



**IIAS**  
International Institute  
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# 2018 Congress

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INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE  
OF ADMINISTRATIVE  
SCIENCES

Tunis, Tunisia, 25-29 June

## Administrative Resilience

CALL-FOR-PAPERS



## Science, Law and Risk: Ideas for a Resilient Institutional System

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The aim of the panel is to study further the processes of “resilience” and “resistance” when exceptional situations occur (whether related to natural phenomena or other events such as a collapse of the market) which originate within the systems and through which the survival of the system itself is guaranteed.

In order for these processes – and in particular that of resilience – to be effective, an adequate substratum, also at an institutional level, has to be created. To this end, the first step is to abandon the traditional perspective that sees reactive processes exclusively in the post-event phase, by implementing models which, applying principles of prevention and precaution, allow a management of emergencies through the use of ordinary instruments (administrative decisions), included within the traditional decision-making process models for risk prevention and management.

Moving from the analysis of some of the unforeseeable circumstances that triggered the extraordinary regime, the study aims to investigate the relationship between science (as the interpretative key of the complexity) and law, in order to determine whether, and under what terms, it can be set up to ensure the implementation of the principle of responsibility; this is intended in a wider sense, embracing both the aspects of “power over others” and “duty to others”, also in relation to the unforeseeable circumstances.

In this context, the analysis should then move to the area of the decision, regarding which the interferential relationship between systems (social, natural and legal) is affected not only by the relativity of scientific knowledge, but also by other elements such as influences deriving from the very structure of the political system, in order to identify an instrument that will allow the overcoming (and ultimately reduction) of the lack of consideration of the systemic effects of decisions (system neglect) which lies behind an absolutely incomplete assessment of risks, with substantial distorting influences on the efficacy of the decisions themselves, also in relation to the construction of the foundations for processes of resilience.

In this context, the panel should focus the attention on two different profiles:

- From the systemic perspective; moving from the consideration from a scientific perspective of factual reality, which projects risk regulation into a wider dimension in which risk prevention is placed beyond the adoption of precautionary measures, intended abstractly, simply providing the general system with flexible instruments that permit a more prudent and rational management of interventions also in exceptional situations, integrating the possible lines of intervention within the ordinary administration (including the management of extraordinary events within the framework of that for ordinary ones);
- From the perspective of decision-making processes related to the planning and programming of interventions in which to place the assessment of the systemic effects of decisions. And this insofar as proper risk assessment, based on the knowledge of facts (technical-scientific data) and, therefore, constantly adapted to this, allows the acquisition of those elements which are also essential for programming resilience processes thanks to an attenuation of the shock deriving from the occurrence of an exceptional event.

The call for papers will regard the not only the abovementioned general topics, preferably from a comparative perspective, but also possible applications of the model outlined at the organisational level within the framework of territorial policies; land-management policies, not only in the case of reconstruction following disasters, but also in the case of urban regeneration which, from the perspective of resilience, allows cities to adapt to significant ongoing change); of consumer and investor protection policies to school and educational ones, in the search for responses to catastrophes which rely on resilience for people, communities and institutions.

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## CALENDAR – CALENDRIER

28 February 2018	Abstract submission deadline	Date limite pour l’envoi des résumés	28 février 2018
7 March 2018	Authors’ notification	Notification aux auteurs	7 mars 2018
13 May 2018	Papers deadline	Date limite pour la soumission des contributions	13 mai 2018