



# Summer Programme on International and European Environmental Law: *Making it Work*

## Confirmed Speaker:

Joyeeta Gupta, Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research

### Lecture

#### *Sustainable Water Management*

This lecture provides an overview of the evolution and current status of global water law and policymaking. It argues that the reason why few countries are ratifying the watercourses convention is because countries want to control their own water resources and adopt a hydro-hegemonic approach. Furthermore, there are few links between the Watercourses Convention and the Climate Change Convention, even though most of the impacts of climate change will probably manifest themselves through impacts on the hydrological system through rising sea levels, melting glaciers, changing rainfall regimes, and extreme weather events. Besides, the shortage of freshwater resources globally is also leading to greater privatisation of this resource through changes in trade and investment law; this will hamper the ability of countries to govern this resource in a way that it benefits all users. Finally, water law tends to be both horizontally and vertically plural creating considerable confusion in its implementation process. The lecture ends with a discussion on how water law needs to be modernised at multiple levels of governance.



### Biography

Joyeeta Gupta is professor of environment and development in the global south at the Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research of the University of Amsterdam and UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education in Delft. She is editor-in-chief of *International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics* and lead author in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change which won the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize with Al Gore. She is also on the Supervisory Board of Oxfam Novib and the Board of the Royal Tropical Institute in Amsterdam. She is Vice-President of the Commission on Development Cooperation and member of the Advisory Council on International Affairs, a statutory body that advises the Netherlands' Government.

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Registration: [www.asser.nl/IEEL2016](http://www.asser.nl/IEEL2016)