

Workshop on ‘International Law and the Blue Economy’, Institute for International Law and the Humanities (IILAH), Melbourne Law School, 7-8 May 2026

**Convened by Professor Margaret Young, Melbourne Law School
(Australian Research Council [Future Fellowship FT220100418](#))**

Biographies

Margaret Young, Convenor 	Professor Margaret A. Young is an Australian Research Council (ARC) Future Fellow, Director of the Institute for International Law and the Humanities (IILAH) at Melbourne Law School, and Director of Studies of the International Law Association (Australian branch). She is currently Co-Chair of the Oceans and International Environmental Law Interest Group of the Australian and New Zealand Society of International Law (ANZSIL). She specialises in public international law, the law of the sea, international trade law, climate change and environmental law. https://law.unimelb.edu.au/about/staff/margaret-young
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Participants (Alphabetical)

Ekaterina Antsygina 	Dr Antsygina is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellow at the Norwegian Centre for the Law of the Sea, UiT The Arctic University of Norway. Her current research focuses on deep-sea mining on the Norwegian continental shelf. Previously, she was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Hamburg, where her work centred on the law of the sea and the protection of the marine environment. https://en.uit.no/ansatte/ekaterina.antsygina
Pallavi Arora 	Pallavi Arora is a Legal Consultant (Assistant Professor–equivalent) at the Centre for WTO Studies, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, where she advises India’s Ministry of Commerce and Industry on issues of international economic law, including negotiations relating to Phase II of the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies. She previously served as an Assistant Professor of Public International Law at the University of Petroleum and Energy Studies. https://www.nls.ac.in/faculty/pallavi-arora/

Ethan Beringen 	Dr Ethan Beringen is a Lecturer at the School of Law at the University of Queensland. He has published research on topics such as the negotiations for new biodiversity conservation and pollution prevention treaties, international fisheries law, Australia's ocean governance, regime interaction and middle power theory. https://law.uq.edu.au/profile/22543/ethan-beringen
Matthew Carvalho 	Matthew Carvalho is a joint research fellow between the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown University Law Center in Washington DC and the Sunway Centre for Planetary Health at Sunway University in Kuala Lumpur. His work focuses on regime interaction in public international law and planetary health approaches to global governance.
Jacqueline Espenilla 	Jacqueline Espenilla is an Assistant Professor at the University of the Philippines College of Law. She is concurrently a Senior Research Fellow at the University of the Philippines Institute for Maritime Affairs and Law of the Sea (UP-IMLOS), as well as the Chairperson of the newly-established Environmental Law Department of the Philippine Judicial Academy (PHILJA). Notably, she served as one of the Legal Advisers of the Philippine Delegation for the intergovernmental negotiations of the new, international legally binding instrument for conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (the BBNJ Agreement). Faculty – Espenilla Jacqueline Joyce F — UP College of Law
Sam Johnston 	Sam Johnston is a qualified lawyer with over 30 years of international experience with a wide range of organisations. Currently he is a consultant with: the Green Climate Fund; World Bank; UNDP; Tebtebba (Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education) and the International Savanna Fire Management Initiative. He is also Member of the Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) Experts Roster for the Green Climate Fund. https://law.unimelb.edu.au/about/staff/sam-johnston

Dawoon Jung 	Dr Dawoon Jung is a Senior Lecturer at the Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security, University of Wollongong. Prior to joining ANCORS, Dawoon worked as a Research Fellow in the Ocean Law and Policy team at the Centre for International Law at the National University of Singapore. Her research interests lie in the broad fields of the law of the sea, international environmental law, regulation of international shipping and climate change law. https://scholars.uow.edu.au/dawoon-jung
Viliame Kasanawaqa 	Viliame Kasanawaqa is a PhD candidate at the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies, University of Canterbury (Aotearoa, New Zealand). He is a Fellow of the Resilient and Sustainable Islands Initiative (RESI) and serves as the Lead Author of Chapter 4: Environmental Protection and Planetary Sustainability in the State of Small Islands and Developing States (SIDS) report for the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS. Viliame Kasanawaqa UC
Arinç Onat Kiliç 	Arinç Onat Kiliç is a teaching assistant and PhD candidate at the Faculty of Law, University of Antwerp, Belgium. His doctoral socio-legal research delves into the legal and financial construction of blue bonds, a specific sustainable finance instrument promoted to support the sustainable blue economy. His project critically examines whether different blue bond modalities and their implementation across geographies align with the international law of sustainable finance. About Arinç Onat Kiliç Arinç Onat Kiliç University of Antwerp
So Yeon Kim 	Dr So Yeon KIM is a Lecturer at Adelaide University. She was previously a Lecturer at the University of Essex and a Max Weber Fellow at the European University Institute. Her research interests concern the law of the sea and the marine environment, including area-based management tools, the BBNJ Agreement, and climate change and its impact on the oceans. https://adelaide.edu.au/people/soyeon.kim

