



Symposium
hosted by ICEL, UC3M and UVigo

Towards a Legal System in Harmony and Peace with Nature
(Hacia un Sistema Jurídico en Armonía y Paz con la Naturaleza)

Hybrid (in-person in Madrid & via webinar)

18-19 December 2023

Venue: Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, *Campus Puerta de Toledo:*
Salón de Grados (Ronda de Toledo, 1 – 28.005-Madrid)



REGISTRATION: only for **IN-PERSON attendees** (filling this form: [here](#)) before Dec. 15 at 18.00 CET).

The event will be streamed live on the UC3M YouTube channel, being possible to **attend ONLINE** using the links that allow participation via chat **without previous registration** (December 18th: [here](#) & 19th: [here](#)).

PARTNERS: Global Judicial Institute on the Environment – United Nations Environment Programme – World Commission on Environmental Law – World Jurist Association.



Agenda

December 18, Monday
TRANSFORMATIVE CAPACITY OF LAW

Morning

■ **8:50 am CET** – Participants assemble at UC3M's Puerta de Toledo Campus (*Salón de Grados*).

■ **9:00 am CET – OPENING SESSION: WELCOMING REMARKS**

➤ Chaired by **Prof. Rosa Rodríguez**, *Dean of the School of Law and Social Sciences and Full of Finance, UC3M*.

• **Justice Antonio H. Benjamin**, *Chancellor of ICEL; President of the Global Judicial Institute on the Environment; Chair Emeritus of the World Commission on Environmental Law; Justice of the National High Court of Brazil – STJ (online)*.

• **Ms. Encarnación Roca Trías**, *Vice-President Emeritus of the Spanish Constitutional Court; Partner at Cremades & Calvo-Sotelo Abogados*.

• **Prof. Christina Voigt**, *Chair of the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law; Co-chair of the Paris Agreement Implementation and Compliance Committee; Full Professor of Public international law, University of Oslo, Norway (online)*.

• **Prof. Montserrat Abad Castelos**, *Full Professor of Public International Law at UC3M; Co-director of the ICEL's International Secretariat; Co-Principal investigator of the Project Making Peace with Nature and Making Nature a Key for Peace [Pax:Natura, Part I] & Prof. Laura Carballo Piñeiro*, *Dean of the Faculty of International Relations and Full Professor of Private International Law at University of Vigo, Spain; Co-Principal investigator of the Project Making Justice to Make Peace with Nature: The Judicialization and other Forms of Jurisdictional and Institutional Protection of Nature [Pax:Natura, Part II]*.

■ **9:30 am CET – PANEL I: STRENGTHENING ENVIRONMENTAL RULE OF LAW**

➤ **Moderated discussion** – Chaired by **Prof. Angel Manuel Moreno Molina**, *Full Professor of Administrative Law, UC3M*.

➤ **Topics / speakers:**

• *Updates to the UNEP Environmental Rule of Law report – roles for civil society, public interest lawyers, and courts*, **Prof. Patricia Kameri-Mbote**, *UNEP, Director, Law Division; Full Professor, School of Law, University of Nairobi, Kenya (online)*.

• *Rule of Law as a Pre-requisite for Peace*, **Mr. Diego Solana**, *International Advisor of the World Law Foundation; Partner at Cremades & Calvo-Sotelo Abogados, Spain*.

• *Rule of Law and Environmental Rights*, **Mr. Antonio Lucio**, *Head of Governance, CONAMA (Comisión Nacional del Medio Ambiente), Spain*.

• *Prevention and Precaution as Legal Principles*, **Dr. Triantafyllos Gkouvas**, *Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Legal Philosophy, UC3M*.

■ **10:30 – 11:00 am CET: COFFEE BREAK**

■ **11:00 am CET – PANEL II: BETTER ENVIRONMENTAL FRAMEWORKS AND CONCEPTUAL INNOVATIONS IN ECOLOGICAL LAW**

➤ **Moderated discussion** – Chaired by **Prof. Carlos Moreiro**, Director of the Master on European Union Studies and Full Professor of Public international law, UC3M.

