



The Realisation of Human Rights in Societies Beyond Growth

British Academy and Wellcome Trust Conference, hosted by the Human Rights Centre, University of Essex, 30 April-1 May 2024

Venue: Lecture Theatre Building Room 8 ([LTB8](#))

Agenda BST (GMT+1)

TUESDAY 30 APRIL 2024

8.50-9.20 Registration and Coffee

9.20-9.40 Welcome

- [Jules Pretty](#), Professor of Environment and Society, School of Life Sciences, University of Essex.
- [Karen Hulme](#), Professor and Director of Education, Essex Law School, University of Essex.
- [Judith Bueno de Mesquita](#), Interim Director, Human Rights Centre, University of Essex.

9.45-11.30 Panel 1 – Climate Change and the Realisation of Human rights: Imperatives, Opportunities and Challenges of Social and Economic Transformation

- [Kate Raworth](#), Author of Doughnut Economics: Seven Ways to Think like a 21st Century Economist. “Human rights, climate wrongs and doughnut economics.”
- [Jules Pretty](#), Professor of Environment and Society, University of Essex. “The low-carbon good life.”
- [Olivier De Schutter](#), UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights; Professor of Law, University of Louvain. “Beyond GDP: Combating poverty and realizing human rights without growth.”
- [Annalisa Savaresi](#), Professor of International Law, University of Stirling. “Human rights and climate change litigation: a reassessment.”
 - *Discussant:* [Birsha Ohdedar](#), (SOAS); *Chair:* [Judith Bueno de Mesquita](#), (University of Essex).
 - *Open discussion*



11.30-45 Coffee break

11.45-1.15 Panel 2 – Placing Established and Emerging Rights Holders at the Centre

- [Sandra Liebenberg](#), Professor and HF Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights Law, Stellenbosch University, and [Aoife Nolan](#), Professor of International Human Rights Law, University of Nottingham. “The economic, social and cultural rights of future generations.”
- [Koldo Casla](#), Senior Lecturer, Essex Law School, University of Essex. “Human Rights Local: An academic contribution to make human rights locally relevant.”
- [Brontie Ansell](#), Senior Lecturer, Essex Law School, University of Essex. “Nature as a rights holder in the corporate board environment: A case study of Faith in Nature.”
 - *Discussant: Professor [Jessie Hohmann](#); Chair: Professor [Karen Hulme](#) (University of Essex).*
 - *Open discussion*

1.15-2.15 Lunch (Lecture Theatre Building room 5)

2.15-4.00 Panel 3 – Alternatives to Sustainable Development: Challenges and Opportunities of International Law

- [Emily Jones](#), NuAcT Fellow, Newcastle Law School, Newcastle University. “The rights of nature: A new economic paradigm or more of the same?”
- [Margot Salomon](#), Associate Professor, London School of Economics (LSE) Law School, LSE. “Taking back the economy.”
- [Tara Van Ho](#), Senior Lecturer, Essex Law School, University of Essex. “Moving the business & human rights agenda to a post-growth agenda: challenges and opportunities.”
- [Claiton Fyock](#), Lecturer, Essex Law School, University of Essex. “A critical phenomenology of ecocide: Investigating the capitalist lifeworld of international law.”
 - *Discussant: Dr [David Birchall](#) (London South Bank University); Chair: Dr [Marina Lostal](#) (University of Essex).*
 - *Open discussion*

4.00-4.15 Coffee



4.15-6.00 Panel 4 - Policy Implications 1: Voluntary Simplicity and the Right to an Adequate Standard of Living, Including Continuous Improvement of Living conditions

