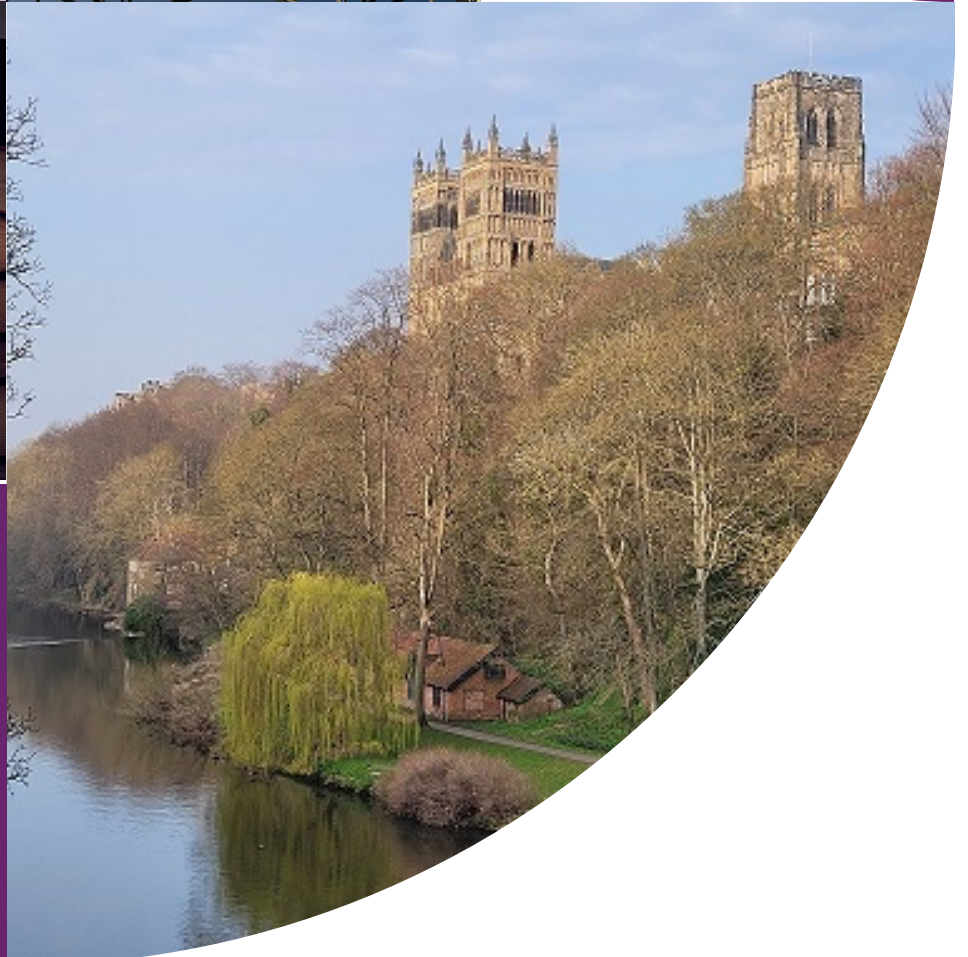
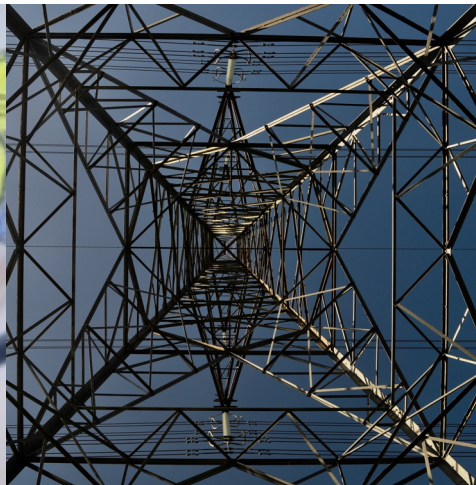


# Global Environmental Law in Dialogue with the Judiciary: Insights from Courts around the World



# Global Environmental Law in Dialogue with the Judiciary: Insights from Courts around the World

The Centre for Sustainable Development Law and Policy (CSDLP) at Durham University Law School and the Global Policy Institute are delighted to offer this free lecture series.

2022 is the year of anniversaries of various significant international declarations and multilateral environmental agreements. These declarations and agreements address environmental issues at the global level and set forth fundamental principles and legally binding obligations of states.

These anniversaries include:

- the Stockholm Declaration on the Human Environment of 1972
- the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development of 1992
- the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change of 1992
- the Convention on Biological Diversity of 1992
- and the Law of the Sea Convention of 1982.

