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UCL Centre for Law and Environment Briefing 2023-2024

UCL Centre for Law and Environment



Introduction

The Centre for Law and the Environment (CLE) provides a focal point for UCL's outstanding expertise and academic strength in the field of law and the environment. The academic members of the Centre pursue a rich variety of interests in this field.

Our members



Dr Danae Azaria is a public international lawyer with a particular interest in international law on energy and natural resources, as well as the law of treaties, State responsibility, and international dispute settlement. She is a qualified attorney and collaborates as an academic advisor with numerous government departments (in the UK and abroad), international organisations (including the United Nations), law firms and corporations.



Tom Burke is an Honorary Professor of Practice at the UCL Faculty of Laws and the Centre. He is co-founder and chair of the environmental think tank E3G, as well as chair of the China Dialogue Trust and Patron of UKELA. He was the Executive Director of Friends of the Earth in the seventies, ran the Green Alliance in the eighties, was a Special Advisor to three Secretaries of State for the Environment in the nineties, and worked for Rio Tinto and BP over the turn of the century. He is currently focused on the relationship between environmental protection and the rule of law.



Lord Robert Carnwath is an Honorary Professor and Distinguished Judicial Visitor at UCL Faculty of Laws and the Centre. Lord Carnwath retired from the UK Supreme Court in 2020. He is widely admired for his expertise and engagement in planning and environmental law, and pursues his interest in climate change and law from his position in the Centre.



Ruth Chambers is an Honorary Professor of Practice at the UCL Faculty of Laws and the Centre. She has been working as a Senior Fellow at Green Alliance since 2017, an environmental think tank. She was a crucial part of Greener UK, a coalition of major environmental groups (hosted by Green Alliance), which was at the heart of the environmental community's response to Brexit. She leads a new unit at Green Alliance focused on environmental legislation and governance which continues to play a key role in the community's work on the implementation of the Environment Act 2021. Ruth was awarded an OBE in 2022 for her services to the environment.



Professor Jane Holder researches environmental justice in decisions about the registration of green spaces such as town and village greens. Jane is currently also developing a research agenda on animal justice, with a focus on the development of principles and processes, and the connections – and disconnections between animal law and environmental law. Jane is a member of the UCL Steering Group on Education for Sustainable Development and chair of a working group which aims to instil sustainability in the postgraduate research (PhD) programme.



Peter Kellett is an Honorary Professor of Practice at the UCL Faculty of Laws and the Centre. He is a former Chair of UKELA and for a decade until October 2022 was Director of Legal Services at the Environment Agency for England during the devolution when Natural Resources Wales was created, Brexit and Covid period. Peter is a member of the College of Experts for the OEP. He led on the policy and legislation work which produced the Environmental Permitting regime in England and Wales and oversaw the implementation of civil sanctions at the Environment Agency. His interests are in the design, implementation and enforcement of environmental law.



Professor Maria Lee was formerly co-director of the Centre. She has a long-standing interest in the ways in which law shapes environmental decision-making in the EU and the UK, and has published widely, including on areas of high technological complexity like GMOs, and on infrastructure planning, including wind farms and housing. Her current research focuses on two areas: the ways in which environmental NGOs understand and use law and legal expertise, including as shaped by large philanthropic donors; and the law's institutionalisation of participation in environmental decision-making, including as that relates to environmental protest.



Dr Allison Lindner is an interdisciplinary legal scholar who uses economics, sociology and law to investigate questions related to environmental law. She is particularly interested in sustainable development, waste law and the informal economy. She convenes the [Waste Law Reading Group](#). She is a Member of the Early Career Research Network of the UCL Collaborative Social Science Domain, and of the UCL Education for Sustainable Development Working Group.



Professor Richard Macrory QC (Hon) is former and founding director of the Centre, and Emeritus Professor at the UCL Faculty of Laws. His research focuses on the enforcement of environmental law, including the development of appropriate sanctions. He is a Non-Executive Director of the Office for Environmental Protection.



Monserrat Madariaga Gómez de Cuenca is a Chilean lawyer completing her PhD at UCL, which focuses on the international climate change negotiations and the development of national climate change law and governance.



