



DRAFT CONFERENCE AGENDA

CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES TO INTERNATIONAL LAW AND POLICY ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE, ENVI- RONMENTAL PROTECTION, INTEL- LECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOL- OGY TRANSFER

Session to be held on "Contemporary Challenges to International Law and Policy on Sustainable Development, Energy, Climate Change, Environmental Protection, Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer", organized by gLAWcal - Global Law Initiatives for Sustainable Development (United Kingdom), the European Society of International Law (ESIL) Interest Group on International Environmental Law and the American Society of International Law (ASIL) Interest Group on Intellectual Property Law on the occasion of the Conference for Young Lawyers (COFOLA) International, held at Masaryk University, Telč (Czech Republic), 19 April – 21 April 2018.

INTRODUCTION

In recent years, our planet has been exposed to various environmental challenges. 2015, 2016 and 2017 have been the three warmest years on record and extremely high temperatures hit particularly southern Europe, eastern and southern Africa, South America as well as parts of Russia and China. (WMO, 2017) Natural disasters in form of heatwaves, droughts, more frequent and powerful tropical cyclones, and heavier monsoon rains caused property, infrastructure and environmental damage as well as human losses around the world. In the most affected region Asia-Pacific, natural disasters caused 4,987 deaths, affected 35 million people and caused damage of about \$77 billion in 2016. (UN ESCAP, 2017) Biodiversity has been constantly threatened by use of natural resources for economic and social growth. Biodiversity loss is occurring at mass-extinction rates. The populations of vertebrate species declined by an estimated 58% between 1970 and 2012. (WEF Global Risks Report, 2018) Soils are under pressure from population growth, pollution and higher demands for land uses other than food production. About a third of our global soils are degraded. (UNEP, 2018) More than 2 billion people globally are living in countries with excess water stress and 800 million people have no access to an improved water sources (UNDP, 2015) Climate change has significant security implications for fragile regions, leading to social tensions, upheavals, instability and involuntary migration. The latest data show that 76% of the 31.1 million people displaced during 2016 were forced from their homes as a result of weather-related events. (WEF Global Risks Report, 2018)

Environmental risks increasingly growing in prominence. The Global Risks Report 2018, published by the World Economic Forum, affirmed the trend of recent years: as the financial crisis has receded, economic risks have been replaced by environmental risks. According to the Global Risks Report 2018, four of five top risks in terms of impact are associated with climate change: extreme water events; natural disasters; failure of climate change mitigation and adaptation; and water crisis.

"Among the most pressing environmental challenges facing us are extreme weather events and temperatures; accelerating biodiversity loss; pollution of air, soil and water; failures of climate-change mitigation and adaptation; and transition risks as we move to a low-carbon future."

WEF Global Risks Report, 2018

1. International law has enormous potential to address the abovementioned challenges related to climate change, sustainable development and environmental protection. The international community is already equipped with several instruments to keep advancing and implementing actions towards sustainable development, protection of the environment and fight against climate change. Although the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement are considered landmark achievements, the recent events at domestic and international level (Donald Trump's decision to pull out of the Paris Agreement, logging in Bialowieza forest in Poland) reveal significant risk of a step-back of the objectives and goals towards sustainable development. Thus, the conference seeks to address the abovementioned challenges and to analyse tools of international law against the backdrop of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement.
2. Although governments have a fundamental role to ensure the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the Paris Agreement, they will not alone foster resilience and sustainable development for all. Engagement of private sector and partnership between public and private sector is essential. Thus, the conference seeks to address the dynamic between public and private sector and to explore their respective roles.
3. Complexity of the contemporary challenges requires to shape our response beyond the borders of international law and even beyond the borders of the legal field. Multi-disciplinary approaches seem to be necessary for achieving the sustainable development and tackling climate change. Thus, the conference seeks to address and to explore potential of multidisciplinary approaches, especially the role of science and technologies.
4. The UN Climate Change Conference in 2015 (COP21) launched a new era of a global transition to a low-carbon economy. Climate change was recognized as an urgent and potentially irreversible threat to human societies and the planet. Action to reduce the impact of climate change and to limit the increase in average global temperatures to less than 2 °C requires energy transition (Energy production and use account for 2/3 of the world's greenhouse-gas (GHG) emissions). Thus, the conference seeks to address and to explore energy transition and role of energy sector in promoting sustainable development and combating climate change.
5. The UNFCCC underlines the importance of technological innovation for achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement. Technology is particularly relevant for the implementation of mitigation and adaptation actions. Special attention should be given to technology deployment and dissemination efforts in order to address specific needs and special situations of the least developed countries. Against the backdrop of global effort to facilitate transfer of technologies (green goods, renewables), the conference seeks to address the protection and implementation of intellectual property rights.
6. Science, technology and innovation are central to energy transition. Successful implementation of the Paris Agreement and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires interdisciplinary examination of the social, political and cultural dimensions of science and technology such as science and technology for international development. Thus, the conference seeks to address Science & Technology in Society in the broader context of sustainable development, energy, climate change and environmental protection.

