

# Are All International Climate Obligations *Erga Omnes*?

## Further Reflections on the International Court of Justice's Advisory Opinion on the Obligations of States in Relation to Climate Change

This roundtable discussion webinar will critically examine the International Court of Justice's recent advisory opinion on States' obligations in relation to climate change, with particular attention to whether, and to what extent, such obligations may be characterized as *erga omnes*.

It will assess the legal foundations and implications of this characterization, including its relationship to treaty-based and customary international law duties, *erga omnes* (*partes*) obligations under multilateral environmental agreements, and relevant human rights obligations. The discussion will also consider the consequences for State responsibility, legal standing, and available remedies in cases of climate-related harm.

**Wednesday, 5 August 2026**

17:30 - 18:45 SGT

11:30 - 12:45 CEST

09:30 - 10:45 BST

### Speakers:



**Dr. Priya Urs**

*Junior Research Fellow in Law*  
St. John's College, University  
of Oxford



**Dr. Craig Eggett**

*Associate Professor of Public  
International Law,*  
Maastricht University

### Moderator:



**Conrado M. Cornelius**

*Research Associate,*  
Centre for International  
Law, National University  
of Singapore (CIL-NUS)

**Dr. Priya Urs** is Junior Research Fellow in Law at St John's College, University of Oxford. She holds a PhD from University College London and an LLM from the University of Cambridge, where she won the David Thompson Prize (Homerton College).

Priya's current research examines the nature of states' obligations *erga omnes* and the scope for the enforcement of these obligations in international law. Her work in this area was cited at the International Court of Justice in *Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (The Gambia v Myanmar)* (Declaration of Judge ad hoc Kreß).

An article on this subject was also awarded the inaugural *ICLQ Hazel Fox Early Career Prize* (2025). Her earlier work in international criminal law is published as the monograph *Gravity at the International Criminal Court: Admissibility and Prosecutorial Discretion* (OUP 2024) and an article on that subject also won the *Journal of International Criminal Justice Prize* (2020).

**Dr. Craig Eggett** is Associate Professor of Public International Law at Maastricht University and the Programme Coordinator of the LLM in International Laws. Craig teaches public international law, international dispute settlement, and international institutional law to both undergraduate and graduate students.

His research concerns the foundations of international law and the law and practice of the United Nations, with particular expertise on the sources of international law. Craig is a member of the Globalisation and Law Network and the Maastricht Centre for Human Rights.

**Conrado Maximmanuel Cornelius (Conrado)** is an Indonesian lawyer and academic with extensive professional working experience in the legal industry and academia. He commenced his professional career initially as a corporate lawyer and has had the working experience of advising and assisting domestic and foreign clients, both individual and large multinational companies, in almost all areas of Indonesian commercial law. As an academic, he has published extensively on environmental- and climate law topics with leading academic publishers such as Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, and TaylorFrancis. Moreover, he has also served as an independent legal consultant advising several Indonesia-based United Nations (UN) bodies and international non-government organizations on various environmental- and climate law issues. Prior to joining CIL-NUS, he worked as an adjunct lecturer at the Faculty of Law, Universitas Indonesia.

## Reading Materials:

This roundtable discussion webinar is designed to probe the breadth and depth of the “*erga omnes*” claim of international climate obligations. To facilitate a fruitful discussion, the organizer provides external participants with links to open-access main reading materials and further recommended readings below:

### Main Reading Materials:

[Obligations of States in Respect of Climate Change \(Advisory Opinion\)](#) [2025] ICJ Rep.

Priya Urs, ‘[Open the Floodgates: Standing for the Enforcement of Obligations \*Erga Omnes\* in the ICJ’s Advisory Opinion on Climate Change](#),’ (CILDialogues, 11 August 2025).

Federica Paddeu and Miles Jackson, ‘[State Responsibility in the ICJ’s Advisory Opinion on Climate Change](#)’ (EJIL: Talk!, 25 July 2025).

Craig Eggett and Sarah Thin, ‘[Clarification and Conflation: Obligations \*Erga Omnes\* in the \*Chagos\* Opinion](#)’ (EJIL: Talk!, 21 May 2019).

## Further Recommended Readings:

Yoshifumi Tanaka, ‘[Legal Consequences of Obligations \*Erga Omnes\* in the Context of Climate Change: Some Observations on State Responsibility in the ICJ Advisory Opinion on Climate Change](#),’ (2026) *Climate Law* 1.

Miles Jackson and Federica Paddeu, ‘[\*Erga Omnes\* and \*Erga Omnes Parties\* Obligations in the International Court of Justice’s Climate Change Advisory Opinion](#),’ (2026) *Journal of Environmental Law* 1.

Priya Urs, ‘[The Articulation of Obligations \*Erga Omnes\* and \*Erga Omnes Parties\* by the International Court of Justice: Coherence or Confusion?](#),’ (2025) 74(2) *International and Comparative Law Quarterly* 257.

Priya Urs, ‘[Obligations \*Erga Omnes\* and the Question of Standing Before the International Court of Justice](#),’ (2021) 34 *Leiden Journal of International Law* 505.

Sarah Thin, ‘[Community Interest and the International Public Legal Order](#),’ (2021) 68 *Netherlands International Law Review* 35.

Maiko Meguro, ‘[Litigating Climate Change through International Law: Obligations Strategy and Rights Strategy](#),’ (2020) 33 *Leiden Journal of International Law* 933.