Professor Gracia Marín Durán became co-director of the Centre in February 2022, and is currently on maternity and research leave until April 2025. She is an international economic lawyer, with a particular interest in the interface between international trade and environmental regimes, as well as in the EU's actions to shape the trade-environment nexus at various levels of global governance.



Professor Philippe Sands QC has a long-standing interest in public international law, the settlement of international disputes (including arbitration), and environmental and natural resources law.



Anna Saunders is a doctoral candidate at UCL Laws working in the history and theory of international law, with a particular focus on the environmental dimensions of industrial property. Her research explores how struggles over the nature and extent of patent protection shaped general international law following the industrial developments of the nineteenth century, and how international lawyers might engage with this legacy in the context of climatic change. She is also a member of the Institute for Brand and Innovation Law and admitted to practice in Australia.



Dr Pedro Schilling de Carvalho became co-director of the Centre in May 2024. He researches international financial regulation, corporate law, corporate governance, and international development, with a particular focus on emerging areas such as sustainable finance and blended finance. His current research explores the drivers for regulatory diffusion, knowledge exchange, and successful international cooperation and coordination in multipolar and fragmented contexts, especially in the context of sustainable finance across the banking, insurance, and capital markets sectors.



Professor Eloise Scotford became co-director of the Centre in November 2022. She researches comparative environmental law, air quality governance, climate change law and governance, waste regulation, and environmental governance. She has a particular research interest in environmental legislation and environmental principles.



Professor Joanne Scott's main areas of expertise are EU law and WTO law. She has published extensively on law and new modes of governance, environmental law and policy and on the intersections between different sub-national, national and international legal orders. Joanne is Head of Department and Professor of European Law at the European University Institute in Florence. She remains closely connected with the Centre.



Jeff Twentyman is an Honorary Professor at UCL Faculty of Laws and Senior Consultant at Slaughter and May. Jeff was a Partner at Slaughter and May, where he served as Head of the Private Equity Group and Head of Sustainability for the firm. Jeff advises businesses on sustainability, governance and risk and is also involved in climate technology innovation and commercialisation. Jeff also serves as Chair to a number of initiatives related to Sustainability and Responsible Business, including in the context of the Legal Sustainability Alliance and the Green Finance Institute for a number of years.



Professor Lisa Vanhala is a political scientist with expertise in global environmental politics and socio-legal studies. She works on the politics and governance of climate change-related loss and damage at the international and national level with books forthcoming with Cambridge University Press and University of Chicago Press on the topic. She also studies the role of human rights principles in climate change governance and the phenomenon of climate change litigation.



Professor Steven Vaughan was formerly co-director of the Centre. His work spans various fields: environmental law, corporate governance/corporate social responsibility, and lawyers' ethics and regulation. In each area, he is interested in regulatory complexity and the frequent mismatch between 'law in books' and 'law in action'. Steven's environmental work covers climate change, chemicals regulation, contaminated land, nuisance, legal education, and the use of soft law as a means of governance.



Ned Westaway is an Honorary Associate Professor at UCL Faculty of Law and the Centre. He is a barrister at Francis Taylor Building in London, where he specialises in environmental planning and highways law. Ned was Chair of the United Kingdom Environmental Law Association (UKELA) from 2021-2023 and remains actively in its work on environmental governance. Ned is on the Attorney General's A Panel of London counsel. His recent work includes judicial reviews on climate change, storm overflows and waste planning. He is also acting pro bono for the Open Spaces Society in its intervention in the Dartmoor camping appeal (Dartmoor NPA v Darwall).

News from the Centre

In May 2023, **Pedro Schilling de Carvalho** took over as co-director of the Centre for Law and the Environment from **Gracia Marín Durán**, who will be on maternity and research leave until April 2025.

We were delighted to appoint **Jeff Twentyman** as Honorary Professor of Practice at UCL Faculty of Laws and the Centre in October 2023. Jeff is a non-executive director at the Green Finance Institute and chair of the audit and risk committee. He is Chair of Sustainability and Responsible Business at the international law firm Slaughter and May where he was previously a partner. Jeff advises businesses on sustainability, governance and risk and is also involved in climate technology innovation and commercialisation. He has previously chaired several civil society and multi-stakeholder collaborations.

In October 2023, **Eloise Scotford** was appointed as a member of the OEP Environmental Principles Advisory Group. This expert group has been advising the OEP on its work scrutinising and analysing the Government's application of the [Environmental Principles Policy Statement](#).

