



PROGRAMME

The Mixed Courts of Egypt (1876–1949): between imperial internationalism and shared legal knowledge

13-14 APRIL 2026 | FRANKFURT | M. ERPELDING & A. BEJERMI

Monday, 13.04.2026

FIRST DAY

08:45 **Registration and welcome**

09:15–09:30 **Introduction**

Michel Erpelding & Aya Bejermi (mpilhlt)

09:30–11:00 **Panel n°1 – The Mixed Courts as local and international institutions**

Chair: Michel Erpelding

Alexandria, city of the Mixed Court of Appeal

Isabelle Lendrevie (independent researcher)

Reconciling Egyptian civil law with international maritime conventions: the SS Moorish Prince case

Mohamed Gomaa (University of Hamburg)

Combining international and Egyptian symbolism: Mixed Court regalia

Russell D. Greaves (University of New Mexico)

Discussion with the workshop participants and the researchers from the mpilhlt: Christiane Birr, Chris Jenkins, Jiaxin Li, Peter Odrich and Leonardo Ravaioli



Coffee

11:30–13:00 **Panel n°2 - European judges and lawyers in Egypt: biographies, practices and influences**

Chair: Leonardo Ravaioli

The tiger cat of the Cairo bar: George Merzbach, the Belgian expatriate community and the Mixed Courts eco-system as a transimperial networking space

Gert Huskens (Ghent University)

'The ablest and most efficient administrator': Michael Hansson and the overlooked Scandinavian legacy in the Mixed Courts in Egypt

Andreas Nabil Younan (University of Cambridge)

The Italian Way to the Egyptian Mixed Courts – and Back: Eduardo Piola Caselli as a Case Study

Elisabetta Fusar Poli (University of Brescia) & Gianluca Parolin (Aga Khan University)



Discussion with the workshop participants and the researchers from the mpilhl: Christiane Birr, Chris Jenkins, Jiaxin Li, Peter Odrich and Leonardo Ravaioli



Lunch

14:00–15:00 **Panel n°3 - German and Austrian interests in the Mixed Courts**

Chair: *tbd*

The curious case of Rudolf Blühdorn and the Austrian interwar judgeship at the Mixed Courts of Egypt

Bernhard Gollob (University of Graz)

Goebbels' long arm: the 'Cairo Jew Case'

Lars Regula (independent researcher)

Discussion with the workshop participants and the researchers from the mpilhl: Christiane Birr, Chris Jenkins, Jiaxin Li, Peter Odrich and Leonardo Ravaioli



Coffee

15:30–17:00 **Panel n°4 - Political power and judicial independence**

Chair: *Will Hanley*

The Mixed Courts in light of the reports of the British judicial adviser in Egypt

Rizk Hassan Nouri (Egyptian National Library and Archives)

Imperial Politics on the Bench: Pierre Crabitès and the Anglicization of Egypt's Mixed Courts

Brian Parkinson (Georgia Southwestern State University)

'Enemy subjects' before the Egyptian Mixed Courts: legal protections, political pressures, and the limits of neutrality

Doha Nasr (University of Vienna)

Discussion with the workshop participants and the researchers from the mpilhl: Christiane Birr, Chris Jenkins, Jiaxin Li, Peter Odrich and Leonardo Ravaioli



Coffee



17:30 – 18:30 **Panel n°5 – Egyptian, Ottoman and Levantine actors**

Chair: *Aya Bejermi*

Reform as Encounter: Nubar Pasha and the Making of Egypt's Mixed Courts

Fé de Jonge (University of Leiden)

Boutros Ghali Pasha and his role in the Mixed Courts

'Alā' 'Abd al-Ḥamīd 'Alī al-Bāṭi' (Egyptian National Library and Archives)

Discussion with the workshop participants and the researchers from the mpilhl: Christiane Birr, Chris Jenkins, Jiaxin Li, Peter Odrich and Leonardo Ravaioli



Dinner

20:00 – 21:00 **The Mixed Courts in literary culture: discussion of selected excerpts**

Michel Erpelding & Aya Bejermi (mpilhl)

Tuesday, 14.04.2026

SECOND DAY

09:30–10:30 **Panel n°6 - Predecessors to the Mixed courts of Egypt**

Chair: *Chris Jenkins*

The other mixed courts: imperial pluralism and international law beyond the Egyptian paradigm

Zülâl Muslu (Tilburg University)

Mixed courts in the Middle East and North Africa before 1876: towards a pre-history of the Mixed Courts of Egypt

Jessica Marglin (Harvard University)

Discussion with the workshop participants and the researchers from the mpilhl: Christiane Birr, Chris Jenkins, Jiaxin Li, Peter Odrich and Leonardo Ravaioli



Coffee

11:00–12:00 **Panel n°7 - The Mixed courts of Egypt as a distinct model of adjudication**

Chair: *Zülâl Muslu*

Ottoman legal sovereignty and the jurisdiction of the Mixed Courts: a documents-based inquiry

Afra Uysal (Ibn Haldun University)

Shared legal knowledge: Japan, Egypt, and the Mixed Courts in a transimperial conversation

Emir Karakaya (University of Wisconsin-Madison, online)

Discussion with the workshop participants and the researchers from the mpilhl: Chris Jenkins,



Jiaxin Li, Peter Odrich and Leonardo Ravaioli



Lunch

13:00–14:30 **Panel n°8 – New takes on mixed law and jurisprudence**

Chair: *tbd*

Mapping the Mixed Courts through full text analysis

Will Hanley (Florida State University)

The Mixed Courts of Egypt and the affirmation of individual rights

Aya Bejerimi & Michel Erpelding (mpilhlt)

Terms of exchange: translation, adaptation, and the Mixed Court Codes

Hannah Scott Deuchar (Queen Mary University)

Discussion with the workshop participants and the researchers from the mpilhlt: *Chris Jenkins, Jiaxin Li, Peter Odrich and Leonardo Ravaioli*



Coffee

15:00–16:30 **Panel n°9 – Seeking justice in colonial times?**

Chair: *Jessica Marglin*

Contesting ownership of kharāj land in the Mixed Courts of Egypt

Eri Degawa (Chiba University)

The mixed interest theory and prête-nom as a strategy / On the Expansion of the Mixed Courts' Jurisdiction: Narratives, Actors, and Legal Tools

Akram M. Abdel-Monem (University of Hamburg)

& Passainte Ragab (Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law)

How the Mixed Courts of Egypt shaped the Egyptian legal mind: a clinical approach to a 'continuous legacy'

Ahmed Elkahwagy (University of Alexandria)

Discussion with the workshop participants and the researchers from the mpilhlt: *Chris Jenkins, Jiaxin Li, Peter Odrich and Leonardo Ravaioli*

16:30–16:45 **Conclusion**

Michel Erpelding & Aya Bejerimi (mpilhlt)

17:00 **End**