➤ **Topics / speakers:**

- *Rights of Nature & Harmony with Nature*, **Dr. Digno Montalván**, Post-doctoral Researcher UC3M.
- *Implementing Biodiversity Targets for 2030: Legal Steps in the European Union's Framework*, **Prof. Juan-Cruz Allí Turrillas**, Full Professor of Administrative Law at UNED, Spain.
- *Indigenous visions on nature/law: Mother Earth and Interdependency*, **Dr. Lieselotte Viaene**, Senior Lecturer, UC3M; Principal Investigator ERC research project RIVERS.
- *Laws for Implementing Protection of the Oceans in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ)*, **Dr. Otto Spijkers**, Assistant Professor at Erasmus University Rotterdam School of Law; Lecturer of International and European Law at Leiden University College, Faculty of Governance and Global Affairs, Leiden University, The Netherlands (*online*).

■ **12:00 pm CET – MUSICAL PIECE:** *Tempest of Climate*, played and conducted by **Maestro Chiya Amos**, Permanent Conductor and Advisor of the Hirodai Symphony Orchestra, Research Fellow (Sustainability Science) at Hiroshima University, Japan; ICEL Representative for Music & Culture for the Environment (*online*).

Opening remarks by **Prof. Koh Kheng Lian**, Emeritus Professor Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore; Member of the ICEL Board of Governors; Former Director of APCEL (*online*).

■ **12:20 pm CET – PANEL III: EXPANDING LEGAL FRAMEWORKS AND POLICIES AROUND NATURE, SECURITY, CONFLICTS AND PEACE**

➤ **Moderated discussion** – Chaired by **Dr. Andrés De Castro**, Deputy Director of the Gutiérrez Mellado Institute; Coordinator of the Master on Peace, Security and Defense Challenges; Senior Lecturer of Political Science, UNED.

➤ **Topics / speakers:**

- *ILC Principles on protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts (PERAC)*, **Prof. Concepción Escobar Hernández**, Full Professor of Public International Law, UNED; Director of the Center of Studies of IHL, Spanish Red Cross; Former member and Special Rapporteur of the UN International Law Commission; Former Head of the International Law Department of the Spanish MFA.
- *Protected Areas*, **Prof. Joaquín Alcaide Fernández**, Full Professor of Public international law, University of Sevilla, Spain; Director of the *Revista Española de Derecho Internacional*; Co-Principal Inv. of the Project *Making Peace with Nature and Making Nature a Key for Peace* [PaxNature, Part I].
- *Ecocide – Crimes against Nature*, **Dr. Thomas Obel Hansen**, Maria Zambrano Distinguished Researcher, UC3M / Associate Professor in International Law at Ulster University's Transitional Justice Institute, UK (on leave).
- *Climate change and NATO's strategic concept of Cooperative Security*, **Dr. Alvaro Jarillo Aldeanueva**, Senior Lecturer of Public international law, UNED, Spain.

■ **13:20 pm CET: LUNCH** served at the building's main restaurant: **"La Cantina"** (speakers & attendees invited)

■ 14:30 pm CET – PANEL IV: ADDRESSING ENVIRONMENTAL REFUGEES' NEEDS: MAIN LEGAL CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES AHEAD

➤ **Moderated discussion** – Chaired by **Dr. Carmen Pérez González**, Vice-Dean for International Relations, Faculty of Social and Legal Sciences, UC3M; Associate Professor of Public International Law at UC3M (accred. as Full Professor); UNESCO Chair “Education Linkage through International Sports” (ELIS).

➤ **Topics / speakers:**

• *Climate change and non-refoulement*, **Dr. Susana Borrás Pentinat**, Associate Professor of International public law and International Relations; Coordinator of the PhD Programme in Law Research Group “Territory, Citizenship and Sustainability” /CEDAT Institute for Research in Sustainability, Climate Change and Energy Transition (IU-RESCAT), Rovira i Virgili University, Tarragona, Spain.

• *Environmental degradation and displacements in Latin America: towards a new customary rule?*, **Dr. Justo Corti Varela**, Associate Professor of Public international Law, UNED; Principal Investigator–Jean Monnet Action on European Climate Change Law, Spain.

