

Centre for Law and the Environment, UCC

Law and the Environment 2022

18th Annual Conference



Environmental Rights: From Discourse to Legal Action

Thursday, 5th May 2022
Boole Lecture Theatres 1, 3 and 4

[Online Registration Now Open](#)



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8:30 am Registration and Tea / Coffee (Boole Basement)

8:50 am Opening Remarks: Prof Owen McIntyre, Conference Convener (**Boole 3**)

Plenary Session 1: The Evolving Aarhus Regime

Chair: Ms Finola McCarthy, Ronan Daly Jermyn Solicitors, Cork

9:00 am Prof Áine Ryall, School of Law, University College Cork / Chair,
Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee:
Aarhus Convention: Contemporary Developments.

9:30 am Dr Amanda Byer, UCD Sutherland School of Law, University College
Dublin:
*Interpretive Possibilities: A Comparative Analysis of the Aarhus
Convention and the Escazú Agreement.*

10:00 am Ms Alison Hough B.L., Faculty of Business and Hospitality, Athlone
Institute of Technology:
*Towards a Conceptualisation of Public Participation: An Examination
of the Justifications, Objectives and Reasons for Public Participation
in Environmental Impact Assessment.*

10:30 – 11:00 am Tea / Coffee (Boole Basement)

Parallel Session 2: Continuing Evolution of Environmental Rights (I):

Chair: Dr Dug Cubie, School of Law, University College Cork

11:00 am: Prof Colin Reid, Dundee Law School, University of Dundee:
Pitfalls in Promoting Environmental Rights.

11:30 am Dr Stephen Turner, School of Law, University of Essex:
The Emergence of Standards in Environmental Rights.

12:00 am Prof Owen McIntyre, School of Law, University College Cork:
*Continuing Elaboration of Standards Relating to the Human Right(s)
to Water and Sanitation.*

Parallel Session 3: Climate and Energy Law: Emerging Rights & Policy

Chair: Mr Conor Linehan S.C., William Fry Solicitors, Dublin

11:00 am Dr Rónán Kennedy, Dr Maeve O'Rourke, Ms Cassie Roddy-
Mullineaux, School of Law, National University of Ireland Galway:
*Integrating Human Rights into Irish Climate Law: A Missed
Opportunity?*

11.30 am Prof Raphael Heffron, Dean, Faculty of Law, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine:
The Global “Just Transition” Journey.

12.00 am Prof Salmi Abdesselam, Department of Public Law, Ajman University, United Arab Emirates:
The Role of Constitutional Courts in the Protection of Environment.

Parallel Session 4: Planning & Development Law

Chair: Prof Mark Poustie, Dean, School of Law, University College Cork

11:00 am Ms Rachel Minch, Philip Lee Solicitors, Dublin:
The General Scheme of Housing and Planning and Development Bill 2019– Judicial Review Reform, Standing Rights and the Special Costs Rules.

11:30 am Ms Fionna O’Regan, Former Member, An Bord Pleanála:
At the Coal Face: Why Some Good Projects Fail.

12:00 am Ms Caer Smyth, School of Law and Politics, Cardiff University:
‘You can’t legislate for a culture change’: Obstacles to Change in the Planning Inquiry Process.

12.30 – 2.00 pm Lunch

Parallel Session 5: Environmental Rights & Litigation

Chair: Ms Alison Fanagan, A&L Goodbody Solicitors, Dublin

2:00 pm Dr Fred Logue, FP Logue Solicitors, Dublin:
Ireland for Environmental Law: Case Studies on EU-Wide Environmental Litigation in the Irish Courts.

2:30 pm Ms Michelle Martin, William Fry LLP, Dublin:
Climate Litigation: The Irish Perspective.

3:00 pm Mr Masrur Salekin, School of Law, National University of Ireland Galway:
A Specialized Environmental Court for Ireland: What Would the Court Look Like?

3:30 pm Prof Patrick Parenteau, Vermont Law School:
Latest Developments in US Climate Litigation.

Parallel Session 6: Marine Environmental and Resources Law

Chair: Dr Anne Marie O’Hagan, MaREI Centre for Marine and Renewable Energy, University College Cork

2:00 pm Mr Eoin Fannon B.L.:
Fishery Access post-Brexit: The Interplay of International, EU and Domestic Law.

2:30 pm Ms Laurie O’Keefe, Acting Director of Enforcement, Sea Fisheries Protection Authority:
The Scales of Justice: Fisheries and the Courts.

3:00 pm Ms Karin Dubsy, Coastwatch Europe:
Is Legal Action Needed to Protect Biodiverse, Blue Carbon Seagrass Habitats Wherever They Occur?

3:30 pm Mr Edmund Sweetman B.L. & Abogado:
Recent Environmental Developments in International Conventions Regulating Shipping.

Parallel Session 7: Disaster Law & Disaster Risk Reduction

Chair: Dr Noreen O’Meara, Co-Director, Surrey Centre for International and Environmental Law, University of Surrey

2:00 pm Dr Dug Cubie, School of Law, University College Cork and Dr Martin Le Tissier, MaREI Centre for Marine and Renewable Energy, University College Cork:
Emergency Planning and Climate Change Adaptation in Ireland.

