



University
of Ferrara

E DEPARTMENT
OF ECONOMICS
AND MANAGEMENT



ELI

EUROPEAN
LAW
INSTITUTE

ENVIRONMENTAL
LAW SIG

Environmental Sustainability and ‘The European Green Deal’ Values, Innovation and Regulation

12 and 13 November 2020

Venue: University of Ferrara, Department of Economics and Management, Via Voltapaletto
11-44121 Ferrara (Italy)

Scientific Committee:

Alberto De Franceschi and Massimiliano Mazzanti

As a response to Climate and environmental-related challenges, on 11 December 2019 the European Commission released 'The European Green Deal', representing an integral part of the Commission's strategy to implement the United Nation's 2030 Agenda and the sustainable development goals. It is a new growth strategy that aims to transform the EU into a fair and prosperous society, with a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy where there are no net emissions of greenhouse gases by 2050 and where economic growth is decoupled from resource use, improving the quality of life of current and future generations.

Against such background, this Conference aims to critically assess, in an interdisciplinary policy-oriented perspective:

- values, rights and current policies for Environmental Sustainability and the Circular Economy;
- rights and management of waste;
- legal instruments for environmental sustainable regulation of the sale of goods; and
- the role of online platforms for sharing goods and services.

Launch of the European Law Institute's (ELI) Environmental Law Special Interest Group (SIG) and First Meeting.

The Environmental Law SIG aims at bringing together experts from Europe and beyond, reshaping existing legal instruments and creating new ones so as to achieve environmental sustainability and a circular economy thus making Europe a standard setter in this field.

For this purpose, the SIG aims to implement new strategies for regulation and standardisation, enhancing dialogue with social partners and international cooperation. The SIG would rethink in particular: (a) production and sales law; (b) legislation on waste and circular materials; (c) instruments for enhancing smart mobility and the sharing economy; (d) the introduction of rules on green finance and investment; (e) policies for clean energy supply; (f) rules on large-scale infrastructure and construction; and (g) taxation and social benefits.

In particular, the SIG aims at addressing and enhancing the synergy between the green and the digital transformation, by exploring measures to ensure that digital technologies such as artificial intelligence, 5G, cloud and edge computing and the internet of things can accelerate and maximise the impact of policies to deal with climate change and protect the environment.

ELI Fellows interested in joining the SIG and non-ELI Fellows who would like to become members of ELI and the SIG are welcome. For more information, please contact the [ELI Secretariat](#).

Thursday, 12 November 2020

14:00 Welcome addresses

Massimiliano Mazzanti (University of Ferrara, Circular Economy, Innovation and SMEs (CERCIS) Director)

Christiane Wendehorst (University of Vienna, ELI President) tbc

14:15 Scope and Aims of the Conference

Alberto De Franceschi (University of Ferrara)

14:30 I. Policies for a Sustainable Environment: The EU Green Deal and the Global Challenge

Chair: Christiane Wendehorst (University of Vienna, ELI President) tbc

The European Green Deal – A Further Step for Circular Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development

Hugo-Maria Schally (European Commission, Head of Unit on 'Multilateral Environmental Cooperation' - Directorate General for the Environment, Brussels)

Lessons From the Clean Air Act: Building Durability and Adaptability into US Climate and Energy Policy

Ann E Carlson (University of California; Emmett Institute on Climate Change and the Environment) tbc

15:30 Discussion

16:00 Coffee Break

16:30 II. New Challenges for Sustainable Environment: An Economic Perspective

Chair: Raimund Bleischwitz (University College, London) tbc

Poly-Centric Governance and the Circular Economy: The Need for Transdisciplinary Cooperation

Markus Beckmann (Friedrich Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg) tbc

Globalisation and Sustainable Development

Fernando Diaz Lopez (Stellenbosch University)

Economics of Waste Prevention

Henning Wilts (Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy, Wuppertal)

Circular Economy: Policies and Innovation

Alessio D'Amato (University of Rome Tor Vergata)

18:30 Discussion

18:50 Interim Conclusions

Friday, 13 November 2020

08:30 III. Legal Instruments for Enhancing Sustainable Consumption

Chair: Mateja Durovic (King's College London)

Sustainable Consumer Law – a Contradiction in Terms?

Christian Twigg-Flesner (University of Warwick)

Towards Environmental-Friendly Guarantees in the Sale of Goods

Fryderyk Zoll (University of Krakow and University of Osnabrück)

Sustainability and Servitization: The Challenges

Evelyne Terryn (University of Leuven)

Tax Law and Sustainable Finance enhancing Green Consumer and Business Behavior

Georges Cavalier (University Lyon III)

10:00 Discussion

10:30 Coffee Break

11:00 IV. Technological Transformation supporting Environmental Sustainability

Chair: Louisa Specht (University of Bonn) tbc

Sustainability, Artificial Intelligence and legal subjectivity

Enrico Caterini (University of Calabria)

Environmentally Sustainable Algorithms and the Internet of Things: Empowering Consumers towards the Ecological Transition

Pascal Pichonnaz (University of Fribourg) tbc

Blockchain Technology in the Energy Sector: Challenges and Opportunities

Sjef van Erp (University of Maastricht) tbc

Energy Communities 2020+: A new opportunity for citizens and businesses

Denis Philippe (University of Louvain) tbc

12:40 Discussion

13:00 Concluding Remarks

**14:00 V. Inaugural Meeting of the European Law Institute's Environmental Law Group:
the Research Clusters**

(a) production and sales law;

(b) instruments on waste and circular materials;

(c) enhancing smart mobility and the sharing economy;

(d) digital transformation as enabler of environmental sustainability;

(e) policies for clean energy supply;

(f) rules on large-scale infrastructure and construction;

(g) taxation and social benefits

(h) green finance and investment.

17:00 Concluding Remarks