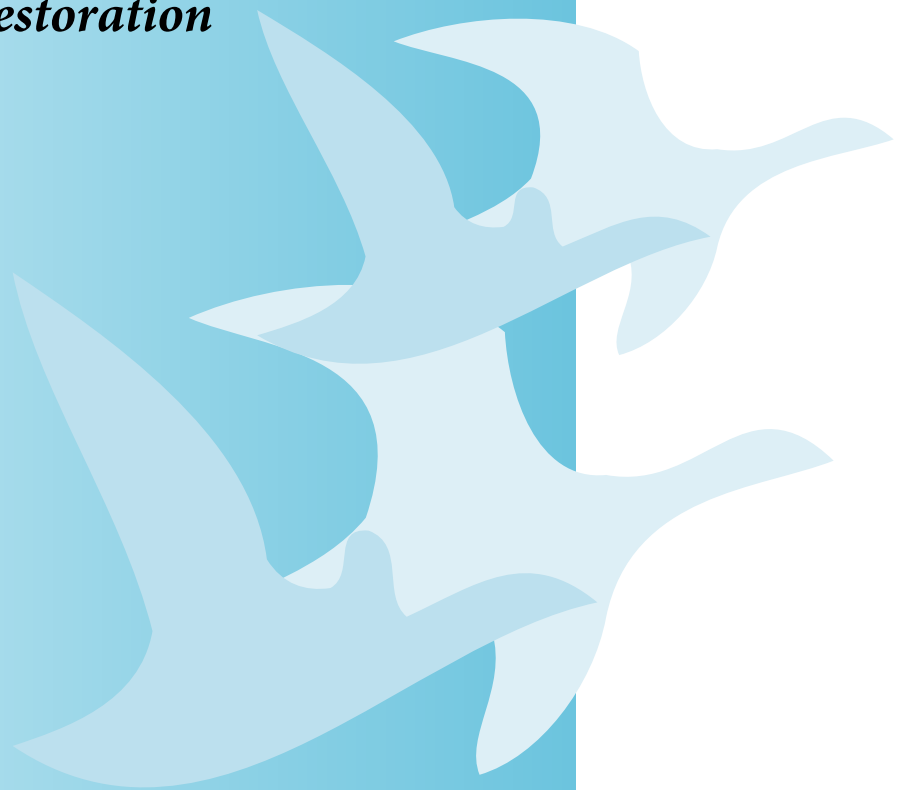




**Ius Commune Conference Utrecht,
28-29 November 2024**

**Call for Papers Workshop on
Transnational Environmental Law**

***Legal Perspectives on Nature-
Based Solutions and Nature
Restoration***



Call for Presentations and/or Papers:
Legal Perspectives on Nature-Based Solutions and Nature Restoration

IUS COMMUNE CONFERENCE 2024 – ENVIRONMENTAL LAW WORKSHOP

28 November 2024 - UTRECHT

Utrecht School of Law & Utrecht University Centre for Water, Oceans and Sustainability Law
(UCWOSL)

We are pleased to announce a call for abstracts on the legal aspects of **Nature-Based Solutions** (NBS) and **Nature Restoration** (NR). This call invites researchers to explore the challenges and opportunities presented by NBS and NR from a legal perspective. Selected abstracts will be presented at the environmental law workshop of the Ius Commune Conference, which will take place on 28 November 2024 from 9am to 12pm in Utrecht, the Netherlands.

Scope of the Call:

Nature-Based Solutions are defined by the European Commission as solutions that are inspired and supported by nature, which are cost-effective, simultaneously provide environmental, social and economic benefits and help build resilience. Such solutions bring more, and more diverse, nature and natural features and processes into cities, landscapes and seascapes, through locally adapted, resource-efficient and systemic interventions.

The European Green Deal and its associated strategies, including the Biodiversity Strategy 2030 and the Climate Adaptation Strategy, emphasize NBS as one of the key approaches. Additionally, the recently developed Nature Restoration Law, although not yet adopted, further underlines the importance of restoring degraded ecosystems through NBS. Finally, EU sustainability law puts NBS and NR front and centre. However, despite the growing focus on NBS and NR, the legal landscape remains under-explored.

We welcome submissions that explore, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- **Regulatory Challenges and Opportunities:**
 - Identifying and addressing legal enablers or barriers to the adoption of NBS and/or NR;
 - Opportunities for regulatory innovation to enhance the effectiveness of NBS and/or NR;
 - Case studies of successful legal interventions that have facilitated NBS and/or NR;
 - Legal mechanisms that encourage synergies between the public and the private sector, public-private partnerships and/or innovative financing for NBS and/or NR initiatives.

- **Governance and Institutional Arrangements:**
 - Allocation of responsibilities among different governance actors in the implementation of NBS and/or NR;
 - Legal frameworks that facilitate effective governance models and stakeholder engagement in NBS and/or NR projects;
 - Mechanisms for cross-policy collaboration to increase NBS and/or NR uptake.

- **Property Rights and Land Use:**
 - Legal issues related to land ownership, access, use of private property and the possible need of financial compensation for NBS and/or NR projects.

- **Monitoring, Compliance, and Enforcement:**
 - Legal mechanisms for monitoring, long term preservation of NBS in order to ensure the long-term storage of carbon and ensuring compliance with NBS and/or NR-related regulations including sustainable maintenance;
 - The role of litigation in promoting NBS and/or NR.

- **Science-Policy Interface:**
 - The integration of scientific research into legal frameworks for NBS and/or NR;
 - Dealing with uncertainties in research and decision-making.

Submission Guidelines:

Abstracts should be between 300 and 500 words in length.

Submission deadline: 15 September 2024.

Notification of acceptance: 1 October 2024.

Full paper submission: 1 February 2025. Selected papers will be considered for publication in a special issue of an environmental journal, with the specific journal name to be announced later.

Please send your abstract and/or any enquiries to Dr Liping Dai (l.dai@uu.nl).

The workshop will take place at **Aristo, Brennerbaan 150, Utrecht**. Please note that the Ius Commune research school is unable to cover speakers' travel or accommodation expenses.