

# NOVA GREEN LAB ANNUAL REPORT

2024



# Who are we

NOVA Green Lab is a knowledge center founded in 2019 as part of CEDIS - Center for Research on Law and Society. Since October 2022. It has been coordinated by the Abreu Chair in ESG Impact, Professor Lucila de Almeida. This is a center for independent discussion and knowledge sharing in the areas of environmental, climate and energy law.

Our activities and publications have different outputs, from scientific research to events, courses, blogs, podcasts and youtube series, all with the aim of fostering a better and more sustainable future. NOVA Green Lab is associated with NOVA School of Law, CEDIS, FCT and the Knowledge Institute, powered by Abreu Advogados. Together, we are committed to promoting legal and multidisciplinary research in the field of environmental, climate and energy law.

We currently have several ongoing projects on the relationship between law and ESG, namely from the perspective of the Corporate Sustainable Reporting Directive, Taxonomy, Green Claim/Greenwashing, and Sustainable Finance.

We write in Portuguese and English, in order to promote, on one hand, the good integration of the centre into the national legal scene and, on the other, the presence of the internationalization factor, which is so important in today's EU context.



# Our goals

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1

To conduct innovative and high-quality legal and multidisciplinary research in the field of environmental, climate and energy law, with the purpose of accelerating the transformations for a more sustainable future in Portugal, the European Union, and on the global scale;

2

Facilitate the dialogue and collaboration between academia, policymakers, stakeholders, civil society, and citizens of different generations;

3

Disseminate the knowledge created through academic publications and ensure the accessibility of the knowledge created through events, blogs, and media;

4

Engage students and early-career researchers with legal and multidisciplinary questions and methodologies aiming to solve the great challenges of climate change, energy and just transitions;

5

Promote high-level education addressed to students and professionals with the learning objective of improving awareness of the sustainability challenges and transferring skills to solve them in the realm of law.





# Our mission (Social Development Goals)

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The NOVA Green Lab aims to promote legal and multidisciplinary research in the field of environmental, climate and energy law, with particular emphasis on the challenges to the implementation of the European Green Deal in the EU, Portugal and its global reach. In addition to encouraging intensive academic debate, the knowledge center aims to facilitate access for political agents, civil society, companies and citizens of different generations to the knowledge needed to achieve a better and more sustainable future.



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# 01 Highlights

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As NOVA Green Lab wraps up another remarkable year, we're excited to share our progress in environmental, energy, and climate law research. Guided by our mission to encourage collaboration and create meaningful change, we have achieved important milestones in research, education, and community outreach. Here, we highlight the key inputs, outputs, activities, and impacts from this year.

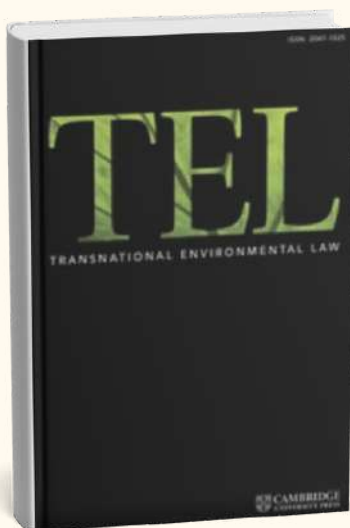
## 1.1 Input

NOVA Green Lab is committed to opening a call for new members and renovating its cohort of involved researchers every year. In 2024, we have gathered a vibrant team of 25 students, with a focus on Ph.D. and Master's students enrolled in programs at NOVA School of Law.

## 1.2 Output

This year, our work has produced valuable contributions, to which we highlight:

### I. Publications in peer-reviewed journals Scopus-indexed:



Ross, Violet, and Lucila de Almeida. 'Refining Reflexive Environmental Law by Nature and Nurture: Autonomy, Accountability, and Adjustability'. *Transnational Environmental Law* 13, no. 2 (July 2024): 428-52.

[https://doi.org/10.1017/S2047102524000037-](https://doi.org/10.1017/S2047102524000037)

# 01 Highlights

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Ross, Violet, Lucila de Almeida, Judith van Leeuwen, and Josephine van Zeben. 'Reflexive EU Environmental Law: Exploring Divergence in the French and German Transposition of the Single-Use Plastics Directive'. *Review of European, Comparative & International Environmental Law* 33, no. 3 (2024): 577-91.



<https://doi.org/10.1111/reel.12564>.

## II. Seventeen Contributions of members and students on reporting relevant case laws and case studies

for example, Masters students:

- *The Norwegian Supreme Court rules on its first “climate case”: an analysis of People v. Arctic Oil and possible future developments at the European Court of Human Rights*, by **Carolina Simon**
- *A Estação Dessalinizadora Do Algarve: uma Análise À Luz Da Avaliação De Impacto Ambiental*, by **Beatriz Gomes**.

and many others, accessible on the NOVA Green Lab website!



