

RESEARCH CLINIC

General information

Supervisor:	Barrie Sander
Title of clinic:	Climate Change, Artificial Intelligence & (International) Law
Number of students:	Up to 8
Major	International Justice (IJ)
(Pre)requisites (<i>if applicable</i>):	At least one 100-level course in the IJ major Motivation letter (max. one page including an indication of relevant LUC courses already undertaken and which of the four research areas at the intersection of climate change and AI is of most interest) NB: The research clinic will take place in Block 3 .

Research context

Amidst heightened hype in the capacity of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies to improve societal responsiveness to climate change, this research clinic seeks to explore the risks associated with climate applications of AI and to critically reflect on the role of legal frameworks in constructing, sustaining and/or addressing such risks. The clinic will invite participants to address one of four research areas:

- The climate consumptionism of AI technologies, whether in terms of extraction of material resources and energy in their production and/or extraction of data as part of consumptionist business models;
- The role of AI technologies in climate mitigation projects aimed at reducing emissions and/or climate adaptation projects aimed at improving the resilience of communities to the effects of climate change;
- The role of AI technologies in the securitisation of climate policies, whether in terms of intensifying the surveillance of climate activists or constructing digital climate borders to stifle climate induced-migration;
- The role of AI technologies in shaping climate discourse, whether in terms of catalysing climate mis/disinformation or shaping climate advocacy and lobbying campaigns.

Students' tasks and activities

Participants will be asked to choose one of the four research areas. Since each research area is relatively broad, participants will need to identify a more specific focal point within their chosen area within the opening weeks of the clinic.

Each participant will be expected to produce a *literature review* which identifies relevant risks and concerns at the intersection of climate change and AI technologies, describes and explains relevant legal frameworks that construct, sustain and/or address such risks, and summarizes key insights from the existing literature. Participants will be required to attend regular meetings throughout the clinic at which they will be expected to provide updates on and discuss their research progress.

Additional tasks, including editing and bespoke research related to ongoing papers and presentations concerning climate change, AI and human rights law may also be assigned during the clinic.