The subject of public sector legal disputes has always been a major area of research despite never really being clearly included in the previous activities of the local authority study center.

The team’s work in the field of administrative disputes is concentrated and multifaceted. Close links have existed for a long time between the team’s researchers and the various administrative jurisdictions and in particular the highest of these: the Conseil d’État (French Council of State). Researchers, including Philippe Terneyre and Denys de Béchillon, are regularly called upon to take part in work groups with members of the Council of State. Jean Gourdou, for his part, has contributed, as independent council, to the work of the Council of State in the Section for legal disputes, the Section for Public Works and the Section for reports and studies (the enforcement of court rulings unit).