



# Climate Change & Migration: New Challenges, Legal Responses, and Policy Solutions

19 June 2024 | 09:30 – 17:15 (BST)

Monica Partridge building, University Park campus | NG7 2RD

### **PROGRAMME**

09:30 – 10:00	Arrival and registration
10:00 – 10:05	Welcome Aoife Nolan, Director, Human Rights Law Centre, University of Nottingham
10:05 – 10:10	Introduction to the event Andrea Pelliconi, University of Nottingham
10:10 – 10:45	Keynote address  Ian Fry, Fenner School of Environment and Society, The Australian National University, Canberra
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee/tea break (15 mins)
	Parallel workshops: Groups 1 and 2
	Group 1 – European Union, Law of the Sea, and Legal Theory
	Facilitator: Jakub Ciesielczuk, University of Nottingham
11:00 – 12:30	Commentator: Mark Chadwick, Nottingham Trent University
	Group 2 – Postcoloniality and the Global North-Global South Divide
	Facilitator: Laurence Teillet, Nottingham Trent University
	Commentator: <b>Teodora Todorova,</b> University of Warwick
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break (1 hour)
13:30 – 14:30	CSO Session
	Workshop with <b>Sarker Shams Bin Sharif</b> , Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants
	Video contribution by Olga Lablache, Nottingham Trent University
14:30 – 14:45	Coffee/tea break (15 mins)
14:45 – 16:15	Parallel workshops: Groups 3 and 4
	Group 3 – Domestic and Regional Approaches
	Facilitator: Kikelomo Kila, University of Huddersfield
	Commentator: Bethany Jackson, University of Nottingham

	Group 4 – Human Rights Issues in Climate-related Mobility  Facilitator: Natalie Hodgson, University of Nottingham  Commentator: Helen O'Nions, Nottingham Trent University
16:15 – 16:30	Coffee/tea break (15 mins)
16:30 – 17:10	Plenary brainstorming session  Moderator: Eunice Deladem Ohenewaa Mensah, Nottingham Trent University
17:10 – 17:15	Closing Remarks  Laurence Teillet, Nottingham Trent University  Andrea Pelliconi, University of Nottingham

## **PAPERS**

GROUP 1	European Union, Law of the Sea, and Legal Theory
	Nikolas Keckhut (Strasbourg University & Jagiellonian University)
	Forging a European Response to Environmental Displacement: Assessing Efforts and Constraints during the Revision of the Qualification Directive (2017-2024)
	Szymon Kucharski (Jagiellonian University)
	Glass of water is not the same for everyone. Cooperation between climate-vulnerable third states and the EU as the most adequate method of regulating climate migrations
	Jessica Drew (Edge Hill University)
	The Impact of the European Refugee 'Crisis' Narrative on Climate Migration Policy
	Aravind Ganesh (University of Sussex)
	Doppelgänger: Grotius and Hardin on the Commons
GROUP 2	Postcoloniality and the Global North-Global South Divide
	Irene Sacchetti (Nottingham Trent University)
	Who is the 'climate refugee' in international law? The case for rethinking identity, recognition and protection
	Leah Owen (Swansea University)
	Building 'Fortress North' – how do Global North states and institutions develop militarised border regimes in a changing climate?
	Vicky Kapogianni (University of Reading)
	Entrapped Mobility: Colonial Residues, Lex in Absentia and Postcolonial Dynamics within the Pacific Neighbourliness

GROUP 3	Domestic and Regional Approaches
	Ben Hudson (University of Exeter)
	Addressing climate-induced internal displacement along the UK's coasts
	KMS Tareq (SOAS University of London)
	Regional Governance of Cross-border Climate Mobility in African, Caribbean, and Pacific Regions
	Monica Namanya (University of Galway)
	Addressing Climate-Induced Migration: Legal and Policy Responses Within the African Human Rights Framework
	Carmen Pérez-González (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid & University College London)
	Taking ecological vulnerability in the Global South seriously: Climate change-induced human trafficking and non-refoulement
GROUP 4	Human Rights Issues in Climate-related Mobility
	Himani Pasricha (University College Dublin)
	The Impact of Climate Variability on Internal Migration in Thailand
	Carla Field (University of Leicester)
	Environmental displacement and the Right to a Clean, Healthy, and Sustainable Environment
	Thekli Anastasiou (University of Surrey)
	Applying the Precautionary Principle to Climate Change-Related Harm in International Refugee and Human Rights Law
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	Indira Boutier (Glasgow Caledonian University)