2:30 pm Dr Simon Behrman, School of Law, University of Warwick and Dr Avidan Kent, School of Law, University of East Anglia:
Opening Up Protection for Climate Refugees in the Populist Moment.

3:00 pm Dr Marie Aronsson-Storrier, School of Law, University College Cork:
Behind the Curtain: Reimagining the Relationship between International Law and Disasters.

3:30 pm Mr Alan Doyle B.L.:
20 Years in ICU: Sustainable Development, the Planning Acts and Climate Change.

4.00 – 4.30 pm Tea / Coffee (Boole Basement)

Parallel Session 8: Continuing Evolution of Environmental Rights (II)

Chair: Dr Aoife Shields, Shields Sadleir Law & Tax LLP, Cork

4:30 pm Mr Tom Flynn S.C.:
An Emerging Right to Environmental Protection under the Irish Constitution?

5:00 pm Dr Aoife Daly, School of Law, University College Cork:
Children's Rights and the Environment.

Parallel Session 9: Sustainability, Markets & Investment

Chair: Mr Declan Walsh, School of Law, University College Cork

4:30 pm Mr Gregory Jones Q.C., Francis Taylor Building, Inner Temple:
Legal Liabilities and Green Finance: Is a Greenmark the answer?

5:00 pm Mr Kieran Cummins,
Data Centres, Ireland and the Law.

Parallel Session 10: Planning & Landscape: Ireland and the International Context

Chair: Prof Owen McIntyre, School of Law, University College Cork

4:30 pm Prof Amy Strecker, UCD Sutherland School of Law, University College Dublin:
The Right to Landscape in Theory and Practice.

5:00 pm Ms Sinéad Mercier, UCD Sutherland School of Law, University College Dublin:
The Right to Landscape in the Irish Context: Interactions with Cultural and Natural Heritage Law.

Plenary Session 11: Environmental Rights & Advocacy

5:30 pm Dr Ciara Brennan, School of Law, University of Newcastle / Environmental Justice Network Ireland:
Environmental Justice Network Ireland: Promoting Collaborative Research on the Island of Ireland and Beyond.

6:00 pm **Conference Reception (Staff Common Room, Quad North Wing)**
Generously sponsored by Ronan Daly Jermyn Solicitors



Cost: Conference (including lunch, tea / coffee and conference materials):

Single delegate (early-bird rate – by 29 th April):	€195
Single delegate (standard rate)	€245
Two delegates: (Further reductions available for multiple delegates)	€400
Academics:	€150
NGOs:	€95
NQ Solicitors / Barristers (less than five years standing):	€150

Continuing Professional Development:

8 Hours Group Study CPD

If you require a CPD Certificate please tick [] here or e-mail aguinee@ucc.ie
All CPD Certificates will be forwarded following the Conference.

Registration:

Delegates may register online [here](#). For group bookings (3+ delegates), please contact Conference Secretary directly.

Conference Convenor

Prof Owen McIntyre
School of Law, UCC
E-mail: o.mcintyre@ucc.ie
Tel. 087-2861055

Conference Secretary

Aoife Guinee
School of Law, UCC
aguinee@ucc.ie
021-4903642

For further information, contact aguinee@ucc.ie



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This conference is supported by funding from the EPA.



Conference Programme Overview

8:50 – 9:00			Opening Remarks (Boole 3)		
9:00 – 10:30			The Evolving Aarhus Regime (Boole 3) Áine Ryall Amanda Byer Alison Hough		
10:30 – 11:00			Tea / Coffee (Boole Basement)		
11:00 – 12:30 (Boole 3)	11:00 – 12:30 (Boole 4)	11:00 – 12:30 (Boole 1)			
Environmental Rights (I) Colin Reid Stephen Turner Owen McIntyre	Climate & Energy Law Rónán Kennedy, <i>et al</i> Raphael Heffron Salmi Abdesselam	Planning & Dev. Law Rachel Minch Fionna O'Regan Caer Smyth			
12:30 – 2:00			Lunch		
2:00 – 4:00 (Boole 3)	2:00 – 4:00 (Boole 4)	2:00 – 4:00 (Boole 1)			
Env Rights & Litigation Fred Logue Michelle Martin Masrur Salekin Patrick Parenteau	Marine Env & Resources Eoin Fannon Laurie O'Keefe Karin Dubsy Edmund Sweetman	Disaster Risk Reduction Dug Cubie S. Behrman & A. Kent Marie Aronsson-Storrier Alan Doyle			
4:00 – 4:30			Tea / Coffee (Boole Basement)		
4:30 -5:30 (Boole 3)	4:30 -5:30 (Boole 4)	4:30 -5:30 (Boole 1)			
Environmental Rights (II) Tom Flynn Aoife Daly	Markets & Investment Gregory Jones Kieran Cummins	Planning & Landscape Amy Strecker Sinéad Mercier			
5:30 – 5:55			Agora: Environmental Rights & Advocacy (Boole 3) Ciara Brennan		
5:55 – 6:00			Reflections & Concluding Remarks (Boole 3)		
6:00 – 7:30			Conference Reception (Staff Common Room, North Wing)		