

## Human Rights, Natural Resources and Climate Change

**Monday 9 October 2023 | 09:15 - 17:00 | London 'in person' only event**

Leigh Day International, Clean Trade and the Transnational Law Institute are pleased to invite you to our series of panel talks on the human rights and climate impacts of natural resource extraction and exploitation.

Lawyers from Leigh Day will be joined by the Trustees of Clean Trade and a range of experts from the UK and abroad to discuss the human rights issues arising from the extraction of natural resources as well as the impact of climate change and legal avenues for redress.

The event will be moderated by Richard Meeran, Head of the International & Group Litigation Department at Leigh Day.

Breakfast pastries, lunch and refreshments will be provided, as well as networking with the speakers at the end of the session.

**RSVP by Monday 2 October 2023**, including any dietary and accessibility requirements. Please register early as the venue has limited capacity.

**RSVP HERE**

### The panels and speakers for this event are:

#### Registration (9:15am to 9:30am)

#### Impact of mining and agribusiness on indigenous rights (9:30am to 11:15am)

Discussion on deforestation and environmental harm caused by agribusiness and mining in Brazil, nickel mining in Indonesia, the extractive industry in Colombia and the impact of these on the rights of indigenous populations and rural communities.

- Octavio Ferraz, Transnational Law Institute / Clean Trade, UK
- Jonny Buckley, Leigh Day, UK
- Fiona Watson, Survival International, UK
- Jérémie Gilbert, University of Roehampton / Clean Trade, UK

#### Coffee break (11:15am to 11:45am)

#### Natural resources, extractives and sustainable development (11:45am to 1:30pm)

Discussion of the legal case against Shell concerning oil pollution in Nigeria, human rights and environmental harms at the Cerrejón mine in Colombia and the intersection of natural resource extraction and sustainable development.

- Kavita Modi, Leigh Day, UK
- Rosa María Mateus Parr, CAJAR, Colombia
- Michael Windfuhr, Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Germany
- Leif Wenar, Stanford University / Clean Trade, USA

#### Lunch (1:30pm to 2:30pm)

## The panels and speakers for this event continued:

### Supply chains, climate change and ESG (2:30pm to 4:00pm)

Discussion of avenues to challenge corporations on abuses in supply chains through consumer litigation, challenging corporations on climate change through shareholder litigation and the impact of “greenwashing” and companies’ stated commitments on ESG.

- Gesa Bukowski, Leigh Day, UK
- Meriel Hodgson-Teall, Leigh Day, UK
- Audrey Gaughran, SOMO / National Resource Governance Institute, Netherlands

### Networking (4:00pm to 5:00pm)

If you have any questions, please email us at [events@leighday.co.uk](mailto:events@leighday.co.uk).

## Meet the speakers

### Impact of mining and agribusiness on indigenous rights



**Octavio Ferraz** is a Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Transnational Law Institute at King’s College London, where he leads several research projects on the role of law and courts on addressing poverty, inequality, environmental harm, and human rights. As well as his academic work, he is a consultant and practitioner in the areas of human rights and environmental law, with a special focus on Brazil.



**Jonny Buckley** is a senior associate solicitor in the international and group litigation department. He specialises in cases relating to human rights abuses and environmental damage involving multinational corporations based in the UK and South Africa, particularly in the extractive sector. Jonny is currently working on a class action against Anglo American South Africa Ltd on behalf of Zambian communities living in the vicinity of the Kabwe lead mine who are suffering from lead poisoning.



**Fiona Watson** is the Research and Advocacy Director at Survival International and has been with the organisation for over 30 years. Fiona has worked on many campaigns for indigenous peoples’ rights, notably with the Yanomami, Guarani, and Awá in Brazil and the Bushmen of the Central Kalahari in Botswana. She has visited many indigenous communities in South America and is a specialist on uncontacted tribes in the Amazon. Currently she is working on Survival’s Uncontacted Tribes and Decolonise Conservation campaigns. Fiona has written articles for The Guardian, The Independent, El Pais and other media outlets.

