The doctoral students of the Law School of Sciences Po Paris are pleased to announce the ninth edition of the Graduate Conference, which will take place during Sciences Po’s yearly SDI (Semaine Doctorale Intensive).

The conference will address the following topic:

**DOES LAW INVENT REALITY?**

**THE NINTH GRADUATE CONFERENCE: AN OVERVIEW**

Law is an institution that regulates political power and, as a discipline, orders the main interactions of society, defining them within the fiction of its language. In doing so, it is more of a subject than an object, as it tells the story of “reality”,

But does law only transcribe reality? Doesn't it also have a creative effect? It would seem that the legal narrative oscillates between transcription and creation, between integration and interpretation. The objective of this conference is to question this permeability of the law, understood as the child of modernity.

Modernity can be perceived as the myth of “scientific objectivity, technical efficiency and economic profitability”. As a depositary of this modern paradigm, law participates to this mythology, and in doing so, establishes itself as a "world builder". Can law have a reflexive approach to this mythology? Conversely, is it not forced to comply with this mythology, to adapt, thus always making law lag behind reality?
We ask doctoral students to question the relationship between fiction and reality in the practice of their discipline.

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS:** Applicants have the opportunity to submit their contributions, which will be used as a basis for discussion throughout the Graduate Conference, on one of the following proposals:

**PROPOSAL 1:** Question the link(s) between law and reality through a concrete and illustrative case.

We invite candidates to submit their contributions on one or more concrete cases that will make the link(s) between law and reality material. For example, they will be able to demonstrate how reality makes it necessary to create new legal categories, how new legal categories lead to the creation of new spaces of reality or highlight situations in which a change of reality precedes and guides the creation of legal concepts.

These concrete examples can be drawn from one of the following themes, which will also be used in the second part of the day to give substance and direction to theoretical and methodological discussions (non-exhaustive list): environment, body, technology, finance and money, weapons and conflict, digital realm and data, transport, urban mobility, housing issue, agriculture, insurance and social welfare etc.

**PROPOSAL 2:** Does law invent reality?

Candidates may submit a contribution to answer the question "Does law invent reality?", focusing on the more theoretical aspects of the subject. To do so, the candidates may rely on interdisciplinary approaches: legal sociology, philosophy of law, anthropology of law, etc.

**CALENDAR:**

15 APRIL 2020: Deadline for applications
30 APRIL 2020: Replies to applications
18 JUNE 2020: Conference day

The individual contributions will be assembled to form discussion panels. In accordance with the international and multicultural commitments of the Law School, the debates will be held in English and French.

If you are interested in attending the conference, please send us a summary/abstract of your contribution (one page) before April 15, 2020 to the following address: gradconf.law@sciencespo.fr. We accept abstracts in English and French.