

TLS

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Dear all,

This is the first newsletter of the department of Transboundary Legal Studies. We have collected data from past events and will also publish upcoming events.

Please, if you wish your relevant research and updates to be published in our newsletter then send all your input to: TLS@rug.nl

The next issue is planned around February 2019

Upcoming Events

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEGAL KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS (JURIX 2018)

12-14 December 2018

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

10 December 2018



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General research activities

Marlies Hesselman

Marlies Hesselman has recently joined the interdisciplinary EU COST Action entitled '[European Energy Poverty: Agenda Co-Creation and Knowledge Innovation](#)' as one of two Dutch Management Committee members. This COST Action is set up to develop and strengthen an international community of researchers and practitioners focused on combatting energy poverty, and to facilitate interdisciplinary knowledge exchange. It will run between 2017-2022. The core aim of the COST Action is to change how Energy Poverty is theorized, detected and addressed, especially in Europe.

At the moment the existence of Energy Poverty amongst European households is a growing concern within the European Union, and also elsewhere in the world. Energy Poverty typically refers to people lacking access to essential, affordable, reliable, modern energy services in their home, needed to live dignified lives and achieve general well-being. In Europe, the European Commission currently proposes that EU Member States become legally obliged to define the notion of energy poverty at national levels, measure it and to report on how to address it. At present, no common international or European definition exists and the understanding of energy poverty differs widely per country.

Hesselman contributes to this COST Action based on her PhD research on the international human rights law dimensions of energy poverty and universal access to modern, affordable and reliable energy services.

Separate from the COST Action, Marlies last week delivered a presentation of her PhD work at a two-day interdisciplinary conference on '[Energy Justice and Capabilities Approaches](#)' at Malmö University in Sweden.



SPOTLIGHTED

On December 12-14, 2018 the 31st International Conference on Legal Knowledge and Information Systems (JURIX 2018) will be held in Het Kasteel in Groningen. The organisers are Jeanne Mifsud Bonnici and Henry Prakken of the Faculty of Law and Bart Verheij of the Bernoulli Institute for Mathematics, Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence of the RUG.

JURIX is since 1988 an annual international forum for the presentation of research on legal applications of artificial intelligence. JURIX is the main European conference and the second-most important conference world-wide in this area. On the first day there will be several workshops and tutorials while the second and third day will be devoted to presentation of the accepted conference papers and two invited talks. The invited speakers are Prof. Marie-Francine Moens of the K.U. Leuven, specialist in natural-language technology and its legal applications, and Prof. Jeroen van der Hoven, professor in ethics and technology at the T.U. Delft.

More information is available at at <http://jurix2018.ai.rug.nl/>

PUBLICATIONS

Diestelmeier & Hesselman (2018) 'De positie van huishoudelijke consumenten in het EU Winterpakket: Tussen participeren en beschermen' *Nederlands Tijdschrift for Energierecht* (2018, 1/2) p. 31-40

Hesselman (2018) 'A Right to International (Humanitarian) Assistance in Times of Disaster: Fresh Perspectives from International Human Rights Law' in Flavia Giustianini et al, *Routledge Handbook on Human Rights and Disasters* (Routledge, 2018) p. 65-86.

Gispen, Hesselman en Toebes (2018) 'De rol en potentie van het internationaal recht in het reguleren van ongezond gedrag: mogelijke aanvullende internationale standaarden omtrent (on)gezond voedsel en alcohol in het licht van tabaksontmoediging' [The role and potential of international law to regulate unhealthy behaviour] in Keirse et al., *Ongezond en (on)geoorloofd? Publiek- en privaatrecht & legale maar gezondheidsbedreigende producten en diensten* (Boom Juridische Uitgevers 2018)



Rachovitsa, 'International Law and the Global Public Interest - ICANN's Independent Objector as a Mechanism of Responsive Global Governance', in J. Summers and A. Gough (eds.), *Non-State Actors and International Obligations – Creation, Evolution and Enforcement* (BRILL, 2018).

Rachovitsa, 'The African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights: A Uniquely Equipped Testbed for (the Limits of) Human Rights Integration?', in E. Bribosia, I. Rorive, A.-M. Correa (eds.), *Human Rights Tectonics: Global Dynamics of Integration and Fragmentation* (Intersentia, 2018).

Professional publications

Rachovitsa, 'Blockchain for Open Science and Sustainable Development Goals', Spring 2018, [International Legal Research Informer Newsletter](#) (American Society of International Law)

SEMINARS, EVENTS, WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

Seminars of Department:

19 October 2018, Marie Loke zaal, 10.30-17:30: 7th Workshop on [International Law for the Sustainable Development Goals: Safe, Resilient and Sustainable Urban Settlements: The Right to the City and Urban Inclusivity](#)"

(key-organisers Erna Kusumawati and Marlies Hesselman)

Running Call for Papers

Global Health Law Groningen/Aletta Jacobs School of Public Health: 'Special Issue: Curbing the Lifestyle Disease Pandemic: Engaging in a Transdisciplinary Research Agenda for Effective Interventions', *BMC International Health and Human Rights*. See [Call for Submissions](#). (Editors: Brigit Toebees, Jitse Van Dijk, Marlies Hesselman, Jochen Mierau)

Marlies Hesselman presented on human rights law, energy access and vulnerable persons at the two-day Conference "Energy Justice and Capabilities Approaches" at Malmö University (12-13 September)

Workshop "Corruption, Human Rights and the Sustainable Development Goals"

On 25th September 2018 the TLS Department organised the [Workshop on "Corruption, Human Rights and the Sustainable Development Goals"](#). This is the 6th Workshop of the Workshop Series on [International Law for the Sustainable Development Goals](#).

Dr Cecily Rose (Grotius Centre, Leiden University), Dr Prosper Maguchu (University of Groningen), Professor Brigit Toebees (University of Groningen) and Ms Friederycke Haijer (Director of Transparency International and PhD Candidate at Utrecht University Law School) engaged with different aspects of the theme. Some of the topics addressed were:

What do the SDGs bring to the discussion of corruption?

- The need to forge collaborations among different disciplines in order to develop a better understanding of the different forms, causes and consequences of corruption.
- What is the interplay between different of bodies of law and regulation (on the international and domestic levels), including criminal law, human rights law, development law, administrative law and businesses practices?
- Do we factor appropriately cultural issues into the discussion of corruption?
- The potential and limitations of the human rights paradigm to conceptualising and fighting corruption as a human rights issue.
- **Mando Rachovitsa** presented a paper; 'The Protection of Human Rights in the Core Architecture of the Internet', Annual Research Day (Toogdag 2018) – "The Future of Human Rights – Human Rights of the Future", Netherlands Network for Human Rights Research, Tilburg, 22 June 2018