While more than 190 countries will be negotiating under the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Paris, this workshop will discuss the role of the courts for climate change matters. Core focus goes to exploring what kind of climate related claims can or are submitted to the courts, particularly in Europe, and whether such claims may be successful. Legal adjudication in this field deals with a broad range of issues, varying from urging more ambitious governmental action to appealing against the establishment of renewable energy projects. Speakers will introduce to the audience several legal claims from current practice. Moreover, fundamental issues will be addressed, like the role of science in the courtroom, the deference courts should give to political decision-making, and how much policy room is left to EU Member States in view of EU climate law. All in all, the workshop will provide important insights about the potential role that law may play in the political and societal discussions regarding climate action.
10.30 – 11.00 Welcome, Registration

11.00 – 11.30 Climate Action before the Courts: the future of liability claims
   Prof. Dr. Michael Faure, Professor of Comparative and International Environmental Law, Maastricht University

11.30-12.00 Climate case law in the EU: a patchwork of rules and claims
   Prof. Dr. Marjan Peeters, Professor of Environmental Policy and Law, Maastricht University

12.00-12.30 Questions and Discussion

12.30-13.00 Lunch

13.00-13.30 Addressing coal fired power installations before the courts: experiences from practice
   Marga Robesin, Lawyer, Stichting Natuur en Milieu

13.30-14.00 The Urgenda case
   Ted Thurlings, Lawyer, PhD candidate, Radboud University, Nijmegen

14.00- 14.30 Questions and Discussion

14.30-14.45 Break

14.45-15.15 How do administrative courts deal with environmental claims? A view from judicial practice
   Dr. René Seerden, judge at the district court and Associate Professor of Comparative Administrative and Environmental Law, Maastricht University

15.15-15.45 Procedural rights and climate change
   Sandra Nóbrega, Junior lecturer, Maastricht University

15.45-16.15 Discussion

16.15-16.30 Reflection from ICIS: Prof. Pim Martens, Professor of Sustainable Development and scientific director of the ICIS Institute.

16.30 Closure, drinks