Nengye Liu 	Associate Professor Nengye Liu is the Founding Director of Singapore Sustainable Futures Initiative at Singapore Management University Yong How School of Law. He is also serving as the Co-Chair of American Society of International Law Law of the Sea Interest Group. https://faculty.smu.edu.sg/profile/liu-nengye-6506
	Emeritus Professor Don McRae CC, ONZM, FRSC, from the University of Ottawa, is Canada's leading authority in several international legal fields, particularly international trade and investment law, maritime law, and fisheries law. His expertise has been regularly sought by UN agencies and other international organisations, and seen him serve as counsel, for both Canada and New Zealand, in numerous World Trade Organization cases. He is also one of only three Canadians to have been elected to the United Nations' International Law Commission (in 2006).
Millicent McCreath 	Dr Millicent McCreath is Assistant Professor in International Environmental Law at Durham Law School, Durham UK. She was previously a PhD student and Teaching Fellow at UNSW Sydney, a Research Associate at the Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore, and Tipstaff (judicial clerk) at the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales. https://www.durham.ac.uk/staff/millicent-j-mccreath/
Elisa Morgera 	UN Special Rapporteur on Climate Change, Elisa Morgera is Professor of International Law and Sustainability at Durham University (UK) and Professor in International and European Union Environmental Law at the University of Eastern Finland. She has published extensively on human rights and the environment, the human right to science, as well as the human rights of small-scale fishers, Indigenous Peoples, and children, at the climate-biodiversity and climate-ocean nexus. https://www.ohchr.org/en/specialprocedures/sr-climate-change/ms-elisa-morgera

James Munro 	Dr James Munro has worked as a lawyer at the World Trade Organization on international trade litigation at both the panel and appellate stages. He has also practised in the fields of international trade and investment law for the Australian Government, including advising on the compatibility of major policy reforms with international economic law, as well as on free trade agreements and serving as negotiator and legal counsel on various major trade and environment treaty negotiations. The author of numerous peer-reviewed contributions on subjects relating to international trade and investment law, James holds a PhD from the University of Melbourne in this field.
Rohan Nanthakumar 	Rohan Nanthakumar is a Barrister and Research Associate at Melbourne Law School, where he is affiliated with the ARC Project on Blue Economy and International Law, the Centre for Comparative Constitutional Studies and the Laureate Program on Global Corporate Climate Accountability. His research, teaching, and practise spans international law, constitutional and public law, human rights law, and climate and environmental law, with particular attention to the interface between these fields.
Jeff Noro 	Dr Jeff Noro is a Research Fellow at the Oceania Institute, University of Melbourne. A development strategist and policy advisor with over 15 years' experience across the Pacific, he was Lead Advisor and principal architect of the Bougainville Green-Blue Economy Policy (2025), Papua New Guinea. He holds a PhD in Biological Sciences (Marine Biotechnology) from the University of New South Wales and a Graduate Certificate in International Trade (International Trade Law) from the University of Adelaide.
Erlis Nurbani 	Erlis Nurbani is a PhD Candidate at the School of Law, University of New England, Australia. She retains permanent position as Lecturer in the Faculty of Law, University of Mataram, Lombok, Indonesia. Erlis has particular interests on the area of international law, human rights, law of the sea, fisheries governance, and traditional marine management. Her work explores the intersections of these fields to advance the protection of small-scale fishers who are often vulnerable under the expansive Blue Economy agenda. In her ongoing PhD research, Erlis seeks to develop an approach that not only benefits small-scale fishers and Indigenous coastal communities but is also practical for policymakers, given the complex processes of law making and law enforcement in Indonesia. Erlis also serves as the Managing Editor of Journal IUS Kajian Hukum dan Keadilan , a Scopus-indexed journal focusing on issues of law and justice.

Marcos Orellana 	Marcos Orellana is the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Toxics and Human Rights (2020-2026). He is also Assistant Professor at the American University Washington College of Law. He has served as legal advisor for United Nations agencies, governments, and non-governmental organizations on issues of international law concerning environment and human rights. He has intervened in cases before several international courts and tribunals. Professor Orellana has extensive experience working with civil society and Indigenous peoples on issues concerning global environmental justice. He also represented the eight-nation Independent Association of Latin America and the Caribbean in the negotiations of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.
Irini Papanicopolulu 	Professor Irini Papanicopolulu is Global Professor of International Law at SOAS, where she teaches and conducts research on public international law and the law of the sea. Prof Papanicopolulu conducts research and has published widely in international law, including among others law of the sea, delimitation of maritime boundaries, environmental law, international humanitarian law, human rights law and the protection of cultural heritage. Prof Papanicopolulu has advised the Italian Ministry of foreign Affairs, other state entities and governmental and non-governmental organisations on issues of international law, law of the sea and the regulation of maritime activities. https://www.soas.ac.uk/about/irini-papanicopolulu
Angelique Pouponneau 	Dr Angelique Pouponneau is the Lead Ocean Negotiator for the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS). She is an attorney and holds a PhD from the University of Malta's Islands and Small States Institute, where her research examined enabling legal environments for sustainable ocean economies in Small Island Developing States. She has over a decade of experience working across SIDS jurisdictions in the Caribbean, Pacific, and Indian Ocean regions. She previously served as CEO of the Seychelles Conservation and Climate Adaptation Trust (SeyCCAT) and Chief of Staff to the United Nations' Secretary General's Climate Action Team.
Morgane Querel 	Dr Morgane Querel is a Maritime Law expert specialized in shipping transition and marine environmental protection. Currently a Policy Officer at "Lex Moana Consulting", she holds a PhD from the laboratory Centre de Droit Maritime et Océanique (CDMO) of Nantes University and has extensive experience with Bureau Veritas, the French classification society, and the International Maritime Organization (IMO). Her expertise includes regulatory monitoring and decarbonization, supported by international research experience.

