

ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR ENERGY LAW NEWSLETTER

AUG
2021

Based at the University of Aberdeen, the AUCEL fosters research excellence in the fields of energy and environmental law, natural resources, investments and sustainable development. AUCEL serves as a forum to create a community of collaborative work, research dissemination, research-led teaching, and public policy engagement and knowledge transfer.



AUCEL & COP26

After a year's delay, COP26 is finally coming to Glasgow this November. This is the first COP since the Covid-19 pandemic began and there is a lot of pressure on countries to review and strengthen commitments under the Paris Agreement. With the return of the US to the negotiating table alongside the push for clarity on climate finance targets and nature-based solutions, it is promising to be an opportunity for significant progress for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Parties and blocks will consider crucial questions about reforms and transformations required to address the current climate crisis.

The energy and food/agriculture sectors are the most significant contributors to greenhouse gas emissions and are among our primary research objectives here at the AUCEL. Our experts are working on the role of law in the transition to low-carbon energy sources, transformation of the fossil fuel industry, and sustainable food systems.

For the two weeks in November, we are planning a number of activities engaging with COP26, including daily commentary through our social channels, panel discussions, and a blog series featuring our staff and student community.

Stay tuned for more details on our [website](#).



DR **DARIA**
SHAPOVALOVA

DR **TITI** ADEBOLA

UPCOMING EVENTS

13 OCTOBER 2021, 2-3 PM

VICTOR FLATT UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
The Role of Private Governance in the Energy Transition in the United States

02 NOVEMBER 2021, 2.30-4 PM

IN COLLABORATION WITH NOVA GREEN LAB
ENERGY TRANSITION AND COMMUNITIES

1-12 NOVEMBER 2021

COP26 PANEL DISCUSSION SERIES

08 DECEMBER 2021, 1-2 PM.

CHRISTINA VOIGT UNIVERSITY OF OSLO

An overview over the Paris Agreement after COP26

These are online events. More information and access links are available [here](#).



PHD PROFILE **ALINA HOLZHAUSEN**

After graduating in Law in Germany, I decided to study my LLM at the University of Aberdeen because of the programme offered in International Law and International Relations. Continuing my stay with a PhD in Law, I have focused my research on climate change litigation and human rights. I am deeply passionate about the environment and human rights, and see this PhD project as my contribution to the fight against climate change. I can share this passion as a member of AUCEL in a friendly and supportive research environment. Interesting exchanges with colleagues and guest seminar lecturers have helped me develop my research. I also teach tutorials at the University and work as a Research Assistant in Environmental and Climate Change Law at the British Institute of International and Comparative Law.

SELECTED RECENT PUBLICATIONS (AUCEL)

Gloria M. Alvarez et al. (eds) **International Arbitration in Latin America: Energy and Natural Resources Disputes** Wolters Kluwer 2021

Thomas L. Muinzer (ed) **National Climate Change Acts: The Emergence, Form and Nature of National Framework Climate Legislation** Hart 2020

John Paterson, 'Protecting Health, Safety and the Environment Offshore' & Constantinos Yiallourides and Greg W Gordon, 'Decommissioning of (Abandoned or Disused) Offshore Installations' both in M. M. Roggenkamp et al. (eds) **Elgar Encyclopedia of Environmental Law Vol IX: Energy Law, Climate Change and the Environment** Edward Elgar 2021

Daria Shapovalova, 'In Defence of the Principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities' Benoit Mayer and Alexander Zahar (eds) **Debating Climate Law** CUP 2021

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT: **DR THOMAS MUINZER**

AUCEL is currently working with Fraunhofer ISI, the Austrian Institute of Technology, and the European Heat Pump Association on a large research project for the European Commission that investigates heating and cooling perceptions, markets and regulatory decarbonisation frameworks.

“A LARGE RESEARCH PROJECT FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION”

The team is comprised of:

- **Dr Thomas L Muinzer**
Principal Investigator; Co-Director, AUCEL
- **Prof Russell McKenna**
Co-Investigator; School of Engineering, University of Aberdeen
- **Mary Gilmore-Maurer**
Research Assistant, AUCEL
- **Dr Elizabeth Brandon**
Research Advice and Support, AUCEL
- **Dr Eddy Wifa**
Research Advice and Support, AUCEL

The work will inform the European Union's approaches to district heating and cooling in the context of the Union's ongoing low-carbon energy transition.



**DR THOMAS
MUINZER**