



Hamburg International
Environmental Law
Conference 2016

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

3rd Hamburg International
Environmental Law Conference 2016

Hamburg, Germany

15th and 16th April 2016

**A Sea Change for Sustainable
Ocean Resource Governance**

HAMBURG – GATEWAY TO THE WORLD

Hamburg has many facets and strengths, but it is fair to say that its port and the city's heritage of being an international center for maritime trade have defined it in an exceptional way.



Foto : www.mediaserver.hamburg.de / Christian Spahrbier

To this day, Hamburg provides a unique environment for smart innovations bridging the fields of environmental protection, economics, science and research often with a focus on a maritime context.

Green Capital Hamburg

In 2011 Hamburg was awarded the title of European Green Capital for outstanding achievements in environmental protection efforts and ambitious and forward-thinking projects in the field. As one of



Foto : www.mediaserver.hamburg.de / Roberto Kai Heqeler

the leading centers for renewable energies, specifically with regard to wind energy, energy storage techniques, efficient fuel cell technologies and e-mobility Hamburg continues to be one of the drivers of the "Energiewende", an

ambitious government plan to significantly reduce and ultimately eradicate dependency on fossil resources for energy generation.

Business Metropolis Hamburg

The Hamburg Metropolitan Region, home to more than five million people, is one of Europe's strongest economic regions. Hamburg's international relevance as one of Europe's major ports means there is also a strong connection between Hamburg's economic performance and the ocean's ecosystem. Cargo-handling for the port of Hamburg grew 4.8% for 2014 and reached a new record mark of 145.7M tonnes. More than 150,000 jobs in the city are connected to the maritime industries.



Foto : www.mediaserver.hamburg.de / Andreas Vallbracht

Research and Science City Hamburg

Academic life is an important part of Hamburg's identity as an innovative city focused on education and science. About 97,000 students are enrolled in the city's 19 public and private universities and colleges. Hamburg's academic institutions also play a major role as an employer of more than 22,000 people, more than half of whom are researchers. Hamburg continues its efforts towards strengthening the diversity and quality of its academic institutions and solidifying Hamburg's role as a science metropolis. In this context, the notable climate-change research cluster "Integrated Climate System Analysis and Prediction" was established in Hamburg in 2007.

IURT ASSOCIATION

Upon the announcement that the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg would be awarded the title of European Green Capital 2011, a group of lawyers interested in international environmental law, sought to establish an association with the aim to bundle and promote the scientific discourse in the area of environmental law on an international level. Thus, on the 4th of February 2010, the Internationaler Umweltrechtstag Hamburg e.V. (IURT e.V.) was founded. The newly established association then proceeded to organize the first Hamburg International Environmental Law Conference (HIELC) that took place in September 2011. It was deemed a great success and about 200 researchers and practitioners from all over the world took part. A second conference was held in 2013 and meanwhile the third conference is scheduled for the 15th and 16th of April 2016.

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

For the scientific advisory board of the Hamburg International Environmental Law Conference (HIELC) three very accomplished academics were successfully recruited.



**Prof. Dr. Markus Kotzur,
LL.M. (Duke Univ.)**

University of Hamburg, Europa-Kolleg Hamburg: Institute for European Integration

Markus Kotzur is Professor for public international law and European law at the University of Hamburg and Managing Director of the Institute for European Integration at the Europa-Kolleg Hamburg. His main research areas are European constitutional law and global constitutionalism. A special attention is directed to the aspect of sustainability.



**Prof. Dr. Nele Matz-Lück,
LL.M.**

Kiel University

Nele Matz-Lück is Professor of the Law of the Sea at Kiel University. She is a member of the Cluster of Excellence "Future Ocean". The Cluster aims at an interdisciplinary approach to researching and tracking changes in the ocean environment. One of the Cluster's objectives is to provide decision-makers at different levels with relevant information to improve ocean governance.



**Prof. Dr. Alexander Proelss
Trier University**

Alexander Proelss is Professor for international and European law and Director of the Institute of Environmental and Technology Law of Trier University. The international law of the sea, along with other questions in the area of public international law, European law and constitutional law, constitute the focal points of his research. As one of the leading experts on the fields concerned, Alexander Proelss is involved several national and international research consortia.