Stela Rubínová 	Dr Stela Rubínová has worked as a research economist at the World Trade Organization where she focuses on topics related to global value chains, economic development and innovation. Stela regularly contributes to WTO policy reports and collaborations with other international organizations, such as the Global Value Chains Development Report 2022; and Women and Trade: The Role of Trade in Promoting Gender Equality. Her research has been published in peer-reviewed journals such as the Canadian Journal of Economics and the Journal of International Economic Law. She holds a PhD in International Economics from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva.
Lena Schønning 	Associate Professor Lena Schønning is an associate professor at the Norwegian Centre for the Law of the Sea at UiT, The Arctic University of Norway. Her current research focuses on governance and regulation of environmental problems, in international, EU/EEA and national Norwegian law, including perspectives of justice. She has conducted several studies of the environmental regulation of aquaculture. Schønning, Lena UiT
Andrew Sullivan 	Andrew Sullivan has over 20 years of experience in marine resource research, management, policy and advocacy. He completed my Bachelor of Applied Science (Fisheries)(Honours) at the Australian Maritime College in 2000. He has since worked in a variety of roles including fisheries research/development in Ireland, senior fisheries management roles in South Australia and Tasmania, independent consultancy work and over the last four years he was the Executive Officer for the Commonwealth Fisheries Association (the peak industry body for Commonwealth-managed fisheries).
Yoshinobu Takei 	Dr Yoshinobu Takei is Associate Professor of International Law at Keio University, Japan. His current research focuses on the law of the sea, in particular issues related to the protection of submarine cables, international fisheries law, and UNCLOS implementing agreements. https://www.keio.ac.jp/en/faculty/k_100015822/

Erika Techera 	Professor Erika Techera of the University of Western Australia Law School is an environmental law specialist with particular emphasis on marine governance. Her research explores Indo-Pacific maritime issues: marine environmental law, including marine protected area law and policy, migratory and invasive species, and marine pollution, as well as maritime history and heritage. Her most recent projects include the intersection of climate change and fisheries law; non-traditional security threats (climate change, pollution and IUU fishing); marine environmental law for the blue economy in Indian Ocean states; and safeguarding marine and maritime heritage. Erika Techera - the UWA Profiles and Research Repository
Anastasia Telesetsky 	Professor Telesetsky is an international environmental law academic with a focus on ocean law. She is currently teaching at California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly) where she is an affiliate member of the Center for Coastal Marine Science and a founding member of the Pacific Offshore Wind Consortium. She is a co-author of the West Nutshell on Ocean and Coastal Law and the author of the Ocean Law chapter for the Environmental Law Institute's Handbook of Environmental Law. She has taught ocean and food law in China, Japan, and New Zealand and is a member of the Asia-Pacific Ocean Journal of Law and Policy's editorial team. She is the former co-chair for the American Bar Association's International Environmental Law interest group. https://nres.calpoly.edu/anastasia-telesetsky
Amanda Turnbull 	Dr Amanda Turnbull is a Senior Lecturer in Law and Undergraduate Convenor at Te Piringa Faculty of Law, University of Waikato, New Zealand. She is also a Research Associate with Te Puna Haumaru Centre for Security & Crime Science and Fellow of the European Law Institute. Her research interests include law & tech, transnational law, law of the sea and legal theory. Her latest research investigates how increasingly sophisticated AI technologies facilitate novel forms of harm. https://profiles.waikato.ac.nz/amanda.turnbull
Michelle Voyer 	Associate Professor Michelle Voyer is a Principal Research Fellow with the Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS) at the University of Wollongong. Michelle's research focuses primarily on the human dimensions of marine conservation and resource management, and the nexus of social science and policy. She investigates the governance challenges associated with the 'Blue Economy', with a particular focus on exploring opportunities for community and Indigenous input, engagement and codesign in emerging and established maritime industries. https://scholars.uow.edu.au/michelle-voyer

Hannah Wilcox



Hannah Wilcox is a barrister at the NSW Bar and a PhD candidate at the Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS) at the University of Wollongong. Her PhD research is on deep seabed mining, with a particular focus on the common heritage of humankind and equitable benefit-sharing in deep seabed mining governance. Hannah holds a Juris Doctor and Master of Laws from the University of Sydney, and a Masters of Maritime Policy from ANCORS.