#### **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

lan Fry is an Associate Professor at the Fenner School of Environment and Society, College of Science at The Australian National University, Canberra. He is an international environmental law and human rights policy expert. Ian is a dual citizen of Australia and Tuvalu. He worked for the Tuvalu government for over 21 years and was appointed as their Ambassador for Climate Change and Environment from 2015-2019. Ian is the former UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change (May 2022 – December 2023). He also trains developing countries and youth delegates in environmental treaty negotiations through the Climate Youth Negotiators Program.

#### **COMMENTATORS, FACILITATORS, MODERATORS**

**Dr. Mark Chadwick** is a Principal Lecturer in Law at Nottingham Law School (Nottingham Trent University) where he teaches International Criminal Law at undergraduate and LLM and supervises PhDs in this area. He has previously also taught European Union Law and Comparative Law and has served as a visiting Research Fellow at Maynooth University. Mark has published a monograph, Piracy and the Origins of Universal Jurisdiction, which considers how the proscription of high seas piracy has contributed to the development of international (criminal) law. The monograph was shortlisted for the Society of Legal Scholars Peter Birks Prize for Outstanding Legal Scholarship in 2019. Mark has also published broadly on various international law topics.

Jakub Ciesielczuk is an Assistant Professor at the University of Nottingham. His expertise covers environmental governance, with a particular focus on environmental legal regimes. Jakub has researched the participation of various non-State actors (e.g., intergovernmental organisations, non-governmental organisations, indigenous groups, and individuals) in environmental legal regimes. Jakub has also a background in immigration law. Jakub is an accredited OISC immigration adviser specializing in both personal and business immigration. Jakub worked in NGOs dedicated to asylum and migration control in the Netherlands and Greece. He also worked in a leading immigration barrister chamber in Nottingham.

**Dr. Natalie Hodgson** is an Assistant Professor in the School of Law at the University of Nottingham and the Head of the Forced Migration Unit in the Human Rights Law Centre. Natalie's research interests include offshore processing of asylum seekers and how civil society have worked to oppose these policies. In 2021, Natalie was awarded the Andrea Durbach prize for her article, 'International criminal law and civil society resistance to offshore detention', published in the Australian Journal of Human Rights.

**Dr. Bethany Jackson** is a Senior Research Fellow in Modern Slavery and Sustainable Ecosystems, Rights Lab, University of Nottingham. Her research focuses on the co-occurrence and monitoring of environmentally degrading sectors/activities associated with exploitative working conditions. Her expertise has led to extensive research on the impacts of climate change on communities in Bangladesh and India including around migration and adaptations, workers at risk of multiple economic and environmental stressors in the India brick manufacturing sector, and the risks of forced labour within the food supply. She was previously the Rights Lab lead during COP26 Glasgow and has worked on encouraging collaborative action between the anti-slavery and environmental sectors.

**Dr. Kikelomo Kila** is a Senior Lecturer in Law at the University of Huddersfield, UK. She is a published author, and her area of research focuses on climate change, corporate regulation and environmental sustainability in developing countries having completed her PhD in Climate Change Law and Sustainability from the University of Exeter in 2019. Her achievements in legal research earned her an endorsement as an Exceptional Talent in Legal Studies/Research by the British Academy in 2020 and she was also recently awarded a Senior Fellowship by the Higher Education Academy (SFHEA) in recognition of her leadership in teaching, administration and research in law and legal studies in the UK.