TOPICS AND GOALS OF HIELC 2016

The conference feeds into key areas of interest for the City of Hamburg, namely finding solutions for a “green” but thriving economy, whilst contributing to its reputation as a “smart city” and an excellent location for cutting-edge research and innovation.

Environmental protection remains a very pressing issue of our time. Particularly the protection of marine environments has been garnering more attention in recent years. German Chancellor Angela Merkel made the issue one of the focal points of her G7-presidency. In addressing the need for change in this area, one of the goals of the HIELC 2016 is to make recommendations for the establishment of new guidelines governing the sustainable use of ocean resources and mitigating threats to marine environments.

Deep Sea Mining

Technological advances in deep sea mining have raised the interest in such explorations considerably in recent times. The number of license-applications for the exploration of mineral resources at the International Seabed Authority (ISA) is constantly rising. At the same time scientific, legal and societal concerns with regard to the safety of marine environments persist.

Germany too, received a license for deep sea mining of manganese nodules from the ISA in 2006 and another one for the exploration of polymetallic sulfides in 2015. Globally a growing number of corporations are dedicating significant resources to further develop methods to harvest and process mineral resources. In Hamburg 17 companies and institutions have formed the “DeepSea Mining Alliance” aiming to establish commercial, technological and research-oriented projects in the field.

Ocean Bed Pipe and Cable Systems

Global interconnectedness, rising energy demands around the world and an increased need for high-speed data transfer create new hazards for maritime ecosystems. The construction of pipelines and cables on the seabed are examples for these new risks. As the seat of the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH), which is tasked with the permission of such offshore projects, Hamburg makes an interesting location for discussing this issue.

Marine Energy Generation

The oceans provide huge potential for energy generation, potential that is so far largely untapped except for a few offshore windparks and tidal power stations. In times of diminishing fossil resources a number of new techniques to generate marine energy could contribute significantly to efforts of increasing clean and sustainable energy production. Experts of the World Energy Council in London estimate that tidal power stations could generate up to 15% of global energy demand. In addition to the controversial discussion on the environmental soundness of some of these techniques, it raises additional questions with regard to their compatibility with other utilizations of the ocean. However, regulations addressing ocean infrastructure are still lacking in many areas.

Questions surrounding the use of sustainable energy generated from the sea are of great importance to the City of Hamburg due to its location and pioneering role in the use of hydrodynamic power that has been utilized for years through the municipal energy supplier “Hamburg Energie”.

CONFERENCE STRUCTURE

Two keynote speeches (30 minutes each) will outline the three focal points of the conference on the 15th of April. They will highlight eco-friendly energy generation and the sustainable utilization of the Ocean's ecosystem ("Sustainable Energy Generation from the Oceans" and "Sustainable Management of Ocean Ecosystems"). Every keynote speech will be followed by two comments delivered by practitioners (15 minutes each). Legal aspects of these issues will be given particular consideration.

Keynote Speech I

„Sustainable Energy Generation from the Oceans“

Gabriele Goettsche-Wanli (invited)

Duration: 30 minutes

The oceans do not just harbor oil and gas, the exploration of which raises eco-safety concerns, but also provide new sources for generating energy e.g. through the use of gas hydrates. Therefore oceans are an integral part of changing the way energy is generated globally. It should be stressed that all new utilizations of the oceans should on the one hand be questioned with regard to their compatibility with marine ecosystems but potential concerns also need to be weighed against legitimate interests in new forms of usage on the other hand.

Keynote Speech II

“Sustainable Management of Ocean Ecosystems”

Professor Rüdiger Wolfrum

Duration: 30 minutes

On the 6th of July 2015 the UN General Assembly decided “to develop an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction” (A/RES/69/292). This future agreement can be expected to address many issues (such as MPAs and sustainable management of marine genetic resources) relevant to the topic of this session. The keynote speaker of session II could report on the background of the negotiations of the UN Ad Hoc Working Group and could give us his/her expectations as to the content of the future agreement.