In December 2023, **Lisa Vanhala** was appointed to the role of [Pro-Vice Provost for the Grand Challenge of the Climate Crisis](#) with Professor Mark Maslin. We wish our best to Lisa on her important appointment.

In April 2024, **Allison Lindner** was appointed to the [Academic Circle providing advisory support to the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development](#), Professor Surya Deva, on the fulfilment of his mandate from April 2024 – April 2026. We warmly congratulate her on this prestigious appointment.

Allison Lindner and **Steven Vaughan** were appointed to the [Climate Crisis Executive Group](#) of the UCL Grand Challenges theme in April 2024.

In May 2024, **Danae Azaria** was appointed [Chair of the ILA Committee on Submarine Cables and Pipelines in International Law](#), which is a group of 30 experts considering the legal issues surrounding security threats to such critical energy and telecommunications infrastructure at sea.

In the same month, **Philippe Sands** won the [George Barrett Award for Public Interest Law](#), recognising his work on behalf of those without money or power to secure their basic civil

and human rights, to address the legacies of colonialism, and to protect the global environment.

In November 2024, **Anna Saunders** will take up an ongoing position as Lecturer in Law at the Australian National University, where she will teach property law and public international law and continue her research on the environmental dimensions of property in international law.

In 2025, **Steven Vaughan** will take up a position as Dean of the Monash University Faculty of Law.

Student Activities

Our students and teaching are at the heart of the Centre. Our specialist [LLM in Environmental Law and Policy](#) attracted committed and talented students from all over the world in 2023-24. We also have a thriving final-year undergraduate environmental law module.

During the past academic year, the Centre offered a range of activities to students, including an expanding portfolio of clinical education, bespoke sessions on careers, and events on policy and judicial engagement.

In March 2024, **Maria Lee** and **Ruth Chambers**, together with Carolyn Abbott (University of Manchester), organised a session on **Environmental Non-Governmental Organisations, Law and Legal Expertise** for our Laws students, giving them a valuable opportunity to discuss academic substance, policy and practice, and careers in the NGO sector.

Gracia Marín Durán (with her co-author, Iryna Polovets, WTO Secretariat) wrote the case and bench memo for the 22nd edition of the international [John Jackson Moot Court Competition on WTO Law](#), which is a globally-recognised collaborative educational project. The moot case concerns the highly topical issue of carbon taxes and raises innovative and important legal and interpretative questions at the interface of multilateral climate and trade regimes.

Lord Carnwath led a seminar in March 2023 where students had the opportunity to learn about and revise some key cases in Environmental Law, as well as present their learning about these (as part of a group) to him.

Peter Kellett also led a seminar at the Centre with **Lord Carnwath, Ruth Chambers, Eloise Scotford, and Ned Westaway** regarding their professional experiences and insights on various job opportunities in the environment sector to our Laws students.

Jane Holder continues to work as a member of the [UCL Steering Group on Education for Sustainable Development](#), which is taking a comprehensive approach to sustainable education including work on the curriculum, campus operations and community engagement.

Anna Saunders co-convened the Law Teachers' Programme (with Jane Holder and Anna Stelle) for UCL LLM students pursuing careers in legal academia. The Programme includes seminars on environmental education and sustainability, the history and future of the law school as an institution, and practical observations of teaching practice with UCL Laws Faculty members.

Montserrat Madariaga Gómez de Cuenca contributed as an associate lecturer at the Bartlett School of Environment, Energy and Resources on its Environmental Measurement, Assessment and Law module.

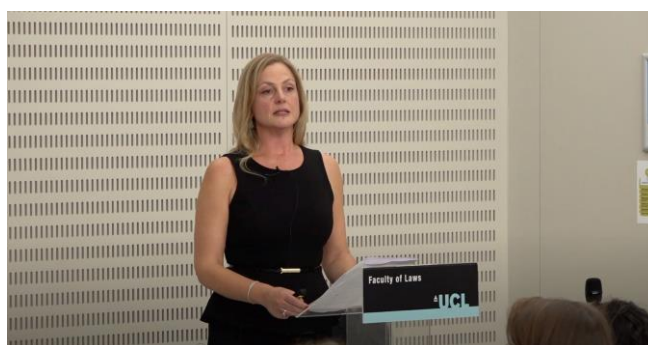
Student Activities: Clinical Legal Education

As part of our growing commitment to clinical legal education, **Pedro Schilling de Carvalho** led the [UCL Laws/ClientEarth Transition Finance Research Clinic](#) from January to June 2024. During the Clinic, undergraduate and graduate students were able to conduct, through a number of targeted research exercises and interactive workshops, a series of analyses of greenwashing (or “transition-washing”) in markets for sustainability-linked and transition-labelled debt finance. Their analysis informed a [policy brief produced by ClientEarth](#) and resulted in a series of upcoming blog posts.

