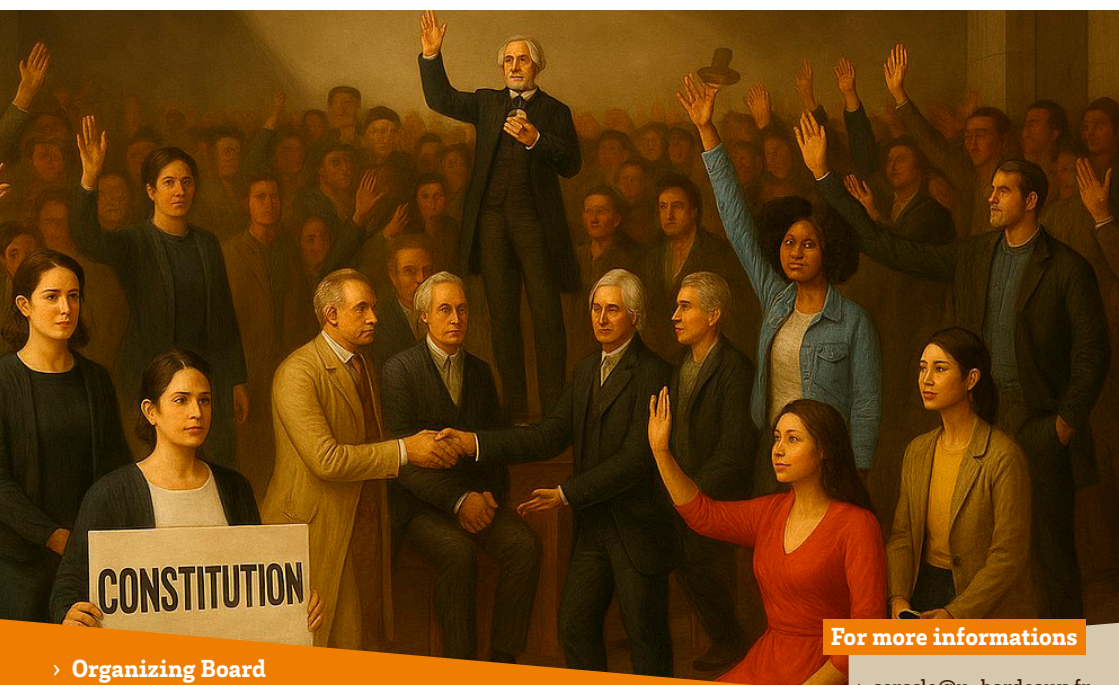


Drafting a Constitution in the 21st Century Lessons from Chile

October 09 & 10, 2025

Amphi Gintrac – campus Victoire - université de Bordeaux
3 ter place de la Victoire, 33000 Bordeaux



For more informations

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Yaodia **SENOU-DUMARTIN**, Researcher, IRSEM



This project has received financial support from the French government within the framework of the France 2030 programme IdEx université de Bordeaux

09h00 › **Welcome speeches**

Xavier Prevost, Pr. Université de Bordeaux
Hubert Alcaraz, Pr. Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour
Carolina Cerda-Guzman, Associate Pr. Université de Bordeaux
Rym Fassi-Fihri, Associate Pr. Université de Limoges
Maxime Millon, PhD student Université de Bordeaux
Yaodia Senou-Dumartin, Researcher, IRSEM

09h30 **Why write (or not) a Constitution in the 21st Century?**

Xavier Philippe, Pr. Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

■ **THE CHILEAN EXPERIENCE 2019–2023: NEW MODEL OR FAILURE?**

Chaired by Marthe Fatin-Rouge Stefanini, Directrice de recherches CNRS, Aix-Marseille Université

10h00 **The experience from within. How Chile tried to protect minorities' rights during the constituent process 2019–2023**

Catalina Lagos, Pr. Universidad Diego PORTALES, Member of the Chilean Constitutional Tribunal and former member of the Chilean Experts Committee in charge of writing the 2023 Draft Constitution