# 01 Highlights

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## 1.3 Activities

Throughout the year, NOVA Green Lab led various events to advance knowledge and engagement:

- **International Conferences:**

8th Meeting Global Observatory GO P2P, 28-29 May at NOVA IMS, Lisbon (organized with NOVA IMS and University College of London).

[more about this event at 6.1.2.](#)

- **National Conferences:**

2nd Annual Conference, O «E» em ESG e a Competitividade: Os Desafios da União Europeia nos Próximos Cinco Anos, and

[more about this event at 6.1.3.](#)

- **Workshops:**

We regularly organized workshops – four during 2024 – to provide students and researchers with opportunities to exchange ideas and develop their skills.

1st Workshop on Regulation and Environmental Risks, 14 May at NSL

2nd Workshop on Energy, Climate and Just Transition, 15 May at NSL.

Master Thesis Proposals Workshop in Environment, Climate and Energy Law, 3rd October (online)

2nd Workshop on Energy Law for Master and PhD students, 5 December at NSL.

[more about these events at 6.2.](#)



# 01 Highlights

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## 1.4 Impact

NOVA Green Lab's work has made a meaningful difference:

In partnership with Instituto de Conhecimento powered by Abreu Advogados, the online course developed for AICEP Academia addressed to SMEs in Portugal entitled "Curso de ESG de A a Z do Relato de Sustentabilidade" was shortlisted for the prize on **Innovation in Regulatory Solutions by Financial Times**.

The course is based on a handbook with the same title written by our Green Lab's Director. Up to October 2024, approximately 500 persons have followed the course. The initiative is a unique project in Portugal.

This recognition reinforces not only Abreu Advogados' commitment to innovation and excellence in the legal sector, but also the ongoing and fruitful collaboration between Abreu Advogados and NOVA Green Lab. It also shows that the objectives of both institutions are aligned, standing out as leaders in innovative regulatory solutions and sustainable practices.



# 02 Coordination, members and visitors

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## 2.1 Coordination

- Lucila de Almeida, Professor holder of the *ad personam* Abreu Chair in ESG Impact.



## 2.2 Advisory Board



Luís Barreto Xavier



Alexandra Courela



João Vacas

## 2.3 Project manager

- Beatriz Gomes, Project Manager (2023-2024) and Associate Researcher in Master Program (2023-2024 & 2024-2025).



# 02 Coordination, members and visitors

## 2.3 Members cohort 2024-2025

### research associates in PhD. program



Mariana Viana



Caroline Lima Ferraz



Patrick Simões



Melis Yuksel



João Francisco Diogo

### research associates in master program



Ana Bertazzo Lemos



Catarina Mendonça



Lotte Reuter



Mariana Fernandes



Manuela Cruz



André Azevedo



Carolina Simon

# 02 Coordination, members and visitors

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## research assistants in undergraduate program



Sofia Tello  
Barradas



Yan Lima

# 02 Coordination, members and visitors

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## 2.4 Members cohort 2023-2024

### research associates in PhD. program



Mariana Viana



Caroline Lima Ferraz



Patrick Simões



João Francisco Diogo

### research associates in master program



Ana Bertazzo Lemos



Catarina Rocha



Madalena Carranca



Rickson Neves



Catarina Mendonça



Victoria Weber



Raquel Marta



Udara Jayawardana



# 02 Coordination, members and visitors

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## research assistants in undergraduate program



Sofia Barradas



Yan Lima



Salomé Lourenço



Isabela Pizzolatti



Ana Leonor Leite



Diogo Simões



João Botelho

# 02 Coordination, members and visitors

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## 2.5 Visiting professors and researchers

- **Burke Griggs**, Fulbright Grant on Law and Sustainability and Full Professor of Law at Washburn University School of Law
- **Alessandra Porcari**, PhD Candidate and Teaching Assistant at Trento University and CEDIS Visiting Scholar
- **Karina Fernandes**, Postdoctoral Visiting Student at NOVA School of Law