Olga Lablache, a budding scholar and environment advocate, has embarked on a journey into international climate change law, with a particular focus on its implications for small island developing states. From the archipelago of Seychelles, Olga brings a unique perspective shaped by first-hand experiences of the challenges faced by these vulnerable nations. Olga studied law at Bangor University, obtaining both an LLB and LLM degree. Her academic journey was complemented by vocational training, including the Legal Practice Course at BPP University in Manchester and work as a trainee lawyer with a law firm in Seychelles. Besides law, Olga nurtures a deep passion for the welfare of animals and the preservation of the natural environment. She has been actively engaged with organisations dedicated to advancing these causes in Seychelles and abroad. During her time at Bangor, Olga and other students spearheaded the establishment of the Bangor Climate Strike Committee to bring attention to the climate emergency in North Wales.

**Eunice Deladem Ohenewaa Mensah** is a Post Graduate Research Candidate at Nottingham Law School, Nottingham Trent University. She graduated with an LLM in Health Law and Ethics in 2021 from NTU. Deladem is a 2020 Commonwealth Scholar. Prior to her PGR candidature, Deladem was a Conference Facilitator at the National Justice Museum in Nottingham, England where she facilitated conferences on knife crime under the "Choices and Consequences project." Deladem is currently researching on Restorative Justice with particular interest in pre-colonial traditional criminal justice systems in Ghana.

**Dr. Helen O'Nions** is an Associate Professor of Law at Nottingham Law School, with specialisms in European asylum policy and the fundamental rights of Roma and travelling people. She has authored several articles and two monographs: Asylum: A Right Denied (Routledge 2014) and Minority Rights in International Law: the Roma of Europe (Ashgate 2007). Helen is also the director of the Law School's doctoral programme and deputy director of the centre for rights and justice. Helen is the vice-chair of the Refugee Forum in Nottingham and has undertaken two funded projects examining access to legal advice for refused asylum seekers. Her current work examines strategic litigation on housing rights of Roma and travelling people before the European Court and Committee on Social Rights.

Andrea Maria Pelliconi is an international human rights law expert and is currently a Teaching Associate at the University of Nottingham. Her research focuses on the practice of demographic engineering under public international law, looking at the legal implications of authority-sponsored demographic alterations, particularly in the context of territorial disputes. Andrea is a qualified lawyer at the Rome Bar Association and before her academic career, she worked in private practice and a researcher with the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute (IBAHRI) and the Civic Freedoms & Human Rights Defenders Programme of the Business & Human Rights Resource Centre (BHRRC).

**Sarker Shams Bin Sharif** is a climate migration specialist with first-hand experience of climate change in Bangladesh, a country deeply affected by environmental shifts. As a communicator and activist, he has worked in various countries including Bangladesh, Nepal, the USA, Sweden, and the UK, providing him with diverse insights into how climate migration is perceived and how it can be improved.

**Laurence Teillet** is a PhD Candidate and HP Lecturer at Nottingham Law School, focusing on environmental activists' prosecutions and convictions for high seas piracy. With LLMs in International and Comparative Environmental Law, and Natural Resources Law, her research interests primarily lie in International Environmental Law and the Law of the Sea.

**Dr. Teodora Todorova** is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Warwick. She is the author of 'Decolonial Solidarity in Palestine-Israel: Settler Colonialism and Resistance from Within'. Her research and teaching focuses on transnational civil society and activist mobilisation against human rights violations in the context of gendered and racialised state violence. She is co-editor and programme director at Reading Decoloniality, an open-source publication and reading group investigating decolonial texts across disciplines.

#### **PAPER PRESENTERS**

#### Thekli Anastasiou (University of Surrey)

Thekli Anastasiou is a lecturer at the University of Surrey in public law, public international law, and EU law. She researched public international law at the University of Sheffield and the University of Leiden. She is an active member of the refugee law research community and is particularly interested in climate related migration. She recently participated in the drafting of the Refugee Law Initiative's Declaration on International Protection in the context of Disasters and Climate Change and the accompanying background paper along with other experts in the field.

