

ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR ENERGY LAW NEWSLETTER

FEB
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.



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WELCOME TO THE AUCEL NEWSLETTER

As we are writing this welcome word, the new developments make us cautiously optimistic about energy transition. The US is re-joining the Paris Agreement after Biden's inauguration, UK is preparing to host COP 26, and the EU's new Strategy on Offshore Renewable Energy proposes to increase Europe's offshore wind capacity from 12 GW to 300 GW by 2050. Together with our diverse expert team at AUCEL, we are playing our role in this energy transition through our research, teaching, policy engagement and advocacy. We hope, this newsletter will bring spotlight to some of these activities and inspire you to reach out for collaboration.

We are grateful to the previous director, Prof Tina Soliman Hunter for her dedicated leadership. We are also indebted to our broader team of wonderful AUCEL colleagues.



DR **DARIA**
SHAPOVALOVA

DR **THOMAS**
MUINZER

CO-DIRECTORS OF THE ABERDEEN
UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR ENERGY LAW



PHD PROFILE **MILLCENT ELE**

DOCTORAL
CANDIDATE IN LAW,
UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

With huge interest in corporate environmental liability and pollution control, my research focused on the differential corporate behaviour of multinational oil companies with respect to oil spill control and clean-up is personally fulfilling.

I obtained my LLB from University of Nigeria, and LLM from Columbia University School of Law, New York. Before coming to Aberdeen, I was teaching environmental law and contracts at University of Nigeria.

I was attracted to the University of Aberdeen because of its programme in environmental law and energy, and Aberdeen's status as the seat of UK's oil and gas industry.

“**AUCEL
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RESEARCH**”

The AUCEL has been very helpful in the advancement of my research, and networking. Its seminar series is always informative and its outputs positively impactful.

I currently teach undergraduate law tutorials at University of Aberdeen and hope to continue with law teaching, research, and consultancy after my doctoral programme.

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT: MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING IN SCOTLAND

Marine planning is key to the delivery of offshore wind development and regional marine planning is the next step for this in Scotland. The roll out and processes were recently scrutinised by the Scottish Parliament Environment Climate Change and Land Reform Committee.

Anne-Michelle Slater presented to the Committee on: Using marine planning to balance competing demands on the marine environment: international comparisons, with Dr Tim Stojanovic, University of St Andrews and Dr Rachel Shucksmith, Shetland Marine Planner. The research, which contributed to the final report, reviewed marine planning in New Zealand, Norway, USA, Canada, England and Belgium. Although still in its infancy, there is much good practice in Scotland when compared with other jurisdictions.

The ECCLR committee recommended action on governance, resource and community engagement to facilitate and expedite marine planning implementation for Scottish waters.

Read the final report here: [Development and implementation of Regional Marine Plans in Scotland: final report \(December 2020\)](#)



**ANNE-MICHELLE
SLATER**



UPCOMING EVENTS

10 FEBRUARY 2021, 1-2 PM

GREG MUTTITT SENIOR POLICY ADVISER (IISD)

Managing the Transition: Meeting the Paris Climate Goals through an Orderly and Just Wind-down of Fossil Fuels

17 MARCH 2021, 1-2 PM

KAISA HUHTA SENIOR LECTURER
UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN FINLAND

In Between State Sovereignty and Transnational Economic Integration: Article 194(2) TFEU and the Evolution of EU Competences in the Energy Sector

28 APRIL 2021, 1-2 PM

ANNA BUTENKO SENIOR FELLOW
VERMONT LAW SCHOOL

Inevitable Convergence between EU Energy and ICT Sector Regulation: Security and Reliability of Electronic Communications as an Example

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

SELECTED RECENT PUBLICATIONS (AUCEL)

Roy Andrew Partain and Constantinos Yiallourides, 'Hydrate Occurrence in Europe: Risks, Rewards, and Legal Frameworks' 121 Marine Policy (2020)

Thomas L Muinzer, 'What Are National 'Climate Change Acts?'' Journal of Energy & Natural Resources Law (2021)

Daria Shapovalova, 'Arctic Petroleum and the 2°C Goal: A Case for Accountability for Fossil-Fuel Supply' 10 (3-4) Climate Law (2020)

Anne-Michelle Slater and Jim Claydon, 'Marine Spatial Planning in the UK: A Review of the Progress and Effectiveness of the Plans and their Policies' 22(2) Environmental Law Review (2020)