



SCHOOL OF LAW RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES
AUTUMN 2016

Hot Topic: The Paris Agreement on Climate Change

DR LAURA HORN - PROFESSOR DONNA CRAIG - CHATTAPORN HARABUT

DATE

Wednesday 16 March 2016

TIME

11.30am - 12.30pm

VENUE

Moot Court, Building EO, Parramatta

LUNCH PROVIDED

RSVP

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INQUIRIES

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NEXT SEMINAR

30 March 2016

Harry Glasbeek
Professor Michael Head

'Capitalism: A Crime Story'

ABSTRACT

Governments negotiated the Paris Agreement at the twenty-first Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change held in Paris during December 2015. These deliberations recognised more effective universal action is required to address the threat of climate change. The aim of the Paris Agreement is to enhance implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change by negotiating deeper cuts of greenhouse gas emissions, in excess of earlier efforts made by parties to the Kyoto Protocol to the Framework Convention on Climate Change. More onerous reporting requirements and transparent processes will be introduced to determine the progress made by parties to meet their international commitments concerning mitigation action. A new mechanism will be established to facilitate compliance with the Paris Agreement. Commencing in 2023, a regular global stocktake will occur every five years to determine whether parties are meeting the objectives of the new agreement. The primary objective is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions so the worldwide average temperature will be lower than 2° C above preindustrial levels. This presentation will explore the results of the negotiations at Paris in order to discuss the implications for Australian law and policy development on climate change issues in the future.

BIOGRAPHY

DR LAURA HORN'S key area of research is international environmental law and she completed a PhD on the topic 'The Common Concern of Humankind and Legal Protection of the Global Environment' in 2001. Presently she is researching in environmental areas concerning human rights, corporate social responsibility, governance and sustainable development. During her academic career, she has published a number of refereed articles in law journals as well as book chapters and conference papers on these topics. She is also very interested in the development of legal principles in international environmental law and legal instruments concerning climate change.

PROFESSOR DONNA CRAIG is a specialist in international, comparative and national environmental and planning law and policy. Donna has 40 years experience in research, legal practice, teaching and working with communities, NGO's, indigenous peoples' organizations, governments and corporations. Her research and publications emphasize the social, cultural and human rights dimensions of legislation, programs, impact assessment and sustainable development.

CHATTAPORN HARABUT is currently a PhD candidate at Western Sydney University. Her thesis is on the role of law in the mix of regulatory and market mechanisms for renewable energy in Thailand.