

On 18 January 2019 Nyenrode Business University will host a conference on:

## Climate Responsibilities of Business

Do companies have legal responsibilities in relation to climate change? And, if so, are these soft (law) or can companies in fact be held accountable, for instance based on human rights?

A special element to this conference is the visit of The Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines ('CHRP') to The Netherlands. CHRP will be visiting our country for one of its inquiries in relation to a climate change and human rights complaint on the issue of whether carbon producing investor-owned companies "must account for the human rights implications of climate change and ocean acidification". The complaint was filed in 2015 by representatives which include survivors of super-typhoons, such as Haiyan (Yolanda). A series of hearings and inquiries have already taken place over the course of 2018 in Manila, New York and London.

**Date and time:** Friday 18 January from 9:00 - 16:00

**Location:** Nyenrode Business University, Straatweg 25, 3621 BG Breukelen; Lecture hall De Rooy 104

**Entrance:** free; lunch provided

**Participants:** the participatory event will bring together key national and international stakeholders, including leading scholars, lawyers, researchers, industry representatives, attorneys at law, corporate lawyers and NHRI experts.

### Programme

**Chair of the day:** Lynn Zebeda

9:00 - 9:15 Coffee and registration

9:15 - 11:15 **Theme I - Business and Climate Change: Law, Governance and Accounting** Speakers:  
**Prof. Dr. Tineke Lambooy** (Professor of Corporate Law at Nyenrode Business University):  
Climate Change in Corporate Governance and Corporate Law  
**Prof. Dr. Wim Bartels** (partner for Corporate Reporting at KPMG and member of the TCFD): The  
Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures - recent developments  
**Rebecca Scholten MA** (Corporate Responsibility Lead at EY): how do companies deal with the  
Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures  
**Remko Renes MA** (Nyenrode Business University): comments from an accounting perspective  
**Prof. Dr. Jaap Spier** (professor of Law and Global Challenges at the University of Amsterdam's  
(UvA) Faculty of Law): Climate Principles for Enterprises  
**Lars Nautrup Jensen MA** (VedvarendeEenrgi 'Sustainable Energy'): Divestment and stranded  
assets  
Followed by a **Q&A with the audience**

11:15 - 11:45 **Coffee and Tea**

11:45 - 12:45 **Theme II – Business Strategies on Climate Change** - a dialogue and Q&A with the audience:

**Piet Sprengers MA** Head of Sustainability, ASN

**Adrie Heinsbroek MA** Head Responsible Investment Team, NN Investment Partners

**Marc van Weede MA** Global Head of Strategy & Sustainability, Aegon

**Mark van Baal MA** Follow This

12:45 - 13:30 **Lunch**

13:30 - 15:00 **Theme III - Climate Justice and Human Rights-Based Cases Around the World**

**Commissioner Roberto Cadiz** (Commission on Human Rights of The Philippines): An overview of the inquiry in the Philippines

**Kristin Casper JD** (Litigation Counsel for Greenpeace International): Climate litigation on the rise, an overview of climate litigation cases worldwide

**Jan van de Venis LL.M** (specialised human rights lawyer and owner of JustLaw): Human rights and climate change - A quick and interactive masterclass

**Prof. Mr. Cees Flinterman** (former member United Nations Human Rights Committee and honorary professor Utrecht University and Maastricht University): 'State responsibilities in relation to Climate Change and Human Rights'

Followed by a **Q&A with the audience**

15:00 - 16:00 **Theme IV - Climate Litigation Against Companies**

**Laurie van der Burg LL.M** (policy officer at Milieudefensie): Climate litigation based on tort: the announced case of Friends of the Earth NL vs Shell plc

**Caterina Freytag MA** (Policy Advisor - Climate Litigation at Germanwatch): Saúl versus RWE - The Huaraz Case.

**Laura Burgers LL.M** (University of Amsterdam (UvA) PhD candidate): "Justitia, the Peoples' Power and Mother Earth"; developments and reflections on tort and human rights based climate change litigation.

16:00 – 16:15 **Wrap up by the chair**

*Message to lawyers who are part of the Netherlands Bar - Nederlandse Orde van Advocaten (NOvA): advocaten kunnen PO-punten halen voor deelname aan dit seminar. Zij dienen zelf te beoordelen of de inhoud van het seminar hun vakbekwaamheid ten goede komt en aldus opleidingspunten oplevert. JustLaw kan een bewijs van deelname verstrekken. We vragen hiervoor een bijdrage van EUR 250 excl. BTW*

**REGISTRATION ASAP VIA**

[info@JustLaw.nl](mailto:info@JustLaw.nl)

*N.B. your name will be put on a reserve list if the event is fully booked*