

The Association

Internationaler Umweltrechtstag Hamburg e. V.



In February 2010, more than fifty legal experts – judiciary, academics, practising lawyers, public servants and policy makers – launched **Internationaler Umweltrechtstag Hamburg e.V.**, a private association established to support the International Environmental Law Conference. The association's members united around the aim of promoting common understanding at international level concerning the objectives and capabilities of environmental law and of pushing ahead the development of internationally accepted legal standards in environmental law. The primary means to this end is the exchange of ideas between experts, first and foremost in the framework of International Environmental Law Conferences to be held regularly every two years. The association also provides members with a forum for professional exchange on environmental law at smaller-scale events.

The association's by-laws are so framed as to ensure that the Hamburg International Environmental Law Conferences cannot be used as a platform for individual interests. Neither policy makers nor business nor industry associations will have notable influence on the substance of the conferences. The association is funded out of members' dues.

The association's board is composed as follows: Senator (retired) Jörg Kuhbier (lawyer), Dr. Roda Verheyen (lawyer; Director, Climate Justice Program), Kersten Wagner-Cardenal (lawyer), Apl. Prof. Dr. Dr. Joachim Sanden (Head of Department, Department of Soil Protection and Contamination, Hamburg State Ministry of Urban Development and Environment; Ausserplanmässiger Professor, Leuphana University, Lüneburg), and Martin Huber (Director, Legal Affairs Office, Hamburg State Ministry of Urban Development and Environment). The academic board of the First International Environmental Law Conference 2011 consists of Prof. Dr. Hans-Joachim Koch (University of Hamburg) and Prof. Dr. Doris König (Bucerius Law School, Hamburg).

The association relies on the assistance of non-members in the attainment of its objectives. Public institutions, non-governmental organisations and business enterprises can provide the association with lasting support in recruiting participants and speakers, in public relations activities, and above all in securing funding for the Conference.