

## Programme

ISCH COST Action IS1101

Climate Change and Migration: Knowledge, Law and Policy, and Theory

Working Group II: Law and Policy

### **First Networking Workshop on Human Rights Legal Frameworks in the Climate Change Regime**

Date: 6-7 Sept 2012

Begin: 14:00, Thurs 6 Sept 2012

End: 14:00 Fri 7 Sept 2012

Venue: Utrecht University, Netherlands Institute of Human Rights (SIM),  
The Netherlands [www.uu.nl/sim](http://www.uu.nl/sim)

This Workshop is funded by the COST Action IS1101 Climate Change and Migration: Knowledge, Law and Policy, and Theory

<http://www.geography.dur.ac.uk/projects/ccmcostaction/Events/tabid/3882/Default.aspx>

#### **Workshop theme**

Is there a legal framework that adequately addresses human rights issues and the consequences of climate change? Is the current legal framework for the protection of human rights capable of addressing climate change and migration issues? Can the two regimes, both climate change and human rights, ever be reconciled or are they, for the time being, too different to target the issues of climate change from a human rights based approach?

In spite of its growing political and cultural significance, social science research on climate change and migration remains comparatively sparse. The interdisciplinary field of migration studies has engaged extensively in migration and refugee research in respect of war, poverty and globalisation. Legal scholars and human rights experts have looked at uprooted people such as so called “climate refugees”, working migrants or asylum seekers from the framework of the international human rights regime. The climate change issues are often seen in the borders of environmental law because there are (so far) not many other legal alternatives to deal with the direct consequences of climate change. Yet, the different disciplines have not exchanged much of their knowledge and experience in their fields.

In the light of the growing demand to link social and legal sciences, this workshop aims to a) bring together expertise from different disciplines with different perspectives of the issue b) initiate a dialogue between academic scholars, NGOs, governments and other stakeholders in the area of human rights and climate change

and c) identify possible bottlenecks which impede cooperation between the climate change and human rights regimes.

Our major goals for the next three years are to improve understanding and cooperation in these issues, develop normative ideas and governance mechanisms that might be used for managing migration or potential migration resulting from climate change, assist in the alignment of human rights law and environmental/climate change law, and provide all beneficiaries with the outcomes of our research.

### **Workshop Focus**

This early working group meeting aims at inviting scholars to present and discuss legal and policy frameworks with particular consideration of human rights aspects on the consequences that climate change has for people and migrants in particular.

Possible themes of research in this workshop are – but not limited to – identifying the impacts of climate change to vulnerable states, the implications for and status of indigenous people, the legal status of those migrated due to climate change, community-based initiatives, climate change impacts on human rights such as access to food and water, relation of climate change induced migration with international and human security.

Therefore, we have invited scholars from different disciplines to present expert papers on policy and legal frameworks for managing migration or potential migration resulting from climate change at all levels (national, regional and international level). Representatives from NGOs, government, and administration are also welcome to participate.

This workshop is a two half day scholarly event consisting of scholarly papers and discussion on human rights, climate change and migration. This workshop will aim to have an associated output most likely a themed issue of a peer-reviewed academic journal.

### **COST workshop responsables:**

Assoc Prof. Dr. Anja Mihr, SIM, Utrecht University, The Netherlands [A.Mihr@uu.nl](mailto:A.Mihr@uu.nl)

Dr. Dimitra Manou, University of Thessaloniki, Greece [dimj@law.auth.gr](mailto:dimj@law.auth.gr)

**Contact in Utrecht:** Hanneke van Denderen, [h.vandenderen@uu.nl](mailto:h.vandenderen@uu.nl), secretary SIM and Alice van der Vlugt, [a.m.vandervlugt@gmail.com](mailto:a.m.vandervlugt@gmail.com), workshop assistant, SIM

**Please send in your paper to [h.vandenderen@uu.nl](mailto:h.vandenderen@uu.nl) before 3 September 2012.**

## Workshop Schedule

Venue: Molengraaff Room, Molengraaff Institute, Janskerkhof 12, Utrecht

### Thursday 6 September

13:30 Arrival and Registration

#### 14:00-15:00 **Welcome & Introduction**

**Jenny Goldschmidt**, Director, SIM, Utrecht University, The Netherlands  
[j.e.goldschmidt@uu.nl](mailto:j.e.goldschmidt@uu.nl)