#### **Indira Boutier** (Glasgow Caledonian University)

Dr. Indira Boutier is a Lecturer in Law at Glasgow Caledonian University. She focuses on international human rights and more precisely on topics related to minority groups. Her current research is around understanding the place of climate change in human rights discourse, and human trafficking in South Asia and the Mediterranean Sea.

#### Jessica Drew (Edge Hill University)

Jessica Drew is a PhD candidate at Edge Hill University, researching climate migration policy development within various spheres of European law. Beyond the PhD, her research interests include the legal implications of the changing climate, such as the loss of statehood for disappearing small island states. She also directs a charity that supports asylum seekers and refugees.

#### **Carla Field** (University of Leicester)

Carla Field is currently undertaking PhD research at the University of Leicester School of Law, having begun her academic career there in May of 2023. Her research focus is on climate change-based displacement and the protection of such individuals. She is keenly interested in the concept of legal hybridity as a potential solution base for the protection of persons displaced due to a declining environment. As well as her own studies, she is also a graduate teacher at the University, currently teaching EU Law on the core undergraduate module.

#### Aravind Ganesh (University of Sussex)

Aravind Ganesh is a lecturer in law at the University of Sussex who examines questions of private and public law in light of the legal philosophy of Immanuel Kant. His current research seeks to formulate Kantian responses to problems of climate change and migration. He obtained a PhD (cum laude) from VU Amsterdam in June 2019, and his dissertation was subsequently awarded the 2020 René Cassin Thesis Prize by the Fondation René Cassin and Institut international des droits de l'homme. In March 2021, his monograph 'Rightful Relations with Distant Strangers: Kant, the EU, and the Wider World' was published by Hart/Bloomsbury in the 'Law and Practical Reason' series. Besides this, he has published in journals such as Legal Theory, the Michigan Journal of International Law, and

Contemporary Political Theory. Before entering academia, he worked in Brussels for the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, practiced as an attorney in New York, and volunteered with the Legal Resources Centre in South Africa.'

#### Carmen Pérez González (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid & University College London)

Carmen Pérez-González is currently Associate Professor of Public International Law at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain. She served as Adviser for International Affairs at the Cabinet of the Spanish Secretary of State for Migration between 2004 and 2008, as and as alternate member of the Management Board of the Fundamental Rights Agency of the European Union between 2009 and 2010. Dr. Pérez has written extensively in the area of International Human Rights Law, International Migration Law and International and EU sports law, the fight against doping in sport and the protection of human rights of athletes. She has also been invited to give lectures and classes on these subjects at universities and institutions in Spain and abroad.

#### Ben Hudson (University of Exeter)

Dr. Ben Hudson (b.hudson2@exeter.ac.uk) is a Senior Lecturer in Law at the University of Exeter. His research primarily concerns internal displacement viewed through the lens of international human rights law. His doctoral research examined a series of pertinent challenges in law and practice that impact upon the effective realisation of return as a durable solution to internal displacement. Aside from his work on internal displacement, he has also published in the area of cross-border migration, notably examining the concept of vulnerability as utilised by the European Court of Human Rights in its case law pertaining to migrant journeys across the Mediterranean Sea. Dr Hudson is a Coordinator of the Routes network, and Editorial Board Member of the Journal of Internal Displacement and the Refugee Law Initiative Working Paper Series. He also leads the 'Managing and Protecting People on the Move' stream at the annual Socio-Legal Studies Association Conference.

#### Vicky Kapogianni (University of Reading)

Dr. Vicky Kapogianni is an interdisciplinary scholar interested in exploring jurisdictional challenges and accountability gaps within the migration field, along with issues related to forced displacement, reparations, and genocide. Her research extends to investigating mechanisms for advancing accountability, redress, and prevention within the transitional justice context and beyond. Her work draws upon EU & International Human Rights Law, Migration and Refugee Law, International Humanitarian Law, International Criminal Law, and Transitional Justice. She is a member of the European Society of International Law (ESIL) and a member of the International Association of Genocide Scholars (IAGS).