The aim of the series is to:

- explore issues that are addressed in these declarations and agreements
- understand the developments that have taken place since these instruments were adopted
- and to examine the role they have played in judicial decision-making around the world.

In a series of lectures, judges from around the world offer insights into the normative framework of Global Environmental Law from a variety of perspectives and jurisdictions.

This lecture series has been developed by Justice Brian Preston (Visiting Professor) and Professor Petra Minnerop (Professor of International Law).

Some lectures will be hybrid and others will be online only. In person events will be followed by a drinks reception.

**Early registration is recommended.**

## Terms and Conditions

The Durham Global Environmental Law Lecture Series is available to students of any discipline and to professionals.

**The Lecture Series is free to attend. [Register online to attend the lecture series.](#)**

A fee is applicable to those who wish to obtain the Durham Global Environmental Law Certificate of Attendance.

Participants who attend every lecture will be eligible for a Durham Global Environmental Law Certificate of Attendance. Fees for the certificate are detailed below.

### **Certificate of attendance: University students**

The fee for the Durham Global Environmental Law Certificate of Attendance is £150 for students. You must attend all sessions to be eligible for the certificate. Register online to attend the lecture series and obtain the Durham Global Environmental Law Certificate of Attendance.

### **Certificate of attendance: Non-students**

The fee for the Durham Global Environmental Law Certificate of Attendance is £300 for non-students. You must attend all sessions to be eligible for the certificate. Register online to attend the lecture series and obtain the Durham Global Environmental Law Certificate of Attendance.

### **Register for the Durham Global Environmental Law Certificate of Attendance**

A non-refundable deposit of £30 is required to confirm registration for the lecture series and the Durham Global Environmental Law Certificate of Attendance. The deposit is non-refundable and will be applied towards tuition.

## **Cancellation**

Written cancellation received 4 weeks prior to the course will be fully refunded. A 50% refund will be offered for cancellations between 1 and 4 weeks prior to the course.

Cancellations after that time will not be refunded, however, reading materials and access to webcasts will be provided if available.

## **Contact details**

For academic enquiries, please contact: Professor Petra Minnerop at [Petra.Minnerop@durham.ac.uk](mailto:Petra.Minnerop@durham.ac.uk)

For administrative enquiries, please contact: Jessica Banks at [law.researchofficer@durham.ac.uk](mailto:law.researchofficer@durham.ac.uk)



## Centre for Sustainable Development Law and Policy

The Centre for Sustainable Development Law and Policy was founded in spring 2022. It aims at advancing sustainable development through research across intersecting thematic areas. The Sustainable Development Goals serve as cross-cutting themes in our research projects, policy work, collaborative initiatives and convenorships, including education and training, gender, health, and wellbeing.

Our work includes projects on climate change, environmental degradation and biodiversity loss, and the role of international and national law in governing risks and addressing vulnerabilities.

In addition to our own research in the Law School, the CSDLP aims to function as a “hub” through which we seek to integrate university-wide and solution-orientated work into international legal frameworks, in particular the UNFCCC. The University has strengthened its ties with the UNFCCC in 2021 when it was awarded formal observer status. This creates new opportunities and responsibilities in working with the international climate change regime.

[durham.ac.uk/departments/academic/law](https://durham.ac.uk/departments/academic/law)

@DurhamCSDLP @DurhamLawSchool



## Global Policy Institute

The Global Policy Institute at Durham University aims to establish international leadership in the field of global challenges and transborder problems, as well as the study of multilateral political and legal governance structures.

The Institute’s objective is to ensure that Durham University emerges as an important intellectual centre for the academic study, research, and policy developments in the field of international and global collective action problems, and how these are governed. Since globalisation has put many of these issues at the heart of politics and policy-making, Durham would potentially be centre-stage in research and policy issues with global reach.

[durham.ac.uk/gpi](https://durham.ac.uk/gpi)

@gpi\_durham / @DurhamLawSchool / @Durham\_SGIA

# PROGRAMME

## 2022

\* 3 October 2022 | 2pm (hybrid)

Introductory session

[Online registration](#)

3 October 2022 | 4pm UK time (hybrid)

Professor Dr Andreas Paulus

Former Judge of the German Federal Constitutional Court, Professor of Public and International Law, University of Göttingen

*Climate Change before National Courts: the Example of the German Federal Constitutional Court*

[Online registration](#)

13 October 2022 | 4pm UK time | 5pm Kigali (online)

Dr Emmanuel Ugirashebuja

Former President of the East African Court of Justice, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of the Republic of Rwanda

*The Role of Regional Courts in Resolving Environmental Law Disputes: Are They Effective?*

[Online registration](#)

