

Call for Papers

Roundtable *Law and Popular Culture VIII*

Law & Popular Culture Research Network
19 June 2026 - Faculty of Law, Maastricht University

Law and Popular Culture VIII aims to bring together multiple approaches to the place of law in popular culture. Further, the Roundtable wants to bring out the manner in which popular culture affects law and its understanding by actors in society. It explores law in different environments, such as art and entertainment, as well as cultural movements that constitute phenomena to which the law must relate. Furthermore, besides these general areas within our social reality, the Roundtable is also a space to discuss the legal significance of certain objects or practices that either defy or deplete categorization.

Over the last seven years, the Roundtable has become a relied upon forum, within the Faculty of Law of Maastricht University, to discuss approaches to these areas of study. For this edition, our keynote speaker will be Livia Solaro. Previous keynote speakers include Jan Smits (2021), Lars van Vliet (2022), Donna Yates (2023), Frank Nellen (2024), and Hildegard Schneider and René de Groot (2025).

The Roundtable aims to trigger further interest on these areas of study, underlining the value that non-conventional approaches to law offer to the better understanding of social sciences. Themes of interest include, yet are not limited to,

- Cultural movements/ Culture wars
- Law and cinema /television
- Law and gaming
- Law and literature
- Law and music/ music industry
- Law and opera / theatre / performance
- Law and objects
- Law and printing
- Law in social media
- Law in the fine arts
- Law and comic books
- Law and language

Abstracts of papers are welcome. Co-authored papers will be also considered. Abstracts of around 300 words can be submitted to Eline Couperus (e.couperus@maastrichtuniversity.nl) no later than **1 February 2026**. Shortly after that, the authors will be informed whether their papers are selected for a presentation during the Roundtable. The publication of a volume including a selection of papers will be explored, though submission of papers at the time of the Roundtable is not expected.

This Roundtable is part of the efforts of the Law & Popular Culture Research Network at the Faculty of Law of Maastricht University. Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact one of the members of the Steering Committee,

Eline Couperus

Agustín Parise

Livia Solaro

Arthur Willemse