Jane Holder also led our partnership with the [Environmental Law Foundation](#). The ELF/UCL Clinic has been set up allowing the introduction of an environmental legal practice element into the LLB programme and bringing UCL Laws into a national network of ELF clinics located in universities. This provides the opportunity to share expertise and best practice in clinical legal education, as well as identifying patterns of environmental injustice.

Centre Events

We hosted a wide range of wonderful events last academic year at the Centre, in-person and via live-stream. For our ninth **Annual Lecture** in November 2023, **Prof Megan Bowman**, from King’s College London, spoke powerfully on *Regulating for Sustainable Finance*, and the fundamental changes required in the financial sector to support the global transition towards net-zero emissions. Beginning with Julia Black’s unorthodox premise that financial markets and legal institutions are ‘inextricably interwoven’, Megan discussed the climate-related motivations of central banks and financial regulators in the EU and UK and presented new empirical evidence that takes us beyond disclosure regimes into novel and normative realms of regulatory experimentalism, relational ecosystems, and justice imperatives. A recording of the annual lecture is available [here](#).





In October 2023, we hosted an event on **Litigating Climate Change in the Global South**, where Associate Prof Jolene Lin (National University of Singapore) shared the key findings from her [book](#) (co-authored with Jacqueline Peel, University of Melbourne, OUP, 2024) on the topic. She offered an insightful analysis of the emerging and accelerating phenomenon of climate

litigation in Global South countries, including on why, where and how such climate cases are occurring and their impact in making a meaningful contribution to addressing climate change. A key message from her talk is that an appreciation of the Global South's experience with climate litigation goes a long way towards a fuller picture of transnational climate litigation and its contribution towards global climate governance. A recording of this widely attended event is available [here](#).

In addition, the Centre held a number of special events led by individual members. In January 2024, **Pedro Schilling de Carvalho** organised a timely event on [COP28 De-Brief: State-of-Play and Challenges on Climate Finance and Loss & Damage](#). Two panels of experts, including **Jeff Twentyman**, **Montserrat Madariaga Gómez de Cuenca**, and **Gracia Marín Durán** from the Centre, discussed some of the developments from COP-28 such as the historic agreement on the operationalisation of the Loss & Damage fund, the continued progress on discussions regarding the role of Multilateral Development Banks, and the stalemates on issues such as the New Collective Quantified Goal on Finance. That same month, we hosted an inter-disciplinary panel on Dr Rob Amos' latest monograph on [Advancing Agroecology in International Law](#), chaired by **Eloise Scotford** and with PhD researcher **Weronika Chrzanowska** acting as discussant, which offered insights into how agroecology represents an essential model for societal reform.

In February 2024, **Richard Macrory** organised a discussion panel on the [British Office for Environmental Protection \(OPE\) – Views from the Inside](#). Together with his colleague Jamie Sawyer-Merchant, they shared insider's perspective on the origins and work of the OPE, which was created just over two years ago as a new independent environmental watchdog and may serve as a possible model in other jurisdictions. In March 2024, **Allison Lindner** led an **Environmental Law Film Evening**, jointly organised by the CLE and the Transnational Law Institute at King's College London, showing the films of 'Reclaiming Now', produced by Allison and concerning the informal waste economy and sustainable development in South Africa, and 'Sentinels', about a Colombian Supreme Court case on the Rights of Nature, produced by Dr Emily Barritt (King's College London).



In May 2024, CLE members **Maria Lee**, **Lisa Vanhala** and **Sonam Gordhan** joined a panel event organised by the UCL Institute for Human Rights on the much-anticipated [European Court of Human Rights \(ECHR\)'s Climate Change Judgment](#), discussing what the ruling means for the future of climate change litigation and for European environmental policy.