#### Nikolas Keckhut (Strasbourg University & Jagiellonian University)

Nikolas Keckhut is a master's student in law and political science at Jagiellonian and Strasbourg universities. He has long been interested in climate issues, both at home and abroad. As an aspiring academic, he has specialised in the issue of European asylum law and has gained experience within the French asylum jurisdiction. This specialisation, and in particular his study of the common European asylum system, has enabled him to take a keen interest in the issue of climate change-induced migration in a European context. Deeply interested in human rights issues at European level

from a comparative perspective, he now aspires to undertake a doctorate in law on environmental migration issues.

#### Szymon Kucharski (Jagiellonian University)

Szymon Kucharski (S.K.J.) is a PhD Candidate at the Jagiellonian University's Doctoral School for Social Sciences (Kraków, Poland), holding degrees from the Jagiellonian University (MA in Law, BA in International Migrations), and from the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, Netherlands (LLM in International Human Rights Law). He is an Associate of the Jagiellonian University's Centre for Human Rights, and a former Visiting Researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law in Heidelberg. Current research project that he conducts have been co-funded by the Strategic Programme Excellence Initiative at Jagiellonian University, and by the Ryochi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund. His main research interests include migration studies, international refugee law, international human rights law, and international climate law.

#### Monica Namanya (University of Galway)

Monica Namanya is currently enrolled in the PhD program at the Irish Centre for Human Rights, School of Law, University of Galway. Her PhD focuses on the relevance of free movement frameworks in responding to climate-induced migration in the East and Horn of Africa regions. She is also particularly interested in refugee law and protection, human rights, and international humanitarian law.

#### Leah Owen (Swansea University)

Leah Owen (she/her, xie/xir) is a Lecturer in Politics and International Relations at Swansea University. She works largely in the field of security studies – looking at threat perception and xenophobic securitisation in mass violence and in climate politics. Her secondary research interests include trans/queer politics, and post-conflict justice.

#### Himani Pasricha (University College Dublin)

Himani Pasricha is a fourth-year PhD Economics student at University College Dublin, Ireland. Her research revolves around understanding the dynamic between climate variability, weather shocks, and climate change, and their impact on internal migration in developing countries. She aims to shed light on the complex relationship between environmental factors and human mobility, contributing to our understanding of the consequences of climate change on vulnerable populations. She is additionally interested in labour market policies, with a particular focus on how minimum wage policies affect the labour market outcomes of workers employed in the informal and non-compliant sectors. Himani holds a Bachelor of Science in Statistics from the University of Delhi, India and a Master of Science in Economics from the Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee, India. Through her research, she seeks to contribute to evidence-based policymaking and address pressing societal challenges at the intersection of labour markets, climate change, and development economics.

#### Irene Sacchetti (Nottingham Trent University)

Irene Sacchetti is a PhD Candidate in Climate Change and Refugee Law at Nottingham Law School. She graduated in Law cum laude from the University of Bologna (Italy); Irene previously joined the Potsdam Institute of Advanced Sustainability Studies as a Research Fellow, and she worked for the Czech Academy of Sciences and for the Geneva International Centre for Justice. Irene is part of multiple international initiatives for the protection of human and animals' rights, decoloniality and the law.

#### KMS Tareq (SOAS University of London)

KMS Tareq is a Commonwealth Scholar and PhD candidate in law at SOAS University of London, researching legal governance in addressing climate mobility, with a focus on Bangladesh. He also teaches international environmental law and tort law at SOAS. Previously, Tareq was an Associate Professor (Reader) of Law at the University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh. He holds an LLM in International Law (with distinction) from Keele University and first-class degrees from the University of Rajshahi. Tareq is interested in researching climate mobility, international environmental law, climate change law, international refugee law, public international law, tort law (UK), property law (Bangladesh), and criminal law (Bangladesh). He can be reached at tareq\_kms@ru.ac.bd and kt26@soas.ac.uk.





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