance, history, team composition and resolutely interdisciplinary approach, the IERDJ stands at the point of convergence of judicial orders, legal professions, institutions, and the multiplicity of legal cultures.

It is a place of freedom of thought, imagination and encounters for professionals and researchers, and relies on the rigor, independence, recognition and open-mindedness that characterize the world of research.



IERDJ is a unique forum where public officials, legal theorists and practitioners come together to reflect on the major legal issues of tomorrow”.

Pierre MOSCOVICI,
First President of Cour des comptes
and president of IERDJ

Supporting research on law and justice

The IERDJ stimulates and supports fundamental and applied research through a wide range of means: launching thematic calls for projects, examining unsolicited projects, and setting up more targeted research or studies with results that can be shared more quickly.

The selection of themes is informed by regular exchanges with members of the Institute and its Scientific Council. Particular attention is paid to current events and their impact on law and justice, with the aim of taking better account of the perceptions and expectations of civil society.

Producing and promoting knowledge of legal and justice issues

The IERDJ aims to be “a catalyst for ideas and action in the service of justice, in line with the challenges facing society”, with a view to uniting professionals and researchers around the same objective: to promote knowledge of the challenges facing law and justice.

To achieve this, the Institute mobilises knowledge and produces objective retrospective and forward-looking knowledge and analyses to support the practice of law and justice, and to help define and evaluate public justice policies. To complement the dissemination of research findings in the scientific sphere, the IERDJ is committed to promoting them to other professionals and the general public. This dissemination takes the form of summary written publications, audiovisual productions and the promotion of thesis or research work through the organisation of the Jean Carbonnier and Vendôme Prizes. The Institute also organises seminars, colloquia and round tables throughout the year and makes its productions and the projects in which it is involved widely available via a digital resource centre on its website.

Developing national, European, and international cooperation between stakeholders

The IERDJ is developing a network of partners with institutions and research laboratories dedicated to producing multidisciplinary knowledge on law and justice. These include professional associations and structures that bring together several fields of research at regional, European Union and international level.

GOVERNANCE OF THE IERDJ

The IERDJ is made up of 17 members who are collectively responsible for its governance within a general assembly whose rotating presidency is held by the heads of the French high courts. The annual general meeting also welcomes 5 associate partners. This active governance makes it possible to decide on the Institute's program after consultation with the Scientific Council and to determine the budget for the coming year.

The members are:

- **The French State:** Ministry of Justice
- **France's highest courts:** Conseil constitutionnel, Conseil d'Etat, Cour de cassation and Cour des comptes
- **Research players:** the Ministry of Higher Education and Research, the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), the association of heads of higher education establishments
- **Caisse des Dépôts**
- **The École Nationale de la Magistrature** (National School for the Judiciary)
- **The legal professions:** lawyers, notaries, court commissioners, commercial court clerks, legal directors and company lawyers
- **Associated partners:** Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs • Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty • French Association for the History of Justice • General Conference of Consular Judges of France • High Council of the Prud'homie

Scientific Council

The Scientific Council contributes to the Institute's international reputation. It is consulted on scientific programming guidelines and on all proposed research projects. It also contributes to the other work carried out by the group.

Its members are recognized for their scientific expertise, and its chairman, an eminent figure from the world of research, attends the Board of Directors and the General Meeting.

It is currently chaired by **Françoise TULKENS**, Professor Extraordinary of Law at the University of Louvain and former judge at the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR).



We need both watchdog research and cutting-edge research, which is essential for understanding the past, living in the present and thinking about the future... visionary research that aspires to have an impact on society”.

Françoise TULKENS, Chair of the IERDJ Scientific Council

The operational team

The IERDJ operational team, headed by **Valérie SAGANT**, a magistrate, is made up of around twenty people with varied backgrounds and experience. This diversity is the foundation of the multidisciplinary approach advocated by the group.



“Within the IERDJ, our role is not only to produce rigorous scientific knowledge on law and justice, but also to disseminate it widely, and beyond that to convince public decision-makers and professionals in the field to take it into account when defining their practices and public policies”.

Valérie SAGANT, Director of the IERDJ

IERDJ Key figures*

- **2022:** creation of the Institute
- **17** founding members
- **5** associate partners
- **20** employees
- **71** research projects supported by IERDJ in progress
- **12** research projects published in 2023
- **45** events organised in 2023

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