APRIL 20, 2018

Masaryk University, Telč (Czech Republic) and gLAWcal – Global Law Initiatives for Sustainable Development (United Kingdom)

Welcoming Address on behalf of gLAWcal – Global Law Initiatives for Sustainable Development (United Kingdom), the ESIL Interest Group on International Environmental Law Coordinating Committee and the ASIL Interest Group on Intellectual Property Law: **Professor Paolo Davide FARAH**, West Virginia University (USA) and gLAWcal – Global Law Initiatives for Sustainable Development (United Kingdom)

SESSION I. CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES PART 1

Ilona JANČÁŘOVÁ, Department of Environmental Law and Land Law, Masaryk University, Telč (Czech Republic)

9:00-10:30

Elena CIRKOVIC — National Research University, Higher School of Economics, Department of Political Sciences, St. Petersburg (Russia): *Space, Ice, and the Final Frontiers of International Law's Universality*

Mykola IAKOVENKO — University of Eastern Finland, School of Law (Finland): *The Possible Options for Mitigation: The Natural Gas Supply Risks Via Ukrainian Gas-Transmission System in Changing Regulatory and Geopolitical Conditions*

Jan DOHNAL — Masaryk University, Brno (Czech Republic): *Impact of Counterfeits on Economic Growth and Employment*

10:30 - 11:00 - coffee break

SESSION II. CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES PART 2

Ilona JANČÁŘOVÁ, Department of Environmental Law and Land Law, Masaryk University, Telč (Czech Republic)

11:00-12:30

Karolina JACKOWICZ — University of Białystok, Faculty of Law, Białystok (Poland): *Non-State Actors and Technology for The (Successful) Protection Of The Environment*

Nino PARSADANISHVILI — Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi (Georgia): *Reconciling Trade and Development: the Inclusion of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda in WTO legal framework*

12:30 - 13:30 - lunch break

SESSION III. FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

Vojtěch VOMÁČKA, Department of Environmental Law and Land Law, Masaryk University, Telč (Czech Republic)

13:30 - 15:00

Anthi KOSKINA-SARIDAKI — College IdEF, University Paris XIII, Paris (France) & National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens Public International Law Center, Athens (Greece): *The Role of Science and Technologies in Climate Change Policy-Making and the Paradigm that Emerged from the Paris Agreement*

Wei ZHUANG — Counsel, PraxiMondo, Geneva (Switzerland): *Patent Pools for Low-Carbon Technologies: A Cooperative Mechanism for Combating Climate Change*

Daria S. BOKLAN — National Research University "Higher School of Economics", Department of Public and Private International Law, Moscow (Russia): *Labeling Requirements as a Tool Against the Backdrop of the Paris Agreement with Focus on WTO Law and Eurasian Economic Union Law*

Martin SVEC — gLAWcal – Global Law Initiatives for Sustainable Development (United Kingdom): *EU Competence Over Energy and Environment Against the Backdrop of the Global Energy Transition*

15:00 - 15:30 - coffee break

SESSION IV. REFLECTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT LAW

Paolo Davide FARAH, West Virginia University (USA) and gLAWcal – Global Law Initiatives for Sustainable Development (United Kingdom)

15:30 - 17:00

Martina POHANKOVÁ — Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic): *Reflection of Environmental Protection in International Investment Law: Gradual Development?*

Gabriel M. LENTNER — University Krems, Department of Law and International Relations, Danube (Austria) & Transatlantic Technology Law Forum Fellow at Stanford Law School (USA): *Nomos and Narrative: The Protection of Intellectual Property Rights in International Investment Law*

Martin Andrew JARRETT — University of Mannheim, Mannheim (Germany): *Environmental Warning Labels: the Perspective from International Investment Law*

Paolo Davide FARAH — West Virginia University (USA) and gLAWcal – Global Law Initiatives for Sustainable Development (United Kingdom): *The Role of the Chinese SOEs toward the Promotion of a Low Carbon Economy: International Trade, Renewable Energy, Sustainable Energy and the Environmental Protection*

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Paolo Davide FARAH, West Virginia University (USA) and gLAWcal – Global Law Initiatives for Sustainable Development (United Kingdom)

This Conference is part of the EU Commission research projects led by Professor **Paolo Davide FARAH**. The event is jointly organized by **gLAWcal** – Global Law Initiatives for Sustainable Development (United Kingdom), the **European Society of International Law** (ESIL) Interest Group on International Environmental Law and the **American Society of International Law** (ASIL) Interest Group on Intellectual Property Law.