• *Climate refugees and humanitarian action*, **Mr. Gonzalo Sánchez-Terán**, Deputy Director of Humanitarian Programmes of the Center for Humanitarian Cooperation, Fordham University, New York, USA.

• *The EU response to the displacements from Sabel*, **Dr. Gloria Fernández Arribas**, Associate Professor of Public International Law, Universidad Pablo Olavide; Principal Investigator–*Proyecto FEDER Climate Change and Displacements in the Sabel*, Junta de Andalucía, Spain.

• *Women and Girls in International and Internal Displacement caused by Environmental Degradation: Some Challenges and Responses at the UN level*, **Dr. Ruth Abril Stoffels**, Associate Professor of Public International Law and Director of the Equality Unit, Universidad CEU Cardenal Herrera, Valencia, Spain.

• *Artificial Intelligence and Refugee Law: Exploring the Benefits and Risks of AI in the Face of Climate Change and Environmental Damage*, **Mr. Javier Jaramillo**, Trustee of the World Law Foundation, Lawyer and Manager at Pro-Corp.

■ 15:50 pm CET – VIEWS FROM SENIOR ICEL LEADERS & ASSOCIATES ON THE TRANSFORMATIVE CAPACITY OF LAW

➤ **Presented by Dr. Ana Martín Beringola**, PhD Ulster University, UK; Lecturer in Law, UNIR, Spain.

➤ **Speakers:**

• *Environmental Rule of Law*, **Prof. Eckard Rehbinder**, Emeritus Professor, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, Germany; Member of the ICEL Board of Governors.

• *The UNGA Right to the Environment and National Constitutional rights to the environment*, **Dr. Victor Tafur**, Adjunct Professor at Pace University, NY, USA; Chief Administrative Officer; ICEL's Representative before the United Nations (online).

■ 16:15 pm CET – CLOSURE

December 19, Tuesday

**THE ROLE OF JURISDICTIONAL AND
QUASI-JURISDICTIONAL MECHANISMS IN PROTECTING
NATURE**

Morning

■ 9:00am CET – PANEL I: SHAPING RESPONSES TO CLIMATE CHANGE

➤ **Moderated discussion** – Chaired by **Dr. Alberto Iglesias**, Senior Lecturer of Public international law and International Relation at CUNEF, Sustainability and Public Law Department.

➤ **Topics / speakers:**

- *Vulnerability and adaptation: An approach from Administrative Law*, **Dr. Isabel Hernández San Juan**, Senior Lecturer of Administrative Law, UC3M.
- *Multisensorialidad del paisaje y defensa cruzada de bienes jurídicos protegidos*, **Prof. Roberto Orlando Bustillo Bolado**, Full Professor of Administrative Law, University of Vigo.
- *Spanish Courts and Environmental Crimes in Antarctica*, **Dr. Marta Sobrido Prieto**, Associate Professor of Public international law, University of A Coruña.
- *Eficiencia y cohesión en el ecosistema urbano: impacto en la salud psicosocial*, **Ms. Paula Gamallo Carballide**, Pre-doctoral student funded by the Xunta de Galicia, University of Vigo.

■ 9:50 am CET – PANEL II: FIGHTING FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

➤ **Moderated discussion** – Chaired by **Ms. Ana Barreira**, founder and Director General of the International Institute of Law and Environment, Spain.

➤ **Topics / speakers:**

- *Strategic litigation before international tribunals: Approach definition & meaning*, **Ms. Claudia Pérez Zapico**, Doctoral Researcher in Public International Law, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM).
- *Admissibility conditions of climate claims in the field of regional and universal systems of human rights protection*, **Dr. Enrique J. Martínez Pérez**, Associate Professor of Public International Law, University of Valladolid, Spain.
- *The UN International Court of Justice Advisory Opinion on Climate Change: where are we?*, **Dr. Laura Movilla Pateiro**, Phd Senior Lecturer of Public International law, UVigo, Spain.
- *The role of non-(strictly) state interventions before the ICJ in the advisory opinion on States' climate change obligations*, **Prof. Francesco Sindico**, Full Professor of International Environmental Law, Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance, UK; Director of the Climate Change Legal Initiative (C2LI); Co-Chair of the IUCN WCEL Climate Change Law Specialist Group.
- *ICJ Advisory Opinions: Use and implementation, limitations and challenges*, **Mr. Edgardo Sobenes**, Adv. LL.M., Msc, International lawyer.

