



Irish Centre
for European Law

Environmental Law Enforcement: Emerging Challenges 2025

Conference date: 28 November 2025

Call for Expressions of Interest from PhD Students

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Irish Centre for European Law (ICEL) have announced the annual conference *Environmental Law Enforcement: Emerging Challenges 2025*.

The conference will take place on **Friday 28 November 2025** from 9.00am. This event is open to all and tickets generally range from €5 to €20.

Convened by Dr Tom Ryan (EPA) and Margaret Gray SC KC (Law Library and Brick Court Chambers), the conference will consider a range of contemporary themes relating to environmental law enforcement. The conference programme and online booking details will be published on the ICEL website at a later date. Enquiries to: icel@tcd.ie

One session of the conference will be devoted to the work of PhD students who are engaged in environmental law research, broadly defined. This session will provide an opportunity for PhD students to share their work with a wide audience.

Three places will be available in this particular session. Participants will be selected based on submitted abstracts of no more than 500 words and a brief application form. The following procedure applies:

Eligibility:

To be eligible for consideration, you must be registered in a PhD programme at a Higher Education Institution in Ireland or in Northern Ireland at the date of application. You must have completed at least the first year of the PhD programme to be eligible (or at least two years if you are registered part-time).

Application process:

Applicants must submit the specified application form. This involves providing specified information and a 500-word (max) Abstract. The Abstract should set out clearly the particular issue / research question that you propose to speak on at the conference.

The format of the session will be determined after the list of participants has been finalised.

The expectation is that those selected to participate will present on their topic for 15 minutes, followed by Q&A and general discussion. You should plan to be available to participate on 28 November 2025.

It will be a condition of acceptance that your research supervisor reviews your presentation and does a practice session with you in advance of the conference.

Application forms must be submitted **by email only** to the Irish Centre for European Law – icel@ted.ie with the subject line: ‘EPA ICEL Conference PhD student application 2025’ before the **deadline of 17:00 on Wednesday 15 October 2025**.

One document only – i.e. the application form – should be attached to the email.

Late applications will not be considered.

Assessment of applications:

An independent panel will be convened to assess applications.

Applications will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

- Clarity and coherence of the proposed issue / research question set out in the Abstract.
- Extent to which the research will advance the state of the art and make a contribution to existing knowledge.
- Innovative contribution to addressing a current environmental challenge.

The decision of the panel is final.