

Rights of Nature in Transatlantic Perspective

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Presenter biographies

María José Barragán Paladines obtained her doctoral degree in geography at Memorial University of Newfoundland in St. John's, Canada. After doing her bachelor's degree in biological sciences, she pursued a master of science degree in Sustainable Resource Management at the Technical University of Munich, Germany, where she dealt with marine protected areas and marine resources management. After that experience, a shift in her interests and research objectives took her to Canada where she brought together a human dimensions perspective with an interactive governance approach, which she applied to the study of marine resources and protected area settings. Her dissertation looked at the governability of the Galapagos Marine Reserve, on the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, from an ocean governance perspective. Currently, she is a senior research fellow of the Too Big to Ignore (TBTI) Project–Global Partnership for Small-Scale Fisheries Research and an associate researcher at the Universidad La Laguna, Tenerife, Spain.

María Valeria Berros is a junior professor and researcher at the National University of the Littoral and the National Council of Scientific and Technical Research in Santa Fe City, Argentina. She completed her doctoral degree in law with a focus on the sociology of law at the National University of the Littoral. Her work deals with the intersection between environmental law, sociology of risk, and social sciences studies, and she has participated in research projects at Sorbonne University, the School for Advanced Studies in Social Sciences (EHESS) in Paris, Limoges University, and Nantes University. Her current research focuses on law, environmental ethics, and social movements in Latin America. She analyzes the processes by which non-anthropocentric perspectives and rights of nature are incorporated into legal structures in different countries in Latin America.

Thomas Fatheuer studied Social Sciences and Classical Philology in Münster, Germany. From 1992 to 2010 he lived and worked in Brazil. From 2000 to 2003, he worked for the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) in the field of preservation of tropical forests, providing consultancy to the Ministry of Environment in Brasil. From 2003 to 2010 he was director of the Heinrich-Böll-Foundation in Brazil. Fatheuer has published several texts on the Brazilian model for development, the preservation of the tropical forest, and the United Nations Collaborative Program on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries. Since 2011, he has been working as a consultant and author in Berlin.

Jeannine-Madeleine Fischer received her master's degree in sociology, cultural anthropology and Eastern Slavic philology at the University of Freiburg. She is a doctoral student at the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology at Ludwig-Maximilians-

Universität, Munich (supervised by Eveline Dürr) and a researcher in the interdisciplinary DFG research group on “Urban Ethics: Conflicts around Good and Right Urban Lifestyle in the 20th and 21st Century (2015–2018).” Her research focuses on environmental pollution and cultural practices in Auckland, New Zealand. She considers perceptions and conceptions of environmental conditions and their interrelations with sociocultural debates and conflicts in two contrasting suburbs.

Sophia Kalantzakos is Global Distinguished Professor in Environmental Studies and Public Policy at New York University (NYU). She received her doctoral degree in political science and international affairs from the University of the Peloponnese. She studies climate change in the context of international affairs. She entered academia after a decade as a policymaker, an elected member of Parliament, and a deputy minister in the Greek government. Since moving to NYU she has made regular appearances on Bloomberg, CNN, and Fox as a political commentator on Greece, Europe, China, environmental issues, and rare earths. During her political career, she was an active contributor of op-ed pieces in the Greek press and in the wider European press.

Jens M. Kersten is professor of Public Law and Governance at the Faculty of Law of Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (LMU) in Munich, Germany. From 2012 to 2013, he was Carson Professor at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society. He studied law at the universities of Heidelberg, Leeds, and Bonn, worked as a postgraduate at Humboldt University Berlin, and was professor of planning and environmental law at the Technical University of Dortmund and of public and economic law at the University of Bayreuth. He works in the fields of European, constitutional, and administrative law, and specializes in bioethics and law, nature and society in the Anthropocene, digital governance and law, and demographic change and social cohesion.

Christian Lahnstein studied law in Tübingen, Munich, Geneva, and Salamanca. As a lawyer he worked for Munich Re in Colombia (from 1982 to 1988) and Munich (until 2014), and was responsible for fundamental issues relating to tort and insurance law, for developing strategies to deal more effectively with long-term risks, risks of change and mass litigation, and for clarifying social influences on tort law and insurance. He was a member of the Board of Overseers at the RAND Institute for Civil Justice in Santa Monica, and is a member of the European Centre of Tort and Insurance Law in Vienna.

Atus Mariqueo-Russell is a philosophy postgraduate student at Birkbeck University in London, where he specializes in environmental philosophy. In 2014 he represented Auspice Stella NGO at the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, to give a talk about indigenous human rights violations in Chile. He has previously stood as a Green Party council candidate in Cambridge, and has represented the Green Party at numerous public meetings. Most recently, he successfully passed a motion for the Green Party of England and Wales to incorporate Rights of Nature into their policies.

Anna Leah Tabios is a doctoral candidate at the Faculty of Law of the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich, Germany and a scholar of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Since 2013, she has been a member of the Rachel Carson Center’s “Environment

and Society” doctoral program, where she is working on a dissertation that weaves together intergenerational environmental equity, nuclear legislations, and the modern risk society. She received her juris doctor degree in the Philippines and her master of laws in Japan. Anna Leah is a licensed attorney in the Philippines and has also lectured in Cambodia and Germany. Her research interests include trusts, comparative legal cultures, and bioethics.