## Meet the speakers



**Jérémie Gilbert** is Professor of Human Rights and a Special Advisor with Clean Trade. His main expertise is on the interaction between international human rights law, the protection of the environment and the emerging rights of nature. He is the author of *Natural Resources and Human Rights* (Oxford, 2018). He is an advocate and a litigator supporting the rights of Indigenous peoples, having intervened in several cases of human rights litigation at both international and national levels. Jérémie regularly serves as a consultant for several international organisations, notably the United Nations, and he is a board member of the Peoples Planet Project and the International Lawyers Project.

## Natural resources, extractives and sustainable development



**Kavita Modi** is a senior associate solicitor in the international and group litigation department with expertise in multi-party actions. She has over 15 years' litigation experience across a broad range of domestic and international claims including personal injury, human rights and environmental litigation. Kavita has worked on a number of notable cases at Leigh Day, including the Mau Mau litigation (on behalf of Kenyan victims of colonial torture and mistreatment) and the Iraqi Civilian Litigation. She is currently acting in claims against Shell on behalf of more than 2,000 individuals in Nigeria who allege that their environment has been devastated by oil pollution.



**Rosa María Mateus Parra** is a Colombian lawyer at CAJAR, a collective of lawyers in Colombia focused on human rights. She coordinates CAJAR's work on defending the land and fighting against the climate crisis. She has a lot of experience working directly with local communities across Colombia that face serious human rights violations and supporting them in protecting their fundamental rights including rights to their land, autonomy and ways of life. Her work includes both legal actions and strengthening community organising, and for example accompanying communities in dialogues with the entities, companies and other institutions involved.



**Michael Windfuhr** is Deputy Director of the German Institute for Human Rights. An expert in human rights, he was a co-founder of FIAN International (FoodFirst Information and Action Network) and held positions in various organisations including the post of Human Rights Director at Bread for the World. He holds various advisory roles and board positions in German government and civil society and he is currently a member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights where he actively contributes to the Committee's work on natural resources and sustainable development.



**Leif Wenar** is the co-founder of Clean Trade and the Chair of the Board of Trustees. He is Olive H. Palmer Professor of Humanities and Professor of Philosophy and (by courtesy) Professor of Law and Professor of Political Science at Stanford University. He has been a visiting professor at Princeton, Stanford, and the Australian National University, and a Fellow of the Program on Justice and the World Economy at the Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs. His work has been featured in numerous major international publications. He is the author of *Blood Oil: Tyrants, Violence, and the Rules that Run the World* (2016) and *Beyond Blood Oil: Philosophy, Policy, and the Future* (2018).

## Meet the speakers

### Supply chains, climate change and ES



**Gesa Bukowski** is an associate in the international and UK group litigation department of Leigh Day. She is interested in holding private and public entities, particularly large corporate actors, to account and is currently working on one of the largest consumer group litigations that has come before the English Courts to date. This involves advancing claims on behalf of, amongst other, UK consumers for breaches of contract, consumer protection legislation and breaches of emissions regulations.



**Meriel Hodgson-Teall** is a partner in the international and group litigation department. She specialises in largescale collective proceedings, primarily acting for consumers who have suffered harm in connection with a product/service or for investors who have suffered losses in connection with a financial product/service. She is currently acting on behalf of people who invested in the Woodford Equity Income Fund. She recently acted for two university academics in a claim against their pension provider, alleging a breach of directors' duties for the failure to divest from fossil fuels; and has also acted on the department's 'Dieselgate' vehicle emissions cases.



**Audrey Gaughran** is chair of the National Resource Governance Institute's (NRGI) Advisory council and executive director of the Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO). She is an expert on extractive industries, land use and human rights, and plays a leading role in SOMO's work on climate justice and the energy transition. She has worked as a human rights and environmental advocate at Amnesty International, NRGI and several grassroots environmental organisations. As Director of Global Issues at Amnesty International, Audrey led teams of investigators, lawyers and campaigners working on economic and social rights, global arms trade, corporate accountability, the death penalty, refugee and migrant rights and technology and human rights.