



ASSER INSTITUTE 
Centre for International & European Law



Summer Programme on International and European Environmental Law:

The Future We Choose

24 - 28 August 2015
The Hague

Organised by the T.M.C. Asser Instituut in cooperation with the
European Environmental Law (EEL) Network,
and the Hague Environmental Law Facility (HELF)

www.asser.nl/summerprogrammes

International and European Environmental Law: *The Future We Choose*

The second Summer Programme on International and European Environmental Law: *The Future We Choose* is convened on the eve of the 2015 Paris summit which should lead to the adoption of a new international climate change agreement. The choices made at this conference will have a huge impact on our lives and economies, they will influence the relationship between developing and developed states, and ultimately the choices made will determine the conditions under which future generations will be living. Hence the motto of this Summer Programme: The Future We Choose.

The Summer Programme is organised by the T.M.C. Asser Instituut, in cooperation with the European Environmental Law (EEL) Network and the Hague Environmental Law Facility (HELFL). Environmental law issues have been discussed for over two decades at the EEL Website (www.eel.nl) and accompanying News Service, in a multitude of research activities and in numerous environmental law projects that Asser researchers, in cooperation with many others, have been carrying out. Combined, these activities form a fruitful basis for organising this unique Summer Programme.

It is designed to enhance practical knowledge on the topic of climate change and numerous other legal regimes governing the most important aspects of international and European environmental law. Moreover, the programme allows for a critical examination of the question of whether these regimes and related institutions are robust enough to tackle the challenges they were designed for. Did we make the right choices, are improvements needed, and if so, what should these look like?



The international environmental law component of the programme will inter alia deal with the practical application of principles of environmental law, the shaping of the future climate change regime and the environmental case law of the International Court of Justice (ICJ). A visit to this Court forms an integral part of the programme. The European environmental law component will focus on the manner in which the EU promotes sustainable development of the organisation itself, of its 28 Member States and globally, both in general and through concrete legislation. For instance, the trade regimes for timber products and biofuels, aimed at minimising negative effects in non-EU countries and the latest changes to the GMO regime- will be examined. Relevant environmental case law of the Court of Justice of the EU will be discussed during the lectures.



Renowned experts from both academia and practice will share their insights on the manner in which international environmental law and European environmental law contribute to protecting the environment and stimulating sustainable development, while at the same time identifying gaps for which solutions still need to be found.

Paris 2015

As we look ahead, 2015 will be an important year for those working with or interested in international and European environmental law. During the climate summit in Lima in 2014 important steps towards a new global agreement on tackling climate change were taken. Much remains to be done though, and the expectations for “Paris 2015” are high. In the words of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon during the informal meeting of the General Assembly on the Year Ahead on 8 January: *“The success of the new development agenda is inseparable from our efforts to address climate change. Across the globe, countries, cities, citizens and CEOs are taking action on climate change because they recognize the benefits – including new market opportunities, cleaner air, improved public health, greater energy security and sustainable growth.....In December in Paris, we can ensure a meaningful, ambitious and universal climate change agreement.”*

In Paris, the Conference of States Party to the UN Climate Change Convention UNFCCC gathers to negotiate and conclude a new global climate deal. The stakes are high, with the second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol suffering from failing political commitment of States and even withdrawal from the scheme, and the increasingly visible physical consequences of global warming. Paris 2015 should result in a legally binding agreement which creates a long-term framework dealing with global greenhouse gas reduction, while at the same time establishing clear rules addressing the role of private equity and public finance for adaptation and low carbon transition; a framework for action on deforestation and land use; and clear links to the newly developed “Sustainable Development Goals”. Senior experts that took part in global climate negotiations and the shaping of the EU regime will bring the participants up to speed with these issues, and lead model negotiations highlighting challenges in striking a balance between the needs of developing and developed states.



Photo: UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe



Photo: Jan Gollings/UNFCCC

Programme

The 5-day programme consists of interactive lectures by renowned experts from academia and practice, and a study visit to the International Court of Justice. The participants will gain extensive knowledge and understanding of these areas of law, which are growing in importance every day.

The programme will cover a wide variety of topics such as:

- The road to Paris and beyond: tackling climate change;
- Challenges of sustainable water use;
- Shaping sustainable finance;
- The role of private investors in promoting sustainability;
- Trade agreements and the environment;
- Legal aspects of sustainable energy;
- Creating a circular economy.

The first day of the programme will be dedicated to providing an introduction on international and European environmental law and the application of environmental principles. The participants will also be introduced to the climate change workshop that will take place on the third day. On the second day, crosscutting themes such as intragenerational equity and public participation will be discussed. The third day will largely be dedicated to the climate change and the accompanying workshop. The fourth day will focus on the role of the judiciary (ICJ, CJEU and WTO Panels and Appellate Body) in environmental protection, the role of private and public sustainable banking and a study visit to the International Court of Justice. The final day will look into sustainable management of natural resources. Are the current legal frameworks robust enough to ensure sustainable supplies of water, timber, biofuels and other raw materials?



Photo: Participants Summer Programme 2014



Photo: Soundwave/Flickr



Photo: RGV Newswire



Photo: Den Haag Marketing/ Jurjen Drenth

Target Audience

The programme is directed towards policy makers, lawyers, practitioners working in the banking sector, think tanks or NGOs and researchers who, in their professional capacity, deal with aspects of international and/or European environmental law and issues of sustainable development.

Furthermore, persons already experienced in environmental policies or persons relatively new to this area of law, will benefit greatly from the unique insights in the status quo and recent developments in environmental law. For Ph.D. researchers or advanced students, the programme offers an excellent opportunity to interact with experts in the fields they are interested in. Familiarity with (environmental) law or environmental policy is desirable.

