



## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

10 YEARS LAW FACULTY UHASSELT – CONFERENCE

28-29 March 2019

### HARMONISATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY LAW

Within the context of celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Law Faculty of Hasselt University is pleased to be organising a two-day conference on harmonisation in environmental and energy law. The conference will take place on 28 and 29 March 2019 at Hasselt University and it will be held in English. The conference will consist of young academics' sessions, as well as keynote speeches, with the aim to provide both inspiring discussions and networking opportunities. Information about keynote speakers will be announced soon on the conference website.

We hereby invite submissions of abstracts for presentations at the conference. We encourage both junior researchers (LLM researchers and PhD scholars) and senior researchers (postdoctoral researchers) to submit an abstract dealing with the abovementioned topic. Practitioners are also welcome to submit abstracts.

#### Theme and subthemes

Environmental legislation is often incoherent and fragmented, which causes hurdles to its application. In this regard, rule makers resort to harmonisation. Harmonisation is seen as referring to a number of techniques and instruments that all aim to clarify rules and create a more coherent and solid legal framework. The conference aims to examine the merits of harmonisation, but also problems and questions that it has given and still gives rise to.

Within this context, we invite abstracts for presentations related to the following topics.

- Harmonisation from a theoretical perspective; this broader topic includes the rationales and the need for harmonisation, the effects of harmonisation, harmonisation theories, etc., including interdisciplinary approaches (e.g. law and economics).
- Harmonisation techniques and related concepts: e.g. codification, unification, approximation, integration (both external and internal), coordination and even soft law instruments.
- Future harmonisation plans and lessons learned from past harmonisation initiatives in areas of environmental law, seen in a broad perspective, thus including e.g. renewable energy law and spatial planning law.
- Specific cases or case law.

It should be noted this list is indicative; proposals for topics not mentioned above are also encouraged. Furthermore, submissions can refer to international, supranational or national law.

The conference aims to have an inter-disciplinary character. Accordingly, apart from contributions based on legal analysis, submissions from fields such as law and economics, economics and political sciences are particularly welcome.



### **Submission of abstracts**

Interested researchers are invited to submit an abstract no longer than 500 words. Abstracts should be written in English and indicate the precise topic and a clear description of the content of the contribution. Please also include a short CV. Submissions should be sent via email to [environmental.law@uhasselt.be](mailto:environmental.law@uhasselt.be) by 23 December 2018 at the latest. The proposals will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of the selection procedure by 14 January 2019.

### **Registration and attendance**

All participants (both speakers and attendees) should register by 18 March 2019 at the latest and contribute a conference fee of 150 euros or 100 euros (for Masters' and PhD students as well as for early bird registration, i.e. before 31 January 2019). Registration is possible through the conference website.

More details on registration and further information on accommodation, travel and the conference programme will be provided on the conference website soon.

We are also looking into offering travel and accommodation grants for international speakers and participants. Information on this topic will be provided in due time on the conference website.

### **Publication of conference papers**

Speakers are not required to submit an article elaborating on the selected abstracts.

However, for those interested, we plan to provide a publishing opportunity. In this regard, we intend to publish the papers that we will receive in a special issue of a scientific journal, which will cover the conference proceedings.

For further information or questions, please contact the conference organisers at [environmental.law@uhasselt.be](mailto:environmental.law@uhasselt.be)

### **Conference website**

[https://www.uhasselt.be/conference\\_environmental\\_law](https://www.uhasselt.be/conference_environmental_law)

### **Organising Committee**

Prof. dr. Bernard Vanheusden, Hasselt University (chair)

Prof. dr. Geert Van Calster, KU Leuven

Prof. dr. Luc Lavrysen, Ghent University

Prof. dr. Charles-Hubert Born, UCLouvain