

## CALL FOR PAPERS

*The International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law*  
**Special Issue**  
**“Ocean-Based Action: The Ocean-Climate Nexus and Human Rights”**

Co-edited by:

**Professor Kati Kulovesi**, University of Eastern Finland, **Mr Mitchell Lennan**, University of Strathclyde  
and **Professor Elisa Morgera**, University of Strathclyde

The ocean has finally been firmly placed on the international climate change agenda through a series of ocean-related decisions adopted at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference in Glasgow (COP 26), notably the Glasgow Climate Pact. Priorities for UNFCCC Parties in enhancing and defining “ocean-based action” will start to emerge from the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice ocean and climate dialogue in June 2022, although more definite international guidance will only be determined at later stages through formal decision-making under the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement.

There is therefore an opportunity to advance international legal research on the ocean-climate nexus before decisions on ocean-based action are taken, in order to identify concrete needs that are “niche” under the UNFCCC about ocean-based action, as well as under other international regimes. This proposed special issue in *The International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law* argues that priorities for additional research should be identified on the basis of the interdependencies of human rights, the climate and the ocean across scales in several international processes and fora. To that end, the special issue seeks to expand understanding on the ocean-climate nexus and its relationship with human rights. The co-editors are especially interested in papers between **5,000 and 8,000 words** which address the priority research areas identified in the conclusions of [Lennan and Morgera](#) (2022). These include:

*a) Under UNFCCC*

1. Options for ocean-based solutions to climate change **mitigation** and means of implementation, including opportunities for blue carbon markets
2. Options for ocean-based solutions to climate change **adaptation** and implications for means of implementation (i.e., finance, technology transfer and capacity building) for the ocean

*b) Under other international regimes*

3. The need to address the relationship between climate change and human rights at the **International Seabed Authority**
4. The need to address the relationship between climate and human rights in the context of the proposed legally binding instrument on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction (**BBNJ**)
5. Action on fossil fuel under UNFCCC and new **treaty on plastics**: what benefits for tackling ocean plastic?
6. International **shipping** and climate change
7. The extent to which international law has addressed climate change and human rights in the context of **small-scale fisheries** (including role of **RFMOs**)
8. The role of **international human rights bodies** and the international climate regime to address the human rights of indigenous peoples, women and children at the ocean-climate nexus
9. Implications for **international litigation**

The editors particularly welcome collaborative efforts (and may suggest potential co-authors for contributions), inter- and trans-disciplinary approaches, and contributions from early-career researchers, and from the Global South. Kindly email your abstract (500 words maximum) to Mitchell Lennan ([mitchell.lennan@strath.ac.uk](mailto:mitchell.lennan@strath.ac.uk)) by **1 August 2022**. Authors of successful abstracts will be invited to a conference on the Special Issue in **October 2022**. Final manuscripts are due by **9 January 2023** (submitted through the journal’s [editorial manager](#)). Manuscripts are subject to peer review. Articles will be made available online on the journal’s website as soon they have been reviewed and typeset.