**Anja Mihr**, Utrecht University, The Netherlands [A.Mihr@uu.nl](mailto:A.Mihr@uu.nl)

**Dimitra Manou**, University of Thessaloniki, Greece [dimj@law.auth.gr](mailto:dimj@law.auth.gr)

#### 15:00-16:00 **Session I “Climate Change and Migration”**

Chair: **Dimintra Manou**, University of Thessaloniki, Greece

Discussant: **Mirela Mazilu**, University of Craiova, Romania  
[mirelamazilu2004@yahoo.com](mailto:mirelamazilu2004@yahoo.com)

- Climate refugee law – a new field of law?  
**Mariann Erdő**, Eötvös Lorand University Budapest, Hungary  
[mariannerdo@yahoo.fr](mailto:mariannerdo@yahoo.fr)
- Environmental Change, Migration and Displacement.  
**Calum Nicholson**, Swansea University, UK [Nicholson.cal@gmail.com](mailto:Nicholson.cal@gmail.com))
- The construction of the Climate Refugee as a Human Rights Issue  
**Benoit Mayer**, National University of Singapore, Singapore  
[bmayer@nus.edu.sg](mailto:bmayer@nus.edu.sg)

#### 16:30-18:30 **Session II “Human Rights Legal Framework”**

Chair: **Anja Mihr**, Utrecht University, The Netherlands

Discussant: **Oliver Greenfield**, Green Economy Coalition, London, UK,  
[oliver.greenfield@greeneconomycoalition.org](mailto:oliver.greenfield@greeneconomycoalition.org)

- Climate Change and Migration: Knowledge, Law and Policy and Theory,  
**Elisa Fornalé**, World Trade Institute, University of Bern, Switzerland  
[Elisa.Fornale@wti.org](mailto:Elisa.Fornale@wti.org)
- Human rights, Climate Policies: Kenya  
**Jeanette Schade**, University of Bielefeld, Germany [jeanette.schade@uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:jeanette.schade@uni-bielefeld.de)
- Climate Change Induced Catastrophes: Legal Frameworks for reducing vulnerability  
**Dug Cubie**, University College Cork, Ireland, [110223288@umail.ucc.ie](mailto:110223288@umail.ucc.ie)

19:00 Dinner at The Muntkelder, Oudegracht, Utrecht

- 9:00-11:00    **Session III “Climate Change induced migration”**  
 Chair: **Teresa Thorp**, Utrecht University, The Netherlands [t.m.thorp@uu.nl](mailto:t.m.thorp@uu.nl)  
 Discussant: **Dewi van de Weerd**, Netherlands Ministry for Foreign Affairs,  
 The Hague [dewi-vande.weerd@minbuza.nl](mailto:dewi-vande.weerd@minbuza.nl)
- Climate Change induces migration and the right to culture  
**Margreet Wewerinke**, European University Institute, Florence, Italy  
[margaretha.wewerinke@eui.eu](mailto:margaretha.wewerinke@eui.eu)
  - Climate Change and Mobility: Pacific Region  
**Silja Klepp**, University of Bremen, Germany, [klepp@uni-bremen.de](mailto:klepp@uni-bremen.de)
  - From coastal Bangladesh: Climate Change, migration and local perspectives  
 on the pressures of global complexity on human rights legal framework  
**Brooke A. Ackerly** (et al), Vanderbilt University, USA  
[brooke.ackerly@Vanderbilt.Edu](mailto:brooke.ackerly@Vanderbilt.Edu)
- 11:00-11:30    Coffee Break
- 11:30-13:30    **Session IV “Legal Protection in times of Climate Change”**  
 Chair: **Andrew Baldwin**, Durham University, UK,  
[w.a.baldwin@durham.ac.uk](mailto:w.a.baldwin@durham.ac.uk)  
 Discussant: **Vera Künzel**, Eine Welt Netz, Germany,  
[Vera\\_Kuenzel@gmx.de](mailto:Vera_Kuenzel@gmx.de)
- Can the protection of human rights reduce vulnerability to disaster?  
**Pauline Brücker**, Institute for Sustainable Development and International  
 Relations, Paris, France, [pauline.brucker@iddri.org](mailto:pauline.brucker@iddri.org)
  - Human Rights based approach to Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation  
**Damilola S. Olawuyi**, University of Oxford, UK  
[damilola.olawuyi@law.ox.ac.uk](mailto:damilola.olawuyi@law.ox.ac.uk)
- 13:30            Closing Round & Departure

Please send your **paper** no later than **Monday 3 September 2012** to  
 Hanneke van Denderen: [h.vandenderen@uu.nl](mailto:h.vandenderen@uu.nl)