

Reconsidering Legal Subjectivity In and Through the Anthropocene

International Conference organized by the Research Network Law in the Anthropocene ([“Recht im Anthropozän”](#))

27–28 November 2025, Goethe University Frankfurt

Location 27th Nov. → [Normative Orders Building](#) | Room EG.01

Location 28th Nov. → [Guesthouse Frauenlobstraße 1](#) | Villa Cahn

Thursday, 27th November 2025 (→ Normative Orders Building)

11.00-11.30

Welcome & Introduction

11.30-13.00

Panel I. Trans/Local Knowledge Production: Indigenous Ecologies and Traveling Legal Theories (Moderation by Laura Affolter)

- 11.30-12.15 Rights of Nature – Traveling Theories and Critical (Legal) Knowledge Production in Catastrophic Times (**Anette Mehlhorn**, MPI for Social Anthropology)
- 12.15-13.00 At the Crossroads of the Anthropocene and Abya Yala: Extractivism, Energy Transitions, and Indigenous Ecologies (**Verónica Zuccarelli Freire**, MPI of Geoanthropology)

13.00-14.00

Lunch Break

14.00-15.30

Panel II. Challenging Legal Subjectivity? Waves and Fungi (Moderation by Andreas Gutmann)

- 14.00-14.45 Do Waves Have Rights? On Energetic Processes and the Law (**Andrea Mühlebach**, University of Bremen)
- 14.45-15.30 Beyond Trees and Rivers: Fungi and the Future of Rights of Nature (**Anna-Julia Saiger**, University of Freiburg)

15.30-16.00

Coffee Break

16.00-17.30

Panel III. Stretching Legal Subjectivity: Extended Relationality and Distributed Subjectivity (Moderation by Malte C. Gruber)

- 16.00-16.45 Distributed Subjectivity? How the Law in the Anthropocene Stretches the Concept of Legal Subjectivity (**Michael Kalis**, IKEM Institute for climate protection, energy and mobility & University of Greifswald)
- 16.45-17.30 From Eco-Colonialists to Cosmic Persons? – Thoughts on (Post-)Human Legal Subjectivity (**Berit Völzmann**, Humboldt University Berlin)

17.30-18.00

Coffee Break

18.00-19.00

Roundtable: Reconsidering Legal Subjectivity In and Through the Anthropocene with Laura Affolter (University of Hamburg), Christoph Burchard (Normative Orders & Goethe University Frankfurt), Thomas Scheffer (Goethe University Frankfurt), Anna-Lena Wolf (MPI for Social Anthropology)

19.30

Dinner (due to limited capacity in the off-campus venue only for members of the research network and contributing participants)

Friday, 28th November 2025 (→ Guesthouse Frauenlobstraße 1)

9.00-10.30

Panel IV. Rituals, Deity and the Hindu Joint Family: Neglected Perspectives on Legal Subjectivity (Moderation by Anna-Lena Wolf)

- 09.00-09.45 Deity as Juristic Person and the Hindu Joint Family as Corporate Entity: Legal Subjectivity and Innovations in Post-Colonial India (**Anindita Chakrabarti**, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur)
- 09.45-10.30 Rituals as Rights' Infrastructure: Legal Subjectivity, Cosmopolitics, and Environmental Protection in Mongolia's Sacred Mountains (**Bayar Dashpurev**, MPI for Social Anthropology)

10.30-11.00

Coffee Break

11.00-12.30

Panel V. Who is In-/Excluded? Addressees of Legal Subjectivity (Moderation by Susanne Krasmann)

- 11.00-11.45 In the Shadow of the Symbol – How Does the Discourse on the Expansion of Legal Subjectivity Engage with Global Trends of Rights Deprivation? (**Katrin Höffler**, **Jan-Ulrich Dittmer** [speaker] & **Felix Butz**, Humboldt University Berlin)
- 11.45-12.30 Law Beyond the Living: Future Generations (**Ana-Marija Rus**, University of Ljubljana)

12.30-13.30

Lunch Break

13.30-15.00

Panel VI. Imaginaries and Futures: Between Dystopia and Improbable Utopia (Moderation by Alina Wandelt)

- 13.30-14.15 Dystopia as Method: On the Legal Objectivation of Subjectivity in the Anthropocene (**Ana Oliveira**, University of Coimbra)
- 14.15-15.00 Legal Subject Formation in the Anthropocene (**Thomas Scheffer**, Goethe University Frankfurt)

15.00-15.30

Coffee Break

15.30-16.00

Summary & Final Discussion

END