

# RIGHTS OF NATURE :

*Opening the Academic Debate  
in the European Legal Context*



MONDAY & TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14-15 2019  
TOULOUSE (FRANCE)

Toulouse 1 Capitole University (Auditorium M5001)

PRESENTED BY THE TOULOUSE 1 CAPITOLE UNIVERSITY (IEJUC)  
& THE SWEDISH UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES



# RIGHTS OF NATURE CONFERENCE - DAY 1

Monday, October 14

- 9:00 Welcoming coffee
- 9:30 Welcoming remarks : Corinne Mascala, President of the Toulouse 1 Capitole University & Matthieu Poumarède, Director of the *Institut juridique de l'urbanisme, de la construction et de l'environnement* (IEJUC)



- 10:00 **JULIEN BÉTAILLE**  
*Associate Professor of Law, Toulouse 1 Capitole University*

**Introduction: Does the legal protection of nature needs the “rights of nature”?**



- 10:30 **GUILLAUME CHAPRON**  
*Associate Professor of Ecology at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences*

**Legal rights of nature from the perspective of ecology**

## First session

## *Rights of Nature's origins and theory*

**Chairperson: Julien Betaille, Associate Professor of Law, Toulouse 1 Capitole University**



- 11:00 **DELPHINE MISONNE**  
*Professor of Law at the Saint-Louis University (Brussels)*

**Christopher Stone's influence on European legal scholars**



- 11:30 **OLIVIER CLERC**  
*Associate Professor of Law at the University of Artois (France)*

**The Environmental Law critic through Ecocentric ethics**



- 12:00 **PIERRE BRUNET**  
*Professor of Law at the University of Paris Panthéon-Sorbonne*

**Navigating the Rights of Nature Turn: Legal, Moral, and Political Issues**

12:30 Debate with the audience

13:00 Lunch break

## Second session

## *Rights of Nature around the globe and its practical implementation*

**Chairperson: Delphine Misonne, Professor of Law at the Saint-Louis University (Brussels)**



- 14:30 **GONZALO SOZZO**  
*Professor of Law at the National University of the Littoral (Argentina)*

**Rights of Nature and Environmental Constitutionalism in South America**



- 15:00 **LOÏC PEYEN**  
*Associate Professor at the Toulouse 1 Capitole University*

**Rights of Nature in the Pacific Region: considerations from the New Caledonian Case**



- 15:30 **JAN DARPO**  
*Professor of Law at the Uppsala University*

**Access to Environmental Justice in the European Union: do we need Rights of Nature?**

16:00 Debate with the audience

# RIGHTS OF NATURE CONFERENCE - DAY 2

Tuesday, October 15

## Third session

## Rights of Nature's promises

9:00 Welcoming coffee

**Chairperson:** Guillaume Chapron, Associate Professor of Ecology at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences



9:30 **JOHN KNOX**  
*Professor of International Law at the Wake Forest University (USA),  
Former UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment*

**Rights of Nature vs the Right to Environment across the world**



10:00 **MATTHIEU POUMARÈDE**  
*Professor of Law at the Toulouse 1 Capitole University*

**Does Environmental Liability needs the Rights of Nature?**



10:30 **YAFFA EPSTEIN**  
*Phd, Uppsala University (Sweden) (videoconference)*

**Strategic litigation and Rights of Nature**



11:00 **HENDRIK SCHOUKENS**  
*Post-doctoral Assistant, Ghent University*

**How to align nature's rights in the context of EU law?**

11:30 Debate with the audience

12:00 Lunch break

## Fourth session

## Beyond the Rights of Nature, towards new approaches



**Chairperson:** Michel Prieur, Emeritus Professor of Law at the University of Limoges, Chair of the International Center for Comparative Environmental Law (CIDCE)



14:00 **ALEXANDRE ZABALZA**  
*Associate Professor at the University of Bordeaux (France)*

**Without Rights Yet With Dignity : The Earthland Case**



14:30 **MARIE EUDE**  
*Phd candidate at the Toulouse 1 Capitole University*

**How to protect trees without granting Rights?**



15:00 **KAREN BRADSHAW**  
*Professor of Law at Arizona State University (USA)*

**Granting wildlife the right to own the land they live on**



15:30 **JOËL ANDRIANTSIMBAZOVINA**  
*Professor of Law at the Toulouse 1 Capitole University*

**How far is the European Court of Human Rights from the Rights of Nature?**



16:00 **GUILLAUME CHAPRON**  
*Associate Professor of Ecology at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences*

**Rights are too serious to be left to lawyers**

16:30 Debate with the audience



17:00 **JULIEN BÉTAILLE**  
*Associate Professor of Law, Toulouse 1 Capitole University*

**Concluding remarks**