Publication Highlights

Maria Lee, with Professor Carolyn Abbot from the University of Manchester, published an article in the *Journal of Environmental Law* on the ways in which English environmental groups (fail to) shape the public participation provisions of the Aarhus Convention, 'NGOs Shaping Public Participation Through Law: The Aarhus Convention and Legal Mobilisation', available [here](#). She developed this work on public participation in 'Environmental Democracy and Law on Public Participation' in a forthcoming *Edward Elgar Research Handbook on Law and Democracy* edited by Glenn Patmore, available [here](#). And she sets this work on process and democracy against the current trend for quantitative targets in English environmental law in 'Politics and Expertise: New Environmental Targets in English Environmental Law' forthcoming in *A Research Agenda for Environmental Law* edited by Chris Hilson and Josephine van Zeven and available [here](#).

Richard Macrory published an important article on '[Breaking the Mould – Britain's New Office for Environmental Protection](#)' in the *Journal of Environmental Law* (2023).

Gracia Marín Durán and **Joanne Scott** published a timely assessment of the unilateral turn in the EU's global climate action, with the recent adoption of the carbon border adjustment mechanism and the extension of its emissions trading system to emissions from international shipping, from the perspective of the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities. It is available as a working paper [here](#), and forthcoming in K. Armstrong, J. Scott, A. Thies (eds), *EU External Relations and the Power of Law* (Hart Publishing, 2024). Gracia also contributed to an inter-disciplinary special issue on 'Striking a Balance: the European Union's Management of the Environment-Trade Nexus' with an analysis of the new EU Forest Due Diligence Regulation, which is forthcoming in the *Journal of Environmental Policy & Planning* (2024). She also published a chapter on the 'EU's Evolving Approach to Environmental Provisions in Free Trade Agreements' in J.B. Mata Diz, R.A. Wessel (eds), *EU External Relations Law and Sustainability: The EU, Third States and International Organizations* (T.M.C. Asser Press, 2024).

Pedro Schilling de Carvalho published a [book chapter](#) on 'Regulatory Coordination and Diffusion in Digital Financial Services and Sustainable Finance' (Palgrave Macmillan, 2023), which is part of a book organised by the European Banking Institute on 'Digitalisation, Sustainability, and the Banking and Capital Markets Union'. He also published a reflection alongside Professor Bobby Reddy on the impacts to company stakeholders of the *Sequana* case ruled by the UK Supreme Court published by the *Cambridge Law Journal* (available

[here](#)) and an article with Professor Eilís Ferran on ‘Reconciling Shareholder Primacy and the Interests of People and Planet’ (2024).

Eloise Scotford published with Ally Lewis (University of York) and Delphine Misonne (UCL St Louis Brussels) an interdisciplinary piece on ‘[Harnessing Science, Policy and Law to Deliver Clean Air](#)’ in *Science* (July 2024). This piece explores why delivering clean air is increasingly urgent yet ever more difficult to achieve, identifying six key future-looking issues at the interface of science, the law, and policy, each of which shows why air quality governance is a complex, interdependent, and dynamic regulatory space, which needs interdisciplinary attention in diagnosing how air quality regimes might be improved.

Lisa Vanhala published book chapters on ‘The Effectiveness of Climate Change Litigation (with Joana Setzer and Nicola Silbert) in the *Research Handbook on Climate Litigation* (EE, 2024) and ‘Loss and Damage’ for the *Elgar Encyclopedia of Climate Policy* (EE, 2024). She was published an article on ‘Putting the Constructive Ambiguity of Climate change Loss and Damage into Practice: The early work of the UNFCCC WIM ExCom’ for the *Review of European, Comparative & International Environmental Law* (2023) and co-edited a special issue on the ‘The Politics and Governance of Climate Change Loss and Damage’ for *Global Environmental Politics* (2023).

Impact and Engagement

Members of the Centre have engaged in a number of highly impactful research projects and outreach activities.