“In the Summer Programme you get not only a deep insight into the actual problems of International and European Environmental Law, but also a better vision of the general principles and how they are of use in protecting the environment.”

Participant 2014

Organisers

T.M.C. Asser Instituut

The T.M.C. Asser Instituut in The Hague is a distinctive, inter-university research institute specialised in International and European law and a leading and authoritative provider of executive education to students and professionals operating in the judicial sector.



The Institute initiates, develops and provides education (tailor-made programmes and summer programmes) to students and professionals working in the judicial sector.

Each programme has a high degree of flexibility and competence, taking advantage of our academic integration and our extensive network of excellent and renowned speakers and teaching staff.

Working with partners from complementary fields we are successful in creating truly unique and highly relevant programmes on a variety of subjects and levels for a diverse range of participants including among others students, judges, prosecutors, legislators, civil servants, diplomats and lawyers.

Located in the heart of the international justice community, within walking distance of such international organisations as the ICTY, the OPCW, and the Peace Palace (which houses the International Court of Justice and the Permanent Court of Arbitration), the T.M.C. Asser Instituut is the perfect host for organising Summer Programmes in international law.

www.asser.nl



European Environmental Law Network

The EEL network, hosted by the T.M.C. Asser Instituut, provides high quality research and services to academics, professionals and institutions on European and international environmental law issues. Through its website and the monthly News Service, the EEL network aims at offering a comprehensive and updated overview of the development of environmental policies and legislations at national, European and international level. Amongst many other things, it provides short analyses of relevant new environmental case law from the ECJ, the ICJ and the WTO Dispute Settlement Body. As an interactive platform, the EEL network also welcomes external contributions from individuals interested in drafting dossiers on national or international developments of environmental law.

www.eel.nl



The Hague
Environmental Law Facility

Hague Environmental Law Facility

The Hague Environmental Law Facility (HELFF) is a joint initiative of the T.M.C. Asser Instituut and the Institute for Environmental Security (IES) that aims at bringing together those involved in research, education and policy advice regarding environmental law. HELFF focuses on concrete challenges regarding the development and implementation of international and European environmental law, by means of organising conferences, seminars and courses and setting up an environmental law clinic.

Practical Information

Date

24 – 28 August 2015

Fee

€ 1495

This fee includes lectures, study materials, study visit, water/tea/coffee and lunch during working days, a reception and an opening dinner.

The fee does not cover (international) travel costs, domestic travel to and from airports etc., (hotel) accommodation, insurance or other expenses. The T.M.C. Asser Instituut can provide prospective participants with a list of suitable hotels in The Hague.

Registration

You can register by completing the online application form at: www.asser.nl/SummerProgrammeEEL

The deadline for registration has been extended. You can register up to two weeks before the start of the Summer Programme.

Please read the Registration Information & Conditions carefully before registration.

Contact

For more information or questions please contact educationtraining@asser.nl



Photo: World Wild Life (WWF)

Registration Information & Conditions

Enrollment

1. You may register via the website by submitting the completed online registration form at www.asser.nl/SummerProgrammeIEEL.
2. Each participant should use a separate form.
3. The deadline for registration has been extended. You can register up to two weeks before the start of the Summer Programme.
4. Upon receipt of the completed online registration form, a confirmation letter and payment details will be sent to you by email.
5. Your registration is complete once the online registration form has been submitted and the payment has been received.
6. The registration form constitutes a legally binding agreement. By submitting the completed registration form the registrant declares to be in accordance with the requirements and provisions described therein.
7. The T.M.C. Asser Instituut cannot be held responsible for the non-arrival of registration information. If you have not received confirmation of your registration within 7 working days of submitting, please contact educationtraining@asser.nl.
8. The T.M.C. Asser Instituut reserves the right to withhold registration.

Fees and Payment Conditions

1. Fees for the week-long summer programme are € 1495.
2. The fee includes lectures, study materials, study visit, refreshments and lunch during working days, a reception and an opening dinner.
3. The full payment must be made within 10 days after receipt of the confirmation e-mail. You will only be secured of a place at the Summer Programme once the T.M.C. Asser Instituut has received your payment in full.
4. Participants are responsible for the cost of all international travel, accommodation evening meals (approximately €30 per day), and if applicable, any visa charges and medical insurance. The T.M.C. Asser Instituut can provide prospective participants with a list of suitable hotels in The Hague (€70-120 per day).

Cancellation Policy

1. Cancellations will only be accepted when your request for cancellation is submitted by e-mail to educationtraining@asser.nl.
2. If you cancel less than four weeks prior to the starting date of the Summer Programme, no refund of the course fee will be given.
3. If you cancel within the allotted time (at least 4 weeks before the starting date of the course), a processing fee of €200,- will be charged. The remaining sum will be refunded.
4. The T.M.C Asser Instituut reserves the right to cancel the Summer Programme. In the event that such action is necessary, registrants will be informed at least four weeks in advance of the starting date of the programme.
5. In the event that the T.M.C. Asser Instituut cancels the Summer Programme, the full sum paid will be reimbursed.

Visa

1. If you require a visa to visit the Netherlands, you are strongly advised to apply for your visa at least eight weeks prior to your departure to The Netherlands. The T.M.C. Asser Instituut does not arrange visas but will assist visa applicants where appropriate.

Liability

1. The T.M.C. Asser Instituut cannot be held liable for personal injuries or for loss and/or damage to the personal belongings of participants either during or as a result of their participation in the programme.