■ 11:00 – 11:20 am CET: COFFEE BREAK

■ **11:20 am CET – PANEL III: CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE DEVELOPMENTS**

➤ **Moderated discussion** – Chaired by **Dr. David Ramos Muñoz**, Co-Director of the Master on International Advocacy and Associate Professor of Trade law, UC3M.

➤ **Topics / speakers:**

- *Environmental Measures for Environmental Supply Chain Management*, **Dr. Chiara Marullo**, Phd Lecturer of Private international law, University Jaume I, Spain; Deputy Coord. of REDHEXATA.
- *Some Reflections on the Civil Liability Provision of the EU Directive on Due Diligence. Any Improvement (Expected) for Climate Change Litigation and nature Protection?*, **Dr. Laura García Álvarez**, Senior Lecturer of Private international Law, University of Pablo de Olavide, Spain.
- *Environmental clauses in international investment treaties*, **Prof. Carmen Otero García-Castrillón**, Full Professor of Private international law, Universidad Complutense de Madrid (UCM), Spain.
- *Environmental corporate responsibility: Practices in the Aviation industry*, **Dr. Teresa Parejo**, Director of Sustainability, Iberia.

■ **12:15 pm CET – VIEWS FROM SENIOR ICEL LEADERS ON THE ROLE OF JURISDICTIONAL AND QUASI JURISDICTIONAL MECHANISMS IN PROTECTING NATURE**

➤ Presented by **Ms. María Corres Illera**, Adjunct Professor of Public international law (UC3M).

➤ **Speakers:**

- *“Planetary judges” and the protection of nature*, **Justice Antonio H. Benjamin**, Chancellor of ICEL; President of the Global Judicial Institute on the Environment; Chair Emeritus of the World Commission on Environmental Law; Justice of the National High Court of Brazil – STJ (online).
- *Reflections on the follow up to the 2021 German Constitutional Court’s climate ruling on intra- and inter-generational equity*, **Mr. Reinhard Krapp**, Minister and Diplomat -retired- Germany; Attorney-at-Law; Member of the ICEL Board of Governors (online).

■ **12:45 am CET – RAPPORTEURSHIP OF THE SYMPOSIUM’S MAJOR THEMES**

➤ **Speakers:** **Prof. Montserrat Abad Castelos** and **Prof. Laura Carballo Piñeiro**.

➤ **Topics:**

- *Legal Conceptual Developments – the transformative power of law to protect nature and sustain human civilization.*
- *Leadership from civil society, companies, courts, and lawyers in transformative steps to protect nature.*

■ **13:00 pm CET – ICEL AWARD CEREMONY – HONORING KEY INDIVIDUALS / ENTREGA DE PREMIO POR ICEL – TRIBUTO A PERSONAS CLAVE**

➤ **Persona homenajead / Honored Person:** **Prof. Dr. Luciano Parejo**, *Catedrático Emérito de Derecho Administrativo de la UC3M / Emeritus Professor of Administrative Law, UC3M.*

➤ Presentado por/presented by **Dr. Antonio Descalzo**, Director del Instituto Pascual Madoz, UC3M, Profesor titular de Derecho Administrativo / Director of the Pascual Madoz Institute, UC3M, Associate Professor of Administrative Law, UC3M.