Ruth Chambers spent much of the year working on the implementation of environmental governance systems across the UK and spoke at several national events on this, including ones hosted by the Northern Ireland Assembly, UKELA, Defra, the Civil Society Alliance and the Environmental Law Foundation. She also spoke about this in a class for LLM students and was a frequent media commentator on environmental governance issues. Her work this year had a special focus on Wales, where she submitted [expert evidence](#) in response to the Welsh Government consultation on environmental principles, governance and biodiversity targets. She was recognised in [The 100](#), a list of influential Women in Westminster, and was included in the 2024 ENDS Report Power List of the 100 UK environmental professionals whose work has made the greatest impact for the [third consecutive year](#).

Montserrat Madariaga Gómez de Cuenca joined Legal Response International in September 2023 as a lawyer, where she provides legal advice to developing countries in the climate negotiations, including COP28 and SB60 at the UNFCCC. In the same month, she also provided [training to negotiators from LDCs and SIDS](#) on climate negotiation in Nepal. She also became a legal advisor to the Chilean delegation to the UNFCCC since September 2024.

Gracia Marín Durán has continued her advisory work for the UK Government as a member of the Trade and Agriculture Commission. She has contributed to the drafting of the advisory report on the [UK’s accession to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-](#)

[Pacific Partnership](#) and its implications for UK environmental and animal welfare legislation (December 2023).

Pedro Schilling de Carvalho continues to work as an expert consultant for the Legal Vice Presidency of the World Bank Group and its client countries, including in relation to topics pertaining to the World Bank's [Evolution Roadmap](#). Aside from contributions regarding the legal recommendations on the [Country Climate and Development Reports](#), Pedro has acted as an expert in the Legal G20 Technical Meeting held in Brazil, where he discussed developments in sustainable finance, as well as in the World Bank/IFC Cairo Conference and as one of the organizers of the World Bank's Law, Justice, and Development (LJD) Week. He also has also co-authored upcoming papers in such a role, which include collaborations with UNDP, UN Women, and IDLO.

Through 2023-24, **Eloise Scotford** has been an invited speaker at multiple global events to launch, disseminate and engage on the UNEP [Guide on Air Quality Legislation](#), which was published in early 2023. She presented on the Guide at events in Bangkok (August 2023 - online), Panama (September 2023 - online), and Manila (November 2023). The Guide is a capacity building publication to assist policymakers and lawyers in countries around the world, which aims to improve public health outcomes through stronger air quality governance. The Guide builds on [research Eloise previously co-led](#) for UNEP assessing air quality laws around the world. Building on her work with UNEP, **Eloise Scotford** was also an invited speaker at the UN Economic and Social Committee for the Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP) [Inception Meetings for the Open-Ended Working Groups on Air Quality Standards and Data](#) (Operationalizing the Regional Action Programme on Air Pollution, 6 September 2023). Eloise will continue to engage with UNESCAP as an invited member of their working groups, aiming to improve legal structures for air quality standards and data in the Asia Pacific region.

Lisa Vanhala was the lead contributing author on the UNEP Adaptation Gap Report 2023 and acted as a consultant on a project on 'Evaluating Climate Change Litigation' to the Children's Invest Fund Foundation.

Allison Lindner was selected alongside **Pedro Schilling de Carvalho** for the [UCL International Policy Fellowship](#). This was an opportunity to engage with the international policy ecosystem in Geneva focused on climate change and environmental governance, [reflected in a blog post written about the experience](#).

Members' Talks

Members of the Centre have had multiple speaking engagements in 2023-24.

Lord Carnwath has spoken at conferences on environmental and climate change law in various parts of the world, including the Commonwealth Law Conference in Sabah in February, the IBA Human Rights Conference in Tokyo in April, and a conference in Singapore on Investor/State Disputes and the Environment.

Maria Lee has spoken about her work with Professor Chiara Armeni on the links between participation and protest at the *Socio-Legal Scholars Association* annual conference and at the Université Libre de Bruxelles' Centre for European law and Institute for Interdisciplinary

Socio-Ecological Transition. She gave a keynote lecture to the Royal Society of Chemistry on 'Environmental Regulation and Tort'.

