

ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR ENERGY LAW NEWSLETTER

AUG
2024

Based at the University of Aberdeen, the AUCEL fosters research excellence in the fields of energy and environmental law, natural resources, investments and sustainable development. AUCEL serves as a forum to create a community of collaborative work, research dissemination, research-led teaching, and public policy engagement and knowledge transfer.

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UNIVERSITY OF
ABERDEEN

NEW ENERGY TRANSITION LLM PROGRAMMES ONLINE & ON-CAMPUS

The international climate summit in Glasgow was a highlight of last term, permeating all our activities between September and Christmas.

We are delighted to announce the launch of new LLM programmes in the law of energy transition. The on-campus version welcomed its first cohort in January 2024, and the online version starts in September. Both programmes showcase research-led and interdisciplinary approach we have in Aberdeen, showcasing our expertise in critical approaches to energy, environmental, and climate law and policy.



DR **DARIA**
SHAPOVALOVA

DIRECTOR
OF THE ABERDEEN
UNIVERSITY CENTRE
FOR ENERGY LAW

Students can choose to study their programme with dissertation or with professional skills, an intensive three-week summer course on campus. Those who are coming to Aberdeen will also benefit from field trips and site visits organised in collaboration with AUCEL and wider University, industry, and third-sector community in Aberdeen.

This autumn, we are planning visits to community energy projects in the city and the shire, renewable energy site, and to Maritime Museum for an energy-focused tour.

Find out more about the programmes and short courses in energy transition law [here](#).



PHD PROFILE
DAOPU
SOMONI

After my LLM at the University of Aberdeen, I gained experience in legal practice and energy consultancy, focusing on areas such as third-party access to oil and gas infrastructure, regulatory philosophy, offshore safety, CCUS regulation and Just Transition.

I contributed to the development of the Electricity Industry (Enforcement) Regulation in Nigeria, which is currently in force and served as a Rapporteur/ Technical Assistant on Energy to the Federal Government. This experience informed my PhD project investigating the legal framework for development and deployment of CCUS within the context of a Just Transition.

AUCEL has provided a valuable platform for professional development for me, offering insightful seminars, research materials, workshops, and networking opportunities. These resources have enhanced my industry knowledge and kept me abreast of developments in the energy sector.

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT: GLOBAL SOUTH RESEARCH NETWORK

The GSLRN is an informal research network at the law school led by Dr Eddy Wifa and Dr Titi Adebola. The Network facilitates research collaborations and events focusing specifically on how law can push forward sustainability, human rights, and energy security in the Global South.

With the support of AUCEL, the Network has organised a variety of research activities and seminars. It successfully submitted evidence on the [UK-Africa Partnership for Just Transition in Africa](#) inspiring a research discussion on Translating Legal Research into Law and Policy in Africa, led by Prof Engoboh Emeseh, (University of Bradford). The session was attended by academics and PGR students.

In another event, the Network hosted Prof Tina Soliman Hunter, Director of the Centre for Energy and Natural Resources Innovation and Transformation who delivered a seminar on “Food-Energy-Climate Nexus: Perspectives from an Agricultural Powerhouse”. The topic explored the complex interconnections between energy, food and climate change from an Australian perspective.

Considering the value of industry engagement and collaboration, the Network is organising a seminar on Industry Perspectives on Decarbonisation on the 21st of August 2024. Our guest speaker is Wendelyn Chijioke-Ibekwe who is the Global Policy and Advocacy Adviser for Upstream Decarbonisation at Shell International. This will be followed by a brief discussion on career options and unconventional pathways.



DR EDDY WIFA

GIANT PYLONS IN THE NORTH EAST

In July 2024, AUCEL hosted a workshop titled "Giant Pylons in NE Scotland, Why Here, Why Now and What Next?" bringing together academics across diverse fields, legal professionals, civil society representatives, and local community members to examine the complexities surrounding pylon construction in the North-East of Scotland. Key topics at the event which was facilitated by Prof. Anne-Michelle Slater, included balancing national energy goals with local concerns, assessing social and environmental impacts, and identifying potential legal and policy reforms. Through open dialogue and collaborative discussions, participants explored strategies for navigating the multifaceted issues associated with the planned infrastructural development. Read more about the event [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENT

15 AUGUST 2024, 2-4 PM
Energy Dependence and Supply Security: Energy Law in the New Geopolitical Reality
BOOK PRESENTATION, SDRL Meeting Room 1 or online ([register here](#))

SPEAKER:

PROFESSOR ANATOLE BOUTE (CUHK)

SELECTED RECENT PUBLICATIONS (AUCEL)

Greg W Gordon, 'An Introduction to Risk Allocation in Oil and Gas Contracts from an English Law Perspective' in Kristoffer Svendsen, Endre Stavang, Greg Gordon (eds) *Knock-for-Knock Indemnities and the Law* (Routledge 2023)

Thomas L Muinzer et. al., *Energy Law and the Sustainable Development Goals* (Routledge 2023)

John Paterson, 'Offshore Wind Licensing in the United Kingdom' in IH Anchustegui and T Soliman Hunter (eds) *Offshore Wind Licensing* (Edward Elgar 2024)

Eddy Wifa et al, 'Decommissioning, Safety And Africa's Blue Energy Economy: An Analysis Of The African Integrated Maritime Strategy (Aims) 2050' *Journal of Sust. Dev. Law and Policy* (2023)

Gloria M. Alvarez, 'Article 20: Transparency in Commentary on the ECT' in Rafael Leal-Arcas (ed) *Commentary on the Energy Charter Treaty* (Edward Elgar 2023)