- *Discursos de apertura / Opening Keynotes:* **Justice Antonio H. Benjamin (online) & Prof. Nicholas A. Robinson**, *Executive President of ICEL; Chair Emeritus of the WCEL; Emeritus Professor at the University of Pace, NY, USA (online).*
- *Semblanza del prof. Luciano Parejo y su contribución al Derecho Ambiental / Portrait of Prof. Luciano Parejo and of his contribution to Environmental law*, **Prof. Angel Manuel Moreno Molina**, Full Professor of Administrative Law, UC3M.
- *Discurso de Aceptación/ Acceptance Speech:* **Prof. Luciano Parejo.**

■ **14:00 am CET – CLOSING REMARKS:** **Justice Antonio H. Benjamin & Prof. Nicholas A. Robinson.**

Overview and Organizers



International Council of Environmental Law



This International Symposium is jointly organized by the *International Council of Environmental Law* (ICEL), the *Universidad Carlos III de Madrid* (UC3M) and the *University of Vigo* (UVigo). This event convenes policy makers, academics, legal practitioners and civil society leaders in the framework of the *PaxNatura* Research Project, funded by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation (Ref.: PID2022-1424842022).

The *PaxNatura* Project (*Nature, Conflict and Cooperation: The Transformative Power of Law over Actors, Spaces, Resources, Behaviors and Harm*) is composed of two parts: *Peace with Nature and Making Nature a Key for Peace* (P1) and *Making Justice to Make Peace with Nature: The Judicialization and other Forms of Jurisdictional and Institutional Protection of Nature* (P2). On the one hand, P1 is of a general and comprehensive character, constituting a capable framework to cover practically any kind of legal initiative for protection in nature-related matters, following an approach that is primarily top-down; while on the other hand, P2 focuses on more specific aspects, although it is also broad in scope, following a prevailing bottom-up approach. Along with these features, P1 is characterized by focusing mainly on peace, while the second does so on justice. The interdependence between both is evident, since there can be no peace without justice and no justice without peace. The simultaneous consideration of both centers of gravity, peace, and justice, for the protection of nature and the achievement of sustainable development is crucial. The valuable alliance with ICEL as well as with other relevant entities has been envisaged to better fulfill such aims.



Within the UC3M, this symposium is supported by the *Decanato* of the School of Law and Social Sciences (*Convocatoria 2023 de ayudas para la organización de congresos y reuniones científicas*); the Vice-Rectorate for Research and Transfer (*idem*); the Department of International Law, Ecclesiastical Law and Philosophy of Law; the Pascual Madoz Institute; and the Francisco de Vitoria Institute.

■ *Scientific Committee*: Prof. Nicolas Robinson (President); Justice Antonio H. Benjamin; Prof. Koh Kheng Lian; Mr. Reinhard Krapp; Prof. Patricia Kameri-Mbote; Prof. Eckard Rehbinder; Prof. Christina Voigt.

■ *Organizing Committee*: Prof. Montserrat Abad Castelos, Prof. Joaquín Alcaide Fernández and Prof. Laura Carballo Piñeiro (Dir.). Prof. Juan-Cruz Allí, Dr. Susana Borrás Pentinat, Dr. Thomas Obel Hansen, Dr. Marta Sobrido Prieto and Dr. Lieselotte Viaene (Pax Natura I Academic Coord.); Dr. María Antonia Arias Martínez, Prof. Roberto O. Bustillo Bolado, Dr. Laura García Álvarez, Prof. Miguel A. Michinel Álvarez, Dr. Laura Movilla Pateiro, and Dr. Rafael Velázquez (Pax Natura II Academic Coord.). Dr. Antonio Descalzo (ICEL Award Ceremony Academic Coord.).

Dr. Teresa Parejo (Enterprise Coordinator). Dr. Victor Tafur (Chief Administration Officer). Dr. Isabel Hernández San Juan (Social Networks Coordinator). Ms. Esther Torrecilla (Administrative Officer). Mr. Xoan Molares (ICEL Website Manager).

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Partners & Supporting Entities

■ **Partners:** Global Judicial Institute on the Environment (GJIE) – IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (IUCN-WCEL) – United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) – World Jurist Association (WJA).



■ **Supporting Universities:** University of A Coruña – UNED – University Pablo Olavide – Universiti Rovira I Virgili – University of Sevilla.



■ **Supporting external entities:** Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation, Spanish *Agencia Estatal de Investigación* and EU Regional Development Fund in the framework of PaxNatura Project.

