



Institut für Europarecht
Institut de droit européen

Rethinking European climate litigation: admissibility, temporality, audacity

Dr Corina Heri

Assistant Professor of Constitutional and Administrative
Law at Tilburg University

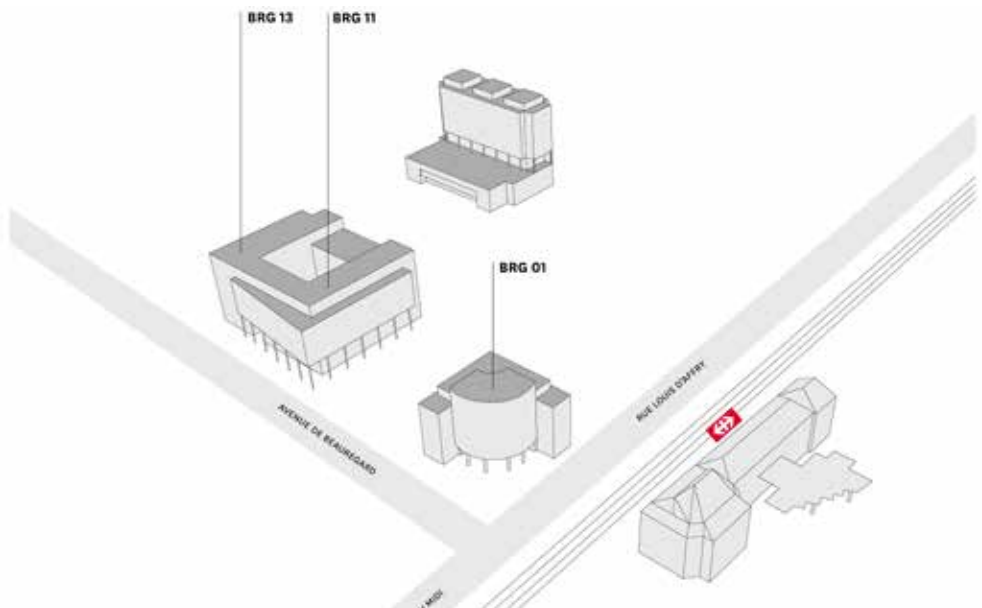
Tuesday, 9 December 2025, 17.15-19.00

University of Fribourg, Av. Beauregard 13, BQC 2.412
1700 Fribourg

Contact: claudia.curcio@unifr.ch

As rights-based climate litigation proliferates, early European cases – both from the European Court of Human Rights, and from the domestic courts of European States – have been the subject of prominent attention and imitation. These cases apply human and fundamental rights to States' emissions reductions policies. In doing so, they reveal deeper truths about the nature and subjects of European human rights law. These are expressed through a variety of constraints, including prohibitions of public interest cases, the present-oriented nature of litigation, and anti-courts sentiment or backlash. Meanwhile other cases, including prominent examples from outside Europe, have taken more 'audacious' approaches to jurisdiction, standing criteria, and the temporal scope of judicial engagement. This lecture will examine the current state of rights-based European climate litigation against its broader global context to identify the limitations of current approaches and experiment with more audacious understandings of admissibility and temporality.

Corina Heri is an Assistant Professor of Constitutional and Administrative Law at Tilburg University (the Netherlands). Her research lies at the intersection between human rights law, constitutional law, climate change and critical theory. Her work has been published in leading international journals including International Journal of Human Rights, European Journal of Human Rights, Human Rights Law Review, and International and Comparative Law Quarterly, and her book Responsive Human Rights was published by Hart Publishing in 2021.



University of Fribourg, Beauregard, room BQC 2.412, Avenue Beauregard 13, 1700 Fribourg

Contact : secrétariat Prof. Samantha Besson, Av. Beauregard 11, CH - 1700 Fribourg; claudia.curcio@unifr.ch