Allison Lindner had several invited screenings and Q&A talks for her documentary film *Reclaiming Now*, about waste pickers and sustainable development in South Africa. These included events by ADELA (Environmental Law Students Association at McGill Faculty of Law) in October 2023, the Environmental Challenges and Climate Change Cluster at the European University Institute in November 2023, and the School of Law at the University of Warwick in February 2024. Allison also gave invited talks, including 'Legal Perspective on Fast Fashion's ESG Landscape' for the UCL Laws Centre for Access to Justice in March 2024, and spoke on a panel at the Law and Society Association conference in June 2024 on 'Audiovisual Communication in Socio-Legal Research: Experiences, Experimentation and New Modes of Engagement'. Allison chaired a panel on 'Environmental Law Insights from Indigenous Peoples, Black Diasporic Peoples, and People from the Global South' at the Law and Society Association conference. Allison also presented her work as a participant at Harvard Law School's Institute for Global Law and Policy Global Scholars Academy in June 2024.

Richard Macrory spoke on 'Civil Sanctions for Regulatory Offences' at the Department Solicitors Office in Belfast in March 2023. In November 2023, he delivered a presentation titled 'The British Office for Environmental Protection' at the 2023 Annual Conference on Environmental Law, organized by the Irish Centre for European Law in Dublin.



Montserrat Madariaga Gómez de Cuenca was a panellist in a COP28 debrief organized by the Environmental Law and Life Science Society in December 2023. Additionally, she presented and participated in the 2023 TWAIL (Third World Approaches to International Law) Academy.

Gracia Marín Durán spoke on 'Curbing the European Union's Global Deforestation Footprint' at a conference organised by the College of Europe (Bruges) in October 2023. She also delivered a lecture on this topic, jointly with **Joanne Scott**, at the Centre for Transnational Legal Studies (King's College London) in December 2023. Gracia was also invited to discuss the chapter on the EU's carbon border adjustment mechanism in the book published by the EU Commission Legal Service, *70 Years of EU Law – a Union for its Citizens* (2022), at a knowledge exchange event involving academics and EU officials organised by the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law (Heidelberg) in February 2024.

In October 2023, **Anna Saunders** gave a seminar at Warwick Law School on 'After Transfer: Rethorising Technology for the Green Transition', hosted by the Centre for Law, Regulation and Governance of the Global Economy (GLOBE). She was also part of a book response workshop at Copenhagen Law School on Constitutions of Value: Law, Governance and Political Ecology, where she spoke on 'Patents, Ecology, Value'. In May 2024, Anna delivered

a seminar at Edinburgh Law School on ‘Domesticating Environment: Industrial Property and the Loss of the Planetary’ as part of a series on Law, Power, and Political Economy.

Pedro Schilling de Carvalho presented his work in several conferences, including the ECGL ‘Boundaries of Corporations’ Responsibility’ in November 2023, KCL’s ‘Mastering the Challenge of ESG: a Roadmap for SMEs’ in May 2024, and at the SLS’s 3rd Conference on Financial Law and Regulation in June 2024. Pedro was also invited to the Harvard Law School’s Institute for Global Law and Policy 2024 Global Scholars Academy to discuss his upcoming monograph.

Eloise Scotford presented at two major conferences this year on her research and future challenges for the governance of clean air, both globally and in the UK. In November 2023, she presented a keynote presentation at the Better Air Quality conference, at the Asian Development Bank in Manila, on ‘Legislation for Robust and Participatory Air Quality Governance’, as well as giving a supplementary paper on ‘Regional Cooperation and National Clean Air Legislation’. In June 2024, she presented on current and future challenges for governing clean air in the UK in a plenary session of UK Environmental Law Association’s Annual Conference in Manchester.

Steven Vaughan has been on sabbatical this academic year and began with a lecture tour (September and October 2023) in Australia, speaking on his work on lawyer responsibility for climate change at the universities of Sydney and [Melbourne](#) and [Australian National University](#). While in Sydney, he also gave a Judicial Education Seminar on this topic to the judges of the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales, kindly hosted by Chief Judge Brian Preston. In Melbourne, Steven gave a talk on contemporary issues in English planning law for VCAT tribunal members. In November 2023, Steven spoke at an event at Bonavero Institute of Human Rights at Oxford University on climate change litigation, focusing on the ethics of the lawyers who bring climate cases – download the event programme (pdf) [here](#). An associated paper was later published as an [open access report](#) following the event. Steven also took part as a mentor in a [writing workshop](#) organised by the *Journal of Environmental Law* at NUS Law School in Singapore in May 2024. This workshop saw four JEL mentors engaged with a dozen early career environmental law scholars from the Global South to develop a piece of their current writing.

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