25 October 2022 | 4pm UK time | 5pm Port Elizabeth (online)

Justice Nambitha Dambuza

Supreme Court of Appeal of South Africa

*Respect for the Environment in Indigenous Cultures: Learnings for Development of Environmental Law*

[Online registration](#)

25 November 2022 | 12.30pm UK time | 6pm Delhi (online)

Justice Hima Kohli

Supreme Court of India

*The Role of the Indian Judiciary in the Development of Environmental Jurisprudence*

[Online registration](#)

15 December 2022 | 8.30am UK time | 14 December 10.30pm Hawaii (online)

Justice Michael Wilson

Supreme Court of Hawaii

*Application of the Environmental Rule of Law in the Times of Emergency*

[Online registration](#)

\* 15 December 2022 | 11am (hybrid)

Closing session

[Online registration](#)

## 2023

\* 26th January 2023 | 9am (hybrid)

Introductory session

[Online registration](#)

26 January 2023 | 10am UK time | 5pm Thailand (hybrid)

Justice Suntariya Muanpawong

Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Thailand

*Overlapping Tensions among Environmental, Administrative, Criminal and Civil Law in Thailand*

[Online registration](#)

10 February 2023 | 11am UK time | 4.45pm Kathmandu (online)

Justice Sapana Pradhan Malla

Supreme Court of Nepal

*The Influence of Global Environmental Law on Nepalese Environmental Law and Jurisprudence*

[Online registration](#)

## PROGRAMME (CONTINUED)

**17 February 2023 | 4pm UK time (hybrid)**

Justice Brian Preston

Chief Judge of the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales

Globalisation and Harmonisation of Environmental Law

**Online registration**

**24 March 2023 | 1pm UK time | 9am Barbados (online)**

Justice Michelle Weekes

Supreme Court of Barbados

Environmental Problems in the Caribbean: A Judicial Perspective

**Online registration**

**28 March 2023 | 4pm UK time (hybrid)**

Professor Antonio Benjamin

National High Court of Brazil

Judges and Biodiversity

**Online registration**

**\* 29th March 2023 | 1pm | (hybrid)**

Closing session

**Online registration**

**April or May (hybrid)**

Justice Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Rüdiger Wolfrum (tbc)

Former Judge and President ITLOS (International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea) and former Director of

Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law

**To note: Those indicated with an asterisk (\*) are compulsory sessions for those obtaining the Durham Global Environmental Law Certificate**



## SPEAKER INFORMATION (in alphabetical order)

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### Justice Sapana Pradhan Malla

Justice Sapana Pradhan Malla has been a Judge of the Supreme Court of Nepal since August 2016. She is a former member of the Nepalese Constituent Assembly and also former member of the UN Committee Against Torture. As a lawyer, she is a well-known figure in Nepal due to her work to advance women's rights and increase inclusive language in the country's constitution. As a practicing lawyer (Senior Advocate) before the Supreme Court of Nepal, Ms. Malla has contributed extensively as a Public Interest Lawyer for raising voice in a number of cases on a range of issues, from the environment (water pollution, Godavari Marble Case, Pesticide Case) to Civil Rights (right to inheritance, ensuring reproductive health right, criminalizing marital rape, witness protection, maintaining confidentiality, etc). She has an LLB from Tribhuvan Universities Nepal, Master in Comparative Law (MCL) from Delhi University, India and Mid Career Master in Public Administration (MC/MPA) from Harvard University, USA. She is also Member of IUCN WCEL and at present founding Secretary General of Global Judicial Institute on the Environment (GJIE). Also a President of South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Law Nepal Chapter.



### Justice Suntariya Muanpawong

Justice Suntariya Muanpawong is the Vice Chief Justice of the Court of Justice Region 5 of Thailand. She was previously the Secretary of the Environmental Law Division and Vice Secretary of the Supreme Court and Secretary of the Appeal Court Region 1. Justice Muanpawong received Bachelor and Master of Law from Thammasat University, Barrister at Law from Thai Bar Institute and Master and Doctorate Degree in public environmental law from Muenster University, Germany. Before becoming a judge, she was a lawyer, a teacher in a Southeast Asian refugee camp and a legal officer in the Harbor Department. Justice Suntariya was the first supervisor of the Judicial Research Institute, where she played a significant role in developing the accountability and responsiveness of the judiciary. She attended various human rights programs held by international institutions. She has been a proponent of people-oriented justice reform and has conducted many research projects on justice reform, child rights protection, gender justice, prisoner rights and environmental jurisprudence. She has been appointed to be a commissioner in the environmental legislation process. She has joined many commissions and working groups to develop constitutional rights.



