

Annual Report 2025 of the ESIL Interest Group on International Environmental Law

1) Reconstructing International Environmental Law Through Adjudication

The Pre-Conference Workshop of the Interest Group on International Environmental Law with the topic “Reconstructing International Environmental Law Through Adjudication” was part of the ESIL Annual Conference on “Reconstructing International Law”, hosted by the Department of Law of the *Freie Universität Berlin* from 10 to 13 September 2025.

The workshop was held on Wednesday 10 September from 15:00 to 18:00, and was jointly organized by Daria S. Boklan, Chamu Kuppuswamy, Matjaž Nahtigal, Otto Spijkers and Martin Švec. The workshop included perspectives of established academics, early career researchers as well as practitioners.

The first panel, moderated by Otto Spijkers, had paper presentations by Matei Alexianu and Hannah Sweeney on ‘Non-State Actors & International Climate Adjudication’; by Irene Miano on ‘May I Ask You a Question?: An Investigation of How the Questions Posed by the Judges of the International Court of Justice Might Shape International Environmental Law’; by Jianping Guo & Brian McGarry on ‘Bespoke Approaches to Scientific Expertise in Climate Advisory Proceedings: Is Harmony Inevitable?’; by Nolwen Guilleman on ‘The Use Of Scientific Materials By Courts In Climate Litigation, Through The Lens Of The Intergovernmental Panel On Climate Change’; and by Zainab Hodgson on ‘Reconstructing International Law Through Climate Litigation and Legal Pluralism’.

The second panel, moderated by Angeliki Papantoniou, had presentations by Lara Ibrahim on ‘The Role of Principles of International Environmental Law in (Re)Constructing International Human Rights Law Obligations in the Context of Climate Change’; by Piotr Szwed and Lena Helinska on ‘Turning Vision Into Verdict: Can Rights Of Nature Adjudication Reshape International Environmental Law?’; and by Sara Baydoun on ‘How Challenges Such As Climate Change And Sea-Rising Level Are Triggering The Judicial Reconstruction Of International Environmental Law’.

This was followed by concluding remarks from Otto Spijkers and Martin Švec.

More than 40 participants attended the workshop, and each presentation received many interesting questions from the audience. The co-conveners thank all presenters and the audience for a very lively and thought-provoking discussion.

(text by Otto Spijkers, also in the name of Daria S. Boklan, Chamu Kuppuswamy, Matjaž Nahtigal, and Martin Švec)