Combating threats of homicide, violence against children, human trafficking and sexual violence is essential to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development. These efforts facilitate access to justice for all and the establishment of effective and accountable institutions at all levels.

Questions on the methods used to govern societies and resolve conflicts are given particular emphasis at the CNRS. Several research teams observe and analyse governance and societal innovations at local and international institutional level. Questions of justice and democracy form the core of some multidisciplinary research projects involving several teams of researchers.

THE LAM (AFRICA IN THE WORLD) LAB LOOKS AT THE DIFFERENT FORMS OF BELLIGERENCE

The different forms of protest and violent phenomena on the African continent do not reveal any African specificity in their mechanisms. They are analysed in the light of the political, economic and social contexts that contribute to them. The various forms of belligerence need to be seen in the context of major international geopolitical developments, but also in the very local conditions of their manifestation. The researchers in this laboratory also question the ways in which war is waged and how the conditions in which violence is expressed can take different forms. Finally, they analyse post-conflict situations, with particular emphasis on camps and areas for displaced persons or refugees, which may be seen as places for managing ‘undesirable’ populations.

AN INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH NETWORK ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’ ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Backed by the CNRS since 2017, the International Research Network on ‘Justice and Indigenous Peoples’ (JUST-IP) focuses on four critical areas of standard-setting and implementation: 1) indigenous legal institutions and organisations; 2) mobilisations for justice and citizenship; 3) development, environmental and spatial justice; 4) knowledge and recognition policies: cities, universities and museums. The aim is to understand the ways in which indigenous societies organise themselves under new constraints arising from globalisation. By incorporating aspects of memory and disciplinary effects in reflection on the co-construction of knowledge, this research identifies different scenarios of contemporary links between indigenous peoples and the broader context including national societies, regional human rights systems, international organisations, scientific communities and cultural institutions. The group is multidisciplinary (anthropology, law, urban studies, geography, history, sociology, political science) and involves 16 partners from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Spain, France, Mexico and Norway.
CLIMATE JUSTICE AND THE RIGHTS OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

The Normandy Chair for Peace was inaugurated in June 2019 by its three founding members: the Normandy Region, the University of Caen and the CNRS. The central focus of this Chair is to build a legal framework to protect the environment, the human condition, humanity and nature.

Find out more: normandie.cnrs.fr/chaire-normandie-pour-la-pax-conference-justice-climat-et-generations-futures/

THE MIGRATION ISSUE

Understanding the dynamics of international migration provides a better grasp of the social, spatial, geopolitical and environmental transformations that are shaping the world in a context of global change. Several research teams, including geographers, sociologists, lawyers, demographers, politicians, historians, economists and so on, are working to unravel the complexity of the issues raised by migratory movements and their impact on the territories of origin and transit and the host regions.

OBSERVING THE MODERNISATION OF JUDICIAL INVESTIGATIONS

The FITEGE programme (genetic files and markers, genealogy, social issues, circulation), funded by the Agence Nationale de Recherche, is based on research conducted from January 2015 to December 2018, under the responsibility of the CNRS. The aim of this programme is to observe the emergence of genetic analyses, which have considerably transformed judicial and police investigation practices and, from a social science perspective, to analyse technical and legal innovations in France from scientific, political and moral viewpoints.

Find out more: centre-norbert-elias.ehess.fr/index.php?2859

STATE AND CONSTITUENTS: RELATIONS, SHORTCOMINGS AND CHALLENGES

The ‘Ordinary practices and representations in relation to the State’ programme, financed by the Agence Nationale de Recherche, looks at citizens and how they perceive and confront State power from several angles:

- socialisation in the State: the relationship between the population and its institutions,
- unequal access to public services,
- collective and individual mobilisation as strategies for dealing with the State.

It thus addresses different types of confrontation with the State, combining quantitative (questioning) and qualitative (ethnographic surveys) methods.

ADDRESSING THE KANAK QUESTION IN NEW CALEDONIA

The ‘Kanak culture as law, a pragmatic approach to an ongoing process (2014–2016)’ programme, financed by the Law and Justice Research unit, examines how Kanak specificities are handled in the legal system, placing reflection on customary law within a broad analytical framework and considering the link between identity-based claims, the incorporation of customs into law and state-building.

What content do we intend to assign to ‘Kanak custom’ in the current period? How has the issue of defending legal pluralism entered the public debate with such force today?

The aim is to understand the identity and legal process taking place in New Caledonia in the framework of the Nouméa Agreement, not only at territorial level, but also accounting for the claim for differentiated rights that the indigenous movements submitted the United Nations.

Find out more: www.pantheonsorbonne.fr/unites-de-recherche/isips

Find out more: normandie.cnrs.fr/chaire-normandie-pour-la-pax-conference-justice-climat-et-generations-futures/