



EUROPEAN RESEARCH  
PLATFORM ON ENERGY  
AND CLIMATE LAW

# 2<sup>nd</sup> International Energy and Climate Law Forum

11 June 2026 / 8:30 - 16:30

University of Oslo, Faculty of Law, DJ Auditorium 2

## USE OF THE UNDERGROUND FOR THE ENERGY TRANSITION

### Comparative regulatory approaches

8:30-9:00 – Registration. Coffee and Tea

#### 09:00-10:00 - Opening Session

- **Catherine Banet**, Professor, University of Oslo, Norway, and **Louis de Fontenelle**, Professor and Director of the European Research Platform on Energy and Climate Law, UMR TREE, University of Pau and Pays de l'Adour, France
- *A geoscience perspective on uses of the underground for the energy transition*, **Dr. Rikke Elsøe Bruhn**, Geologist, Equinor Low Carbon Solutions, Norway
- *Building Social Acceptability for Underground Solutions in the Energy Transition*, **Christophe Krolik**, Professor, Université Laval, Canada

10:00-10:10– Short break



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## 10:10-11:15 - Session I - Geothermal energy

*Chair: **Tara Righetti**, Professor and holder of the Occidental Chair in Energy and Environmental Policies, University of Wyoming, USA*

- *What to wish for the upcoming EU Geothermal Action Plan (2026), **Sanjeev Kumar**, Policy Director, European Geothermal Energy Council (EGEC), Belgium*
- ***Kenneth Høgevold**, Norwegian district heating association (Fjernvarme foreningen), Norway*
- *Panel discussion (20 minutes)*

*11:15-11:25 – Short break*

## 11:25-12 :40 - Session II - Carbon capture and storage

*Chair: **Dr. Rikke Elsøe Bruhn**, Geologist, Equinor Low Carbon Solutions*

- *Regulatory regime for underground CO<sub>2</sub> storage in Norway, **Cathrine Ringstad**, Bellona Environmental Foundation, Norway*
- *Regulation of onshore CO<sub>2</sub> storage in the United States, **Tara Righetti**, Professor and holder of the Occidental Chair in Energy and Environmental Policies, University of Wyoming, USA*
- *Trans-generational equity and CO<sub>2</sub> storage in the sub-seabed, **Amanda Wee**, Researcher, Centre for international law, National University of Singapore, Singapore*
- *Panel discussion (20 minutes)*

*12:40:13:30 - Lunch break*





## 13:30-14:40 - Session III - Nuclear waste storage

Chair: **Louis de Fontenelle**, Professor, University of Pau and Pays de l'Adour, France

- *Different approaches and common challenges in the site selection of a Deep Geological Repository*, **Nuria Prieto Serrano**, Senior Technician, Empresa Nacional de Residuos Radiactivos S.A. (ENRESA), Spain
- *Long term liability: comparative analysis between nuclear waste disposal and permanent CO<sub>2</sub> storage*, **Catherine Banet**, Professor, University of Oslo, member of the expert committee, Norwegian Nuclear Decommissioning (NND), Norway
- Panel discussion (20 minutes)

14:40-15:00 – Coffee break

## 15:00-16:10 - Session IV – Strategic rare materials

Chair: **Christophe Krolik**, Professor, Université Laval, Canada

- *Critical for Whom? Strategic Minerals, Underground Authority and the Legal Construction of Value in African Jurisdictions*, **Hanri Mostert**, Professor and holder of the DST/NRF SARChI Mineral Law in Africa, University of Cape Town, South Africa
- *EU-China Regulatory Dynamics and Relations in the Critical Raw Materials Supply Chains*, **Hao Zhang**, Associate Professor Faculty of Law, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
- *Critical Raw Materials and EU Trade Strategy: The Role of Free Trade Agreements in Securing Access to Subsurface Resources*, **Rose Charon**, PhD candidate, UMR TREE, University of Pau and Pays de l'Adour, France
- Panel discussion (20 minutes)





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## 16:10-16:30 - Closing Session

- **Catherine Banet**, Professor, University of Oslo, Norway
- **Louis de Fontenelle**, Professor and Director of the European Research Platform on Energy and Climate Law, UMR TREE, University of Pau and Pays de l'Adour, France

## After the Forum

We will continue the discussion around an informal gathering at Café Amsterdam, next to the Faculty of Law.

## Registration link

Please register using the following electronic form:

<https://nettskjema.no/a/631647>

**Registration deadline: June 4th 2026**



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