



Sant'Anna  
School of Advanced Studies – Pisa



British Institute of  
International and  
Comparative Law



# International Workshop

## The Role of Science in Climate Change Litigation

Integrated in the Seasonal School on Climate Change and International Law: Interdisciplinary Perspectives, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies (SSSA), Pisa

Online Event  
14-15 July 2021

14.00 - 18.30 (CET)  
13.00 - 17.30 (GMT +1)



#ALL4 ITALY  
2021  
CLIMATE

Six years after the adoption of the Paris Agreement, and amidst new challenges posed by the Covid crisis, States' responses to climate change are still insufficient to keep the rise of global temperatures within acceptable and negotiated limits. Climate change litigation is rapidly spreading, with more than 1600 cases filed so far around the globe. Climate science often plays a crucial role in these legal cases, providing support evidence and helping to address issues such as 'attribution' and 'risk assessment'.

This Workshop aims to examine the current, and potential future role of science in climate litigation from two perspectives: that of climate scientists on the one hand, and that of legal experts and practitioners on the other. Such an interdisciplinary dialogue will contribute to improving participants' understanding of how science can help overcome current obstacles in climate change litigation, and how it can help courts to clarify existing legal obligations of States and private actors to prevent or respond to climate change.

### Convenors:

Christine Bakker (SSSA, BIICL), Roberto Buizza (SSSA, 3CSA)  
Ivano Alogna (BIICL), Jean-Pierre Gauci (BIICL)



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## THE ROLE OF SCIENCE IN CLIMATE CHANGE LITIGATION

Pisa, Italy, 14 & 15 July 2021

14.00 – 18.30 (CET, Pisa) / 13.00 – 17.30 (GMT+1, London)

### PROGRAMME

*Please note: hereafter time indicated in CET, Pisa*

#### DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 14 JULY

14.00 – 14.15 WELCOME ADDRESS

**Sabina Nuti**, Rector, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies (SSSA), Pisa, and **Spyros Maniatis**, Director BIICL, London, United Kingdom (UK)

14.15 – 14.25 SEASONAL SCHOOL ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND INTERNATIONAL LAW: INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES

**Francesca Capone** Assistant Professor of International Law, SSSA

14.25 – 14.35 THE COP 26 UNIVERSITY NETWORK UK

**Alyssa Gilbert**, Director of Policy and Translation, The Grantham Institute for Climate Change, Imperial College, London, UK

14.35 – 14.50 INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

**Roberto Buizza**, Professor of Physics, SSSA, and Director, Center for Climate Change studies and Sustainable Actions (3CSA) and **Christine Bakker**, Visiting Lecturer, SSSA, and Visiting Research Fellow, BIICL

14.50 – 15.00 CLIMATE CHANGE LITIGATION AND SCIENCE: SETTING THE SCENE

**Jean-Pierre Gauci**, Arthur Watts Senior Research Fellow in Public International Law, BIICL, and **Ivano Alogna**, Arthur Watts Research Fellow in Environmental and Climate Change Law, BIICL

15.00 – 16.00 **FIRST PANEL: PERSPECTIVES FROM CLIMATE SCIENCE**

*CHAIR: Christina Voigt*, Professor of Law, University of Oslo, Norway, and Steering Committee Member of the IUCN-WCEL

Climate Science: Where do we stand today?

**Filippo Giorgi**, Director, Earth System Physics Section, International Center for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy

The integration of climate science in national and international climate policies

**Martin Siegert**, Co-Director of the Grantham Institute – Climate change and Environment, Imperial College, London, UK

Attribution of climate change-related harm to individual States or private companies

**Myles Allen**, Professor of geosystem science, Oxford University, UK

16.00 – 16.30 Discussion

16.30 – 17.00 Coffee break



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**(Day 1 – Continued)**

**17.00 – 18.00 SECOND PANEL: PERSPECTIVES FROM LAW: CROSSCUTTING ISSUES**

*CHAIR: **Mario Martina**, Professor of Hydrology and Risk Management, Scuola Superiore IUSS Pavia; 3CSA*

Main trends in the use of science in climate change litigation – General insights

***Joana Setzer**, Professorial Research Assistant, Grantham Institute for Climate change, London School of Economics, UK*

The use of science in human rights-based climate change litigation

***Annalisa Savaresi**, Associate Professor in International Environmental Law at the University of Eastern Finland and Senior Lecturer in Environmental Law, University of Stirling, UK*

The impact of science on corporate due diligence related to climate change

***Jason Reeves**, Managing Partner, Zelle LLP, London, UK, and **Deepa Sutherland**, Senior Associate, Zelle LLP, London, UK*

*18.00 – 18.30 Discussion*

**DAY 2: THURSDAY 15 JULY**

**14.00 – 15.00 THIRD PANEL: THE ROLE OF SCIENCE IN NATIONAL CLIMATE LITIGATION**

*Chair: **Sarah Mead**, Legal Associate, Climate Litigation Network, and Climate Litigation Project Co-Coordinator, WCEL Climate Change Specialist Group, IUCN*

The role of science in climate change litigation in the Global South

***Jolene Lin**, Associate Professor at the National University of Singapore's Faculty of Law, Singapore*

The role of science in determining the adequacy of States' mitigation efforts: Lessons from the Dutch *Urgenda Case*

***Dennis van Berkel**, Legal Counsel to the Urgenda Foundation and Director of the Climate Litigation Network*

The role of science in climate change litigation in the United States

***Daniel Metzger**, Climate Law Fellow, Sabin Center for Climate Change Law, Columbia University, New York, USA*

*15.00 – 15.30 Discussion*

*15.30 – 16.00 Coffee break*



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**(DAY 2 – Continued)**

**16.00 – 17.00    *FOURTH PANEL: THE ROLE OF SCIENCE IN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE LITIGATION***

*CHAIR: Antonio Navarra, Director, Centro Euro-Mediterraneo sui Cambiamenti Climatici (CMCC), Bologna, Italy; Professor, Meteorology and Climatology, University of Bologna*

The role of science in environmental cases before the International Court of Justice

*Sandrine Maljean-Dubois, Senior Researcher at the Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), Professor of international and environmental law, Aix-Marseille University (France)*

The role of science in climate change cases before European courts

*Marc Willers QC, Garden Court Chambers, London, UK*

The role of science in climate-related cases before the UN Human Rights Committee and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights

*Monica Feria-Tinta, Barrister, Twenty Essex, London, UK*

*17.00 – 17.30 Discussion*

**17.30 – 18.30    *CONCLUDING DISCUSSION: THE EVOLVING ROLE OF SCIENCE IN CLIMATE CHANGE LITIGATION***

*CHAIR: Roberto Buizza*

*PANELISTS: Christina Voigt, Mario Martina, Sarah Mead, and Antonio Navarra,*

*CLIMATE CHANGE LITIGATION AND SCIENCE: CONNECTING THE DOTS (FINAL REMARKS):*

*Ivano Alogna, Christine Bakker and Jean-Pierre Gauci*