

# *International Law, Climate Change and the Arctic*

**Lecturer:**

Sebastien Duyck, LL.M., [sebastien.duyck@ulapland.fi](mailto:sebastien.duyck@ulapland.fi)

LL.D. candidate, researcher at the Northern Institute of Environmental and Minority Law

**INTRODUCTION**

The main purpose of this course is to explore the tools and methods available in public international law, and more particularly international environmental law, to address global issues (as well as their limits). In order to do so, we will take climate change as a case study and consider many aspects of the international policy response to this environmental and social crisis.

The two components of the course will be the study of a particular regime of international law (the climate change regime established under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change), and the relation between this regime and other fields of international law. For both of the modules of the course, we will use draw examples from the Arctic as case studies.

The course will be organized in an interactive format in order for each of the students to make the best of the course depending on their own needs and expectations.

**EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOMES**

Upon completion of this module the students will be able to:

1. *Explain* the detailed contents of one legal regime of international law and *understand* the relation between this regime and other field of international law
2. *Identify* grounds and consequences of the fragmentation of international law
3. *Provide* an account of international legal issues related to climate change in the Arctic region
4. *Understand* the challenges and practical issues influencing the adoption and emergence of new norms of Public International Law
5. *Apply* principles of international law to practical issues
6. *Analyze* critically the content of international legal regime
7. *Produce* papers about international legal issues (for those taking the 5 ECTS option) and *offer* oral presentation
8. *Work* with people coming from different legal backgrounds.

**FORMAT**

The course is offered in two different formats: either as a 5 ECTS course or as a 2 ECTS course. Students will need to confirm the format that they have chosen at the beginning of the course. The requirements to pass the course differ for each of the two formats:

- to complete the 2 ECTS option, you will be expected to attend and take actively part to all of the lectures, to read some of the course materials (those marked with stars in the list below), as well as to prepare a presentation (see instructions below)
- to complete the 5 ECTS option, you will be expected – in addition of the above – to read background materials for each lecture and to submit a paper (see the instructions related to the paper)

**CONTENTS**





**Lecture 7:**

\*\*\* *International Legal Avenues to Address the Plight of Victims of Climate Change: Problems and Prospects*, Timo Koivurova (2007)

**Lecture 8:**

*Climate Law and Policy in the European Union: Accidental success or deliberate leadership?*, Mehling, Kuloovesi and de Cendra (2012)

**Lecture 9:**

*Climate Change and the Use of the Dispute Settlement Regime of the Law of the Sea Convention*, Meinhard Doelle (2006)

-- OR --

*Heating Up International Trade Law: Challenges and Opportunities Posed by Efforts to Combat Climate Change*, Richard Tarasofsky (2008)

All materials and presentations will be made available on an online folder to which you will all be invited.

**ABSENCE TO LECTURES**

In order to allow me to better prepare the materials for the course, I would appreciate if you could notify any expected absence via email. Attendance to all lectures is expected for those intending to secure the course credits. If for various reasons you are not able to take part to one/some of the lectures, you can compensate for your absence by reading the materials suggested and providing a short learning diary (half a page to one page) where you will summarize the key points of the document as well as provide some personal reflections.