



12th Annual Emerging Scholars Conference in Public Law
Public Law in an Age of Institutional Transformation
Call for Papers

Courts, legislatures, executives, administrative agencies, and supranational bodies are operating in a rapidly changing political and technological environment. These developments raise questions that are central to both public law and political science.

- Why do some legal institutions adapt to political pressure while others resist it?
- How do executives, legislatures, and courts redistribute power during periods of institutional reform and crises?
- What explains variation in judicial, constitutional, or institutional resilience across countries and over time?
- How do political parties, social movements, public opinion, and organized interest groups shape legal institutions from outside the courtroom?
- How is artificial intelligence changing the exercise and oversight of public power in administrative decision-making and adjudication?
- How does the diffusion of artificial intelligence on both sides of the citizen-state relationship alter administrative capacity and political accountability?

The Emerging Scholars Conference in Public Law invites papers that use these and related questions to investigate how institutions change, why they change, and what the consequences are for governance, rights, and political order. We welcome theoretical, empirical, comparative, doctrinal, and interdisciplinary submissions across the conference's core scholarly tracks, including comparative constitutionalism, judicial politics, law and society, constitutional theory, supranational and international courts, and methodology.

Abstracts of 250 words should be submitted by **October 16, 2026** at 11:59 PM CST through this [proposal submission form](#). Questions may be directed to utpubliclawconference@gmail.com.

The conference will take place on **February 25 and 26, 2027**, at the University of Texas at Austin. Now in its 12th year, the [Emerging Scholars Conference in Public Law](#) has become a key forum for graduate students and early-career scholars to share their work on public law and build connections in the field. Held annually at the University of Texas at Austin, the conference draws national and international participation from scholars working across all methodologies and all aspects of public law.