- [Birsha Ohdedar](#), Lecturer, School of Law, Gender and Media, SOAS. “Watering down growth, reimagining rights: The human rights to water and eco-socialist degrowth.”
- [Jessie Hohmann](#), Professor in Law, University of Technology, Sydney. “What can a right to continuous improvement of living conditions add to human rights in societies beyond growth?”
- [Jackie Dugard](#), Senior Lecturer, Institute for the Study of Human Rights, Columbia University. “Using the master's tools to dismantle the master's house (?): Reflections from property rights contestation in South Africa on the use of law to undermine privilege and potentially advance degrowth.”
- [Godswill Agbaitoro](#), Lecturer, Essex Law School, University of Essex. “Reconceptualising energy justice from a corporate social responsibility perspective: Old body in new robes.”
 - *Discussant Professor* [Sigrun Skogly](#) (*Lancaster University: Chair: Professor* [Aoife Nolan](#) (*University of Nottingham*)).
 - *Open discussion*

**WEDNESDAY 1 MAY****9.00-10.45 Panel 5: Policy implications II: Beyond Growth in the Global South: Development Alternatives, Global solidarity and International Cooperation**

- [Ashish Kothari](#), Kalpavriksh, Vikalp Sangam and Global Tapestry of Alternatives. “Eco-swaraj: radical pathways to human and planetary rights.”
- [Roopa Madhav](#), Professor of Law, National Law University, Delhi. “Property rights, commons and community management of natural resources: rethinking paradigms.”
- [Cristina Blanco](#), Lecturer, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru and doctoral researcher, Essex Law School, University of Essex. “Amazonising human rights: rethinking the human-nature relationships through the Kukama-Kukamiria onto-epistemology.”
- [Wouter Vandenhoe](#), Professor of Human Rights Law, University of Antwerp. “Postgrowth and the Global South: Implications for international cooperation.”
 - *Discussant: Professor [Olivier De Schutter](#) (UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights); Chair: Dr [Claiton Fyock](#) (University of Essex).*
 - *Open discussion*

10.45-11.05 Essex Human Rights Centre Clinic: Project Presentations

- Charlie Albajili, Charles Badu-Kusi, Nova Ejokpa and Gülberk Gur. “Rights-based Economy.” (Project Partner: Center for Economic and Social Rights)
- Zeynep Baysar, Siân Posy and Genta Suzuki. “Energy transition, health and gender: Mapping the legal framework and potential policy solutions.” (Project Partner: Global Initiative on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights)
 - *Chair: Dr [Koldo Casla](#) (Director, Human Rights Centre Clinic).*

11.05-11.15 Coffee



11.15-12.55 Panel 6: Policy implications III: Health and Well-being in Post-growth and Sustainable Societies

- [Remco Van de Pas](#), Senior Research Associate, Centre for Planetary Health Policy; Lecturer, Institute of Tropical Medicine, University of Antwerp. “The need for transformation to a post-growth health and economic system.”
- [Ted Schrecker](#), Emeritus Professor, Faculty of Medical Sciences, Newcastle University. “Health care and social security in a postgrowth world: Prospects for Britain’s National Health Service and the Canada Pension Plan.”
- [Stephen Turner](#), Senior Lecturer, Essex Law School, University of Essex. “Alternatives to sustainable development and GDP: the example of Bhutan and Gross National Happiness.”
- [Judith Bueno de Mesquita](#), Senior Lecturer, Essex Law School and Interim Director, Human Rights Centre, University of Essex. “What right to health entitlements would we have in a post-growth society?”
 - *Discussant: Dr [Julian Sheather](#) (Consultant, World Health Organisation and Medecins Sans Frontiers); Chair: Professor [Anuj Kapilashrami](#) (University of Essex).*
 - *Open discussion*

12.55-1.35 Lunch (Lecture Theatre Building room 5)

1.35-2.50 Closing Panel 7: Bringing Human Rights, and Rights and the Environment, into Balance

- [Sigrun Skogly](#), Professor of Human Rights Law, Lancaster University. “Environment and human rights – the implications for human rights of future generations.”
- [Sergio Chaparro Hernandez](#), International Policy and Advocacy Lead, Tax Justice Network.
- [Meghna Abraham](#), Independent human rights expert. Conference summing up.
- *Discussant: Dr [Claiton Fyock](#) (University of Essex); Chair: Dr [Birsha Ohdedar](#) (SOAS).*
- *Open discussion*

3-3.10 - Close