



**Ius Commune Conference Maastricht,
25-26 November 2021**

**Call for Abstracts
Workshop on Constitutional
Processes in the International
Legal Order**

***Rule Market-based Instruments
to Promote Sustainable
Development***

2021 IUS COMMUNE ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Constitutional Processes in the International Legal Order
25 November 2021, 14.00-18.00

WORKSHOP:
Market-based Instruments to Promote Sustainable Development
CALL FOR PAPERS

Sustainable development is one of the most pressing issues of our time. The need to ensure that economic growth through trade and investment is sustainable has further gained in importance in the context of economic recovery from the devastating effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the push towards creating resilient and sustainable value chains. This workshop engages with the issue of the growing use of market-based instruments (MBIs) - policy tools that use market power to provide incentives for policy changes abroad - to pursue sustainable development objectives.

MBIs can take a variety of forms. First, States and the EU may take unilateral measures, such as bans on illegally harvested timber, a carbon border adjustment tax, Generalized Systems of Preferences, or human rights due diligence requirements. Second, they can enter into bilateral agreements, in which they include sustainable development chapters. Finally, public and private actors may participate in multilateral initiatives, such as the ISO 26000 social responsibility standard, OECD guidelines on multinational enterprises, the ILO Tripartite Declaration, the UN Global Compact, and voluntary sustainability initiatives such as certification schemes. Public-private instruments may harness the market power of corporations to overcome jurisdictional limits that hamper States' ability to pursue their sustainable development objectives abroad. An example of this is the EU Conflict Minerals Regulation, which imposes non-financial due diligence requirements for Union importers of tin, tantalum and tungsten, their ores, and gold originating from conflict-affected and high-risk areas.

Questions have arisen about the effectiveness of some of these MBIs in achieving real progress towards sustainable development, in furtherance of States' international commitments in the areas of environment, human rights and labour standards. In addition, as MBIs by definition operate on the global market, they may fall within the scope of the international trade and investment obligations of States. It is therefore useful to understand the interaction between these instruments and the international legal framework that governs their use.

This workshop aims to explore various MBIs from the perspective of their contribution to sustainable development objectives, by examining their design, effectiveness and interaction with the international commitments of States.

We warmly invite interested researchers to submit an abstract to contribute to this workshop, by **30 June 2021** to the following email address: denise.prevast@maastrichtuniversity.nl. Presenters will be requested to develop the papers for this workshop into articles, which we aim to publish in a special issue of a journal.

Organizers: Denise Prévost and Iveta Alexovicova (UM)
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