10h30 Coffee break

10h45 **The Chilean experience from a Latin American perspective**

Roberto Gargarella (ONLINE VIA ZOOM), Pr. Universidad Torcuato Di Tella

11h15 **How not to write a Constitution. Lessons from Chile**

Stefan Voigt, Pr. University of Hamburg

11h45 › **Debate and discussions**

■ **THE CONSTITUENT PROCESS IN THE 21ST CENTURY:
HOW TO WRITE AND ADOPT CONSTITUTIONS?**

Chaired by Thomas Acar, Associate Pr. Université de Bordeaux

14h00 **The Irish experience**

Marie Luce Paris, Associate Pr. in Law at UCD Sutherland School of Law
David Farrell, Full Pr. of Politics at the School of Politics and International Relations of UCD

14h30 **How to let the citizenship draft the Constitution?**

Sumit Bisarya, Head of Constitution Building International IDEA

15h00 **The Constituent Assembly of the 21st Century**

Margaux Bouaziz, Pr. Université de Bourgogne

16h00 **When and why we should organize a referendum?**

Marthe Fatin-Rouge Stefanini, Directrice de recherches CNRS, Aix-Marseille Université

16h30 › *Debate and discussions*

October 10, 2025

■ **THE SHAPE OF THE CONSTITUTIONS IN THE 21ST CENTURY:
WHICH STYLE?**

Chaired by Marie Padilla, Associate Pr. Université de Bordeaux

09h30 *Culture and ways of writing a Constitution*
Fabrice Hourquebie, Pr. Université de Bordeaux

10h00 *The size of the Constitutions*
Geoffroy Herzog, Associate Pr. Université de Limoges

10h30 Coffee break

10h45 *Feminist perspectives on constitution-making*
Camille Barbe, PhD Student Université de Bordeaux

11h15 *Writing a Constitution for the Nature*
Olivier Dubos, Pr. Université de Bordeaux

11h45 › *Debate and discussions*

■ **THE CONTENT OF THE CONSTITUTIONS IN THE 21ST CENTURY:
ARE THEY NEW CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS?**

Chaired by Sébastien Platon, Pr. Université de Bordeaux

14h00 *Digital constitutionalism*
Pauline Turk, Pr. Université de Nice

14h30 *New Fundamental Rights in the last Constitutions in Africa*
Jonathan M'Piga, PhD Student Université de Bordeaux

15h00 *Constitutions and International Human Rights*
Hélène Tigroudja, Pr. Aix-Marseille Université, Member of the UN Human Rights Committee

15h30 Coffee break

15h45 *New Separation of Powers in the 21st Century*
Aileen Kavanagh, Pr. Trinity College Dublin

16h15 *Constitution and Rule of Law in the 21st Century*
Laurent Pech, Pr. University College Dublin, Dean of Law

16h45 › *Debate and discussions*

17h15 › *Closing speech*
Michel Troper, Pr. Emeritus Université Paris Nanterre

Between 2019 and 2023, Chile underwent a unique constitution-making process. While the people is often left out of the process of proposing, drafting, and approving a new Constitution, Chile chose to closely involve its citizens through gender-balanced Constituent Assemblies and referendums. However, at the end of this process, neither of the two draft Constitutions was adopted.

Despite this failure, the Chilean experience can be seen as a topical paradigm for new forms of constitution-making around the world. Its contributions, but also its pitfalls, have already been widely analyzed and studied in previous scientific events (May 23, 2023 in Bordeaux and February 8-9, 2024 in Pau).

This symposium, organized in Bordeaux on October 9-10, 2025, is a continuation of these reflections and broadens the focus to assess the various constituent processes implemented around the world since the beginning of the 21st century. National and international specialists in constituent processes, from various disciplines, will convene to determine whether the 21st century is paving the way for a profound change in the procedures, writing styles, and content of Constitutions. In the face of the various political, societal, and environmental transformations currently underway, should constituent power resort to the traditional tools developed in the 18th century, or should it demonstrate constituent creativity?

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