

The Department of Law at the University of Cyprus kindly invite you to a research seminar on

The Legitimacy of the Global Reach of EU Law: The Case of Ship Recycling

Wednesday, 30 September 2020 at 16:00-18:00

by Dr. Ioanna Hadjiyianni

Chair: Dr. Constantinos Kombos

Abstract

End-of-life ships from different parts of the world often end up in developing countries, primarily in South Asia, and are dismantled on beaches under poor conditions, leading to injuries or deaths of workers and local environmental pollution. Shipbreaking acutely demonstrates the difficulty of balancing the three pillars of sustainable development – environmental protection, economic, and social development. On the one hand, flag states wish to ensure that their fleet is dismantled in a safe and environmentally sound manner. On the other hand, ship recycling countries depend on ship recycling as a significant source of valuable materials, and an activity that provides job opportunities to vulnerable groups of workers. The presentation focuses on the EU’s Ship Recycling Regulation which seeks to drive international law-making through unilateral regulation with extraterritorial impacts, a regulatory technique increasingly employed in achieving sustainable development. Shipbreaking is covered by the Basel Convention on transboundary movements of hazardous waste and the Amendment Ban which prohibits shipments to non-OECD countries. Simultaneously, the IMO Hong Kong Convention on ship recycling, which has yet to enter into force, enables ships following certain requirements to be sent to all countries, without geographical limitation. Overall, regulatory interventions on shipbreaking are often ineffective as ships routinely circumvent regulatory requirements. This presentation discusses the EU’s Ship Recycling Regulation, as an important example of unilateral regulation with extraterritorial reach by imposing regulatory standards that are more demanding than international law for the recycling of EU-flagged ships, including in facilities in third countries. It thereby unilaterally determines the distribution of power and resources globally and within states. The paper examines how the legal design and operation of the Ship Recycling Regulation can address some of the legitimacy concerns raised by unilateral regulation while highlighting the gaps that remain in light of the fragmented interaction between multiple regimes.

Speaker Bio

[Ioanna Hadjiyianni](#) is a Lecturer at the Department of Law, University of Cyprus and is currently leading a research project on the ‘Global Reach of EU Law: The Case of Ship Recycling’ in the context of the start-up research fund granted by the University of Cyprus. Before joining UCY in January 2019, she was a Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellow at the European University Institute. She received her PhD from the Dickson Poon School of Law, King’s College London in June 2017. Her thesis was published as a monograph with Hart Publishing in 2019, titled *[The EU as a Global Regulator for Environmental Protection: A Legitimacy Perspective](#)*. The monograph was shortlisted for the ‘2020 SLS Peter Birks Book Prize for Outstanding Legal Scholarship’. Prior to joining King’s, she was a Schuman trainee at the Committee on Petitions at the European Parliament. Ioanna holds an LLM in Environmental Law and Policy from University College London and an LLB in English and European Law from Queen Mary University of London.

Practical Details

Language: The seminar will be conducted in English.

Format: Online Webinar

Registration: Participation is open, but you must register [here](#) for individual access to the Zoom meeting.