

The Harmonization of National Legal Frameworks as a Strategy to Address Transnational Organized Environmental Crime

By Dr Maria Marquès i Banqué, Tarragona Centre for Environmental Law Studies (CEDAT),
Universitat Rovira i Virgili (Catalonia, Spain)

Chairperson: Assoc Prof Lye Lin Heng, Director, APCEL, NUS, Faculty of Law

Wednesday, 14 June 2017

3.30pm – 5.00pm (Registration begins at 3.00pm)

Executive Seminar Room, Level 3, Blk B
Faculty of Law, NUS Bukit Timah Campus

ABSTRACT

The fight against transnational environmental crime requires a holistic approach and a coordinated international response. In 2015, the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime published a report entitled “Tightening the Net: Toward a Global Legal Framework on Transnational Organized Environmental Crime” (onwards, the GI Report). The GI Report identifies two main ways of implementing a global criminal law perspective to address the issue of transnational organised environmental crime. A bottom-up approach would focus on fostering renewed legal frameworks at the national level with the aim to fully include environmental crime in the scope of application of the *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime* (UNTOC). The top-down approach would instead focus on global legal frameworks impacting on national laws. This option refers specifically to the possibility of passing a new protocol to the Convention, which would place obligations on States parties that they would have to implement through their national legislation. The GI Report points out that, whatever the choice, a global criminal law approach should aim at harmonizing national laws by promoting internationally agreed definitions, requiring specific legislative and other measures, creating guidelines or requirements for harmonized and appropriate penalties, and providing for harmonized treatment of ancillary offences. The seminar will bring some reflection on the challenges that harmonization of legal frameworks and sanctions faces at the global level, taking into consideration the difficulties experienced in such an attempt at a regional level, in the European Union.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER



Maria Marquès i Banqué, Ph.D. in Law. Lecturer of Criminal Law and researcher at the Tarragona Centre for Environmental Law Studies (CEDAT) at Universitat Rovira i Virgili (URV), Tarragona, Catalonia-Spain. Director of the Environmental Law Clinic at URV. Visiting researcher at Max Planck Institut für internationales und ausländisches Strafrecht, Freiburg im Breisgau (Germany); Faculty of Law of the University of Technology, Sydney (Australia); and at the Institute of Marine and Environmental Law (IMEL) at the University of Cape Town (South Africa). Co-chair of the Teaching and Capacity Building Committee of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law (2010-2017).

REGISTRATION

Registration is complimentary and accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. Please register early to avoid disappointment and only light refreshment will be served. For enquiries, please contact Ms Shirley Mak at Tel: 6516 6246. Please click [here](#) or scan the QR code to register.



Closing Date: Tuesday, 13 June 2017 (by 5pm)