### Professor Dr Andreas Paulus

Andreas L. Paulus holds the Chair of Public and International Law at the Georg-August-University Göttingen. Professor Paulus teaches Public Law, International and European Law and Legal Philosophy. In March 2010 he was sworn in as Justice of the First Senate of the Federal Constitutional Court (Bundesverfassungsgericht). His twelve-year term ended on 2 June 2022. He has held a visiting position at the University of Michigan Law School.

## SPEAKER INFORMATION (in alphabetical order)

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### Justice Antonio Herman Benjamin

Justice Antonio Herman Benjamin has served as a judge of the National High Court of Brazil (STJ) since 2006. At the international level, Justice Benjamin served as Chair of the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law and Secretary-General of the UN Environment's International Advisory Council for Environmental Justice. He is the President of the Brazilian Environmental Forum of Judges and the Environmental Committee of the Summit of Chief Justices of Ibero-America. He is the lead founder and currently President of the Global Judicial Institute on the Environment (GJIE), the organisation that brings together judges from around the world who work on emerging issues in environmental law.



### Justice Nambitha Dambuza

Justice Dambuza is a Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeal of South Africa, appointed in 2015. Prior to this appointment, from 2005 she served as a judge in the Eastern Cape Division of the High Court. She practiced as an attorney before being appointed. While practising, she was an acting judge and lectured at the University of Port Hare. Justice Dambuza was appointed as a visiting professor of the Rhodes University Law Faculty in 2016. She has always been actively involved in education, heading up various school councils, and being involved in the training of aspirant and new judges. She has also served as the Chair of Council of Walter Sisulu University, of which she is still a member.



### Justice Hima Kohli

Justice Kohli is a judge of the Supreme Court of India, being appointed in 2021. Previously, she was the Chief Justice of the Telangana High Court, where she served as the first woman Chief Justice of this Court, and before that a judge of the Delhi High Court. She has served on various committees including legal aid, decongestion of jails, mediation and the Delhi Judicial Academy. In private practice, she served as the Legal Advisor to various government and private corporations.



## SPEAKER INFORMATION (in alphabetical order)

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### Justice Brian Preston

Justice Preston is the Chief Judge of the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales. Prior to being appointed in November 2005, he was a senior counsel practising primarily in New South Wales in environmental, planning, administrative and property law. Justice Preston is an Official Member of the Judicial Commission of NSW, Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law, Fellow of the Royal Society of NSW and Honorary Fellow of the Environment Institute of the Australia and New Zealand. He is the Vice President (Oceania) of the Global Judicial Institute on the Environment. He has lectured in post-graduate environmental law for over 30 years. He has published extensively on environmental law, including Australia's first book on environmental litigation and 142 articles, book chapters and reviews on environmental law, administrative and criminal law. Justice Preston joined Durham Law School as a Visiting Professor in September 2022.



### Dr Emmanuel Ugirashebuja

Emmanuel Ugirashebuja is the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of the Republic of Rwanda. He is a former President of the East African Court of Justice. He is a Dean Emeritus of the National University of Rwanda, Faculty of Law and has given lectures on diverse subjects of law to various well-renowned Universities worldwide. He was educated and has practiced in the major legal systems, namely, common law and civil law systems.



### Justice Michelle Weekes

Michelle Weekes was appointed as a Judge of the High Court of Barbados, one of the courts making up the Supreme Court Judicature of Barbados, in 2014. Prior to her appointment as Judge, Justice Weekes acted as Master of the High Court and also as Registrar of the Supreme Court. She previously served as Crown Counsel, Senior Crown Counsel and Principal Counsel in the Solicitor General's Chambers in Barbados. Justice Weekes is currently a member of the Governing Board of the Global Judicial Institute on the Environment.

## SPEAKER INFORMATION (in alphabetical order)

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### **Justice Michael Wilson**

Justice Michael Wilson was appointed to the Supreme Court of Hawaii in 2014. He was previously a Circuit Court Judge of the First Circuit. Justice Wilson is a founding member and currently a member of the Governing Board of the Global Judicial Institute on the Environment. He is an adjunct faculty member of the Jindal Global University Law School in Sonipat, India. He previously served as the director of the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, chair of the State Water Commission and a trustee of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission.



### **Justice Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Rüdiger Wolfrum**

Rüdiger Wolfrum is director emeritus of the Heidelberg Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law. He was a judge at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea from 1996 to 2017, serving as President of the Court from 2005 to 2008. He has acted as Chairman of the Legal Working Group of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings preparing an Annex to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty on responsibility for environmental damage and a member of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.



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Professor of International Law,  
Director of the Sustainable  
Development Research Institute and  
Co-Director, Global Policy Institute.

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