Working Groups

In the afternoon of the 15th of April, following the keynote speeches, participants will convene in three separate working groups focusing on one of the three key areas of interest. Recent trends and developments within these areas will be addressed through a total of three talks per working group, followed by a moderated discussion.

Public Panel Discussion

In the morning of the 16th of April, a concluding podium discussion will publicly summarize and critically reflect on the result of the previous day under the moderation of NDR (Northern German Broadcasting), a public radio and television broadcaster, and the participation of the scientific advisory board as well as three more practitioners. The discussion will be held in German.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The HIELC conference caters to a broad audience of professionals and opinion makers from international organizations, the EU, federal and state ministries, corporations and associations, as well as to researchers, judges and lawyers.

CONFERENCE LOCATION

The conference will take place at the Bucerius Law School. Founded in 2002, the Bucerius Law school is the first private Law School in Germany. It is located in the former botanical institute's building, in the park of "Planten un Blomen" close to the train station Hamburg-Dammtor.



Foto: Bucerius Law School

How to get there

Within Hamburg

By car, bus or subway line U1 (train and bus schedules are available at www.hvv.de), head for Stephansplatz. Follow Gorch-Fock-Wall to the first intersection. Then turn right onto Jungiusstraße. The main entrance is on the corner of Jungiusstraße and Marseiller Straße. There is a parking garage located beneath the CCH (Congress Centrum Hamburg). To access this, continue down Marseiller Straße to Dammtordamm.

By Train

Get off at Dammtorbahnhof and exit at the doors marked Dag-Hammarskjöld-Platz / CCH / Messe. Head toward the right and take the stairs on the left before the Hotel Radisson SAS. Follow the path through "Planten un Blomen" park until you arrive at the intersection of Marseiller Straße and Jungiusstraße. Here you will find the main entrance to Bucerius Law School.

By Air

From the airport, take the "S-bahn" line S1 all the way to the Hauptbahnhof (central station). From there, cross the platform and take lines S11, S21 or S31 to Dammtorbahnhof. Alternatively, you can take the S1 to the Ohlsdorfer Friedhof stop. Get out there and change to the U1 which you will stay on until Stephansplatz. Both take an average of 40 minutes. A taxi from the airport to Bucerius Law School will take roughly 30 minutes and will cost about 20 Euros.

FRIDAY, THE 15TH OF APRIL 2016

- 09:00 - 09.15** Greetings
- 09.15 - 11.00** Sustainable Energy Generation from the Oceans
Keynote speaker: ***Gabriele Goettsche-Wanli*** (invited)
Comments by: ***Jun.-Professor Henning Jessen***
Associate Professor David Kenneth Leary
- 11.00 - 11.30** Coffee Break
- 11.30 - 13.30** Sustainable Management of Ocean Ecosystems
Keynote speaker: ***Professor Rüdiger Wolfrum***
Comments by: ***Professor Yoshifumi Tanaka***
Professor David Freestone
- 13.30 - 15.00** Lunch
- 15.00 - 18.30** Parallel Working Groups
- Working Group 1: Deep Sea Mining
Moderation: ***Professor Nele Matz-Lück***
Speaker: ***Michael Lodge***
Dr Edwin Egede
Professor Keyuan Zou
- Working Group 2: Marine Energy
Moderation: ***Professor Alexander Proelss***
Speaker: ***Dr. Pablo Ferrara***
Dr Kai Trümpler
Dr Olivia Woolley
- Working Group 3: Ocean Bed Pipe and Cable Systems
Moderation: ***Professor Markus Kotzur***
Speaker: ***Professor Robert C Beckmann***
Douglas Burnett
Professor Wolff Heintschel von Heinegg
- From 19:30** State Senate Reception

SATURDAY, THE 16TH OF APRIL 2016

- 09.30 - 12.30** Public Panel Discussion under the moderation of NDR (Northern German Broadcasting) and the participation of the scientific advisory board as well as three more practitioners.

HOST

IURT Internationaler Umweltrechtstag

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