

Call for papers

The Future of International Environmental Law and the Law of the Sea

Workshop organised by the Oceans and International Environmental Law Interest Group, Australian and New Zealand Society of International Law and the New Zealand Centre for Public Law

15 – 16 April 2021, Victoria University of Wellington and online

The fields of law of the sea and international environmental law are experiencing challenges and encountering opportunities. 2019 was the 25th anniversary of the entry into force of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which represented an incredible achievement of diplomacy. At the same time, uses of the seas have increased and states are currently trying to close some gaps in high seas governance by negotiating a new implementing agreement for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. For international environmental law, the challenges of implementing existing agreements and negotiating new instruments in a time of rapid environmental change cannot be underestimated. There can be little doubt that the law of the sea and international environmental law are under pressure to respond to these challenges.

The Oceans and International Environmental Law Interest Group of the Australian and New Zealand Society of International Law (ANZSIL) and the New Zealand Centre for Public Law (NZCPL) are holding a workshop at Victoria University of Wellington on 15 and 16 April 2021. Participants will be able to join the discussions online if unable to make it to Wellington. The workshop is an opportunity to discuss draft papers, at an advanced stage, that touch on any aspect of the law of the sea or international environmental law. Draft papers (no more than 8,000 words) will be circulated in advance of the workshop. The majority of time will be allocated to feedback and discussion rather than presentation of the papers. The goal is to assist participants in the development of a paper for publication, and individual authors may choose where the final paper will be published.

In addition to assisting authors with the development of a piece of writing, a goal of the workshop is to strengthen the network of scholars in the region. We therefore encourage participation by senior and junior academics and practitioners with research interests in the law of the sea and international environmental law. If the workshop is over-subscribed we will give first preference to ANZSIL members.

We invite those interested in presenting a paper to submit a short abstract of the paper topic (no more than one page) by **20 January 2021** to Joanna.Mossop@vuw.ac.nz. Please also include a one-page curriculum vitae. If you are interested in being a commentator on a paper rather than presenting one yourself, please also indicate your interest by that date.

Participants are asked to seek financial support to attend the workshop from their employer in the first instance. NZCPL has provided some funding to cover accommodation costs in Wellington for those able to travel to the workshop, but is unlikely to be able to pay for all participants if full travel is possible. Please indicate when submitting your abstract whether you would like to apply for support. We will prioritise this assistance to researchers in the first 10 years of their academic or professional appointment and those who have no (or limited) financial support from their employer.