Burke Griggs



Alessandra Porcari



Karina Fernandes

# 02 Coordination, members and visitors

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## 2.5 Network of experts

- **Filipe Matias Santos**, Head of Legal of the Portuguese Energy Regulatory Authority (ERSE).
- **Claire Bright**, Associate Professor at NOVA School of Law, Director NOVA BHR&E.
- **José Eduardo Martins**, Partner at Abreu Advogados.
- **João Pedro Soeiro de Matos Fernandes**, Senior Advisor at Instituto de Conhecimento (Powered by Abreu Advogados).
- **Filipe Brito Bastos**, Assistant Professor at NOVA School of Law, Former Coordinator.
- **Guilherme Mata da Silva**, Associated Partner at Abreu Advogados.
- **Ana Simões Ferreira**, Partner at Abreu Advogados.
- **Joana Freitas**, Executive Board Member at EDP Generation, part of EDP Group.
- **Madalena Bernardes Coelho**, Associated Partner at Abreu Advogados.
- **Tiago Melo Cartaxo**, Senior Lecturer in Law na Universidade de Exeter, Former coordinator.
- **Laura Íñigo Álvarez**, Researcher and Lecturer at NOVA School of Law.
- **Vera Eiró**, Assistant Professor at NOVA School of Law, Former Coordinator, President at WAREG (European Water Regulators) and Chairman of the Board of Directors of ERSAR.
- **Francisco Pereira Coutinho**, Associate Professor with Aggregation at NOVA School of Law, Former coordinator.
- **Giulia Priora**, Assistant Professor at NOVA School of Law, Director NOVA IPSI.
- **Maria Teresa Goulão**, Executive Director AEPSA.

## 03 Partner

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The Instituto de Conhecimento, powered by Abreu Advogados, plays a vital role as a valuable sponsor of NOVA Green Lab. As the Knowledge Institute of Abreu Advogados, it is dedicated to fostering thought leadership and innovation in legal research and practice. Through its support, the Instituto de Conhecimento enables NOVA Green Lab to pursue its multidisciplinary research agenda, addressing pressing environmental, energy, and climate law challenges.

This sponsorship extends beyond financial backing, reflecting a partnership built on shared values of academic excellence and practical impact. Importantly, all activities carried out by NOVA Green Lab benefit from full academic freedom, ensuring that its research remains independent and driven by the pursuit of knowledge and solutions.

The Instituto de Conhecimento's support facilitates the Lab's ability to host high-profile events, such as the Annual Conference and editorial meetings, bridging academia with policymakers and industry leaders. This partnership also underscores the importance of connecting legal expertise with real-world challenges, creating a foundation for innovative and actionable contributions to the field of ESG and beyond.

Through this collaboration, NOVA Green Lab and the Instituto de Conhecimento demonstrate how academia and legal practice can work together to address the complex issues shaping our shared future.



Powered by Abreu Advogados

# 04 Projects

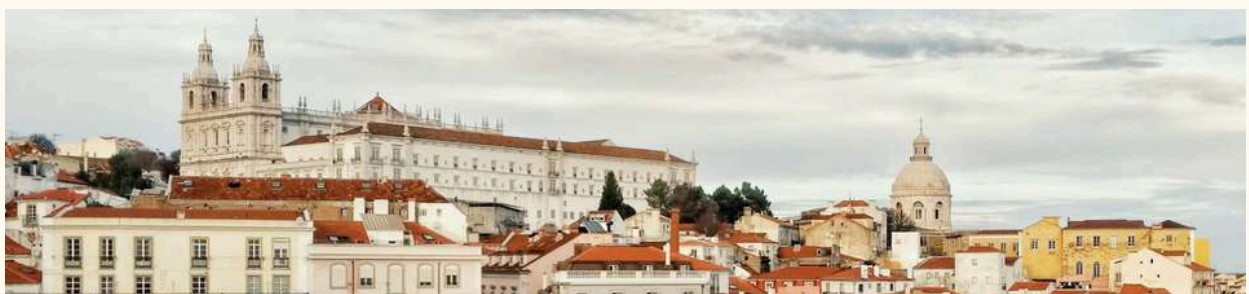
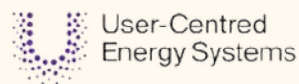
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## 4.1 Research Projects

### **UsersTCP by IEA: Global Observatory on Peer-to-Peer Community Self-Consumption and Transactive Energy Models**

February 2023 - February 2025

The Global Observatory on Peer-to-peer Community Self-consumption and Transactive Energy Models (GOP2P) is an international collaborative forum to understand the policy, legal, social and technological conditions needed to support the wider deployment of prosumer and transactional energy models between prosumers and energy communities. GOP2P is part of the International Energy Agency's User-Centred Energy Systems Technology Collaboration Programme (UsersTCP) and has over 200 participants. The project is led by University College London (UCL), with Professor David Shipworth as lead researcher, and co-lead by 5 other institutions.





# 04 Projects

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The NOVA School of Law and European University Institute (EUI) are responsible for managing the subtask on law and regulation under the coordination of Professor Lucila de Almeida since 2019. The latter is now negotiating with the institutions involved to have NOVA School of Law replace EUI as co-leader of the above sub-task institution. Our Director and Abreu Chair in ESG Impact, Professor Lucila de Almeida, is the project leader of subtask five and the contact person for this project.



# 04 Projects

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## 'E of ESG' project

February - December 2024

Since January of 2024, NOVA Green Lab has been developing a year-long research project, the 'E of ESG' project, aimed at demystifying and simplifying the topic of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) for the academic community and market actors. This initiative **involves members of the NOVA Green Lab** and has gathered everyone's contributions to produce a coherent piece of work. The project represented an unique opportunity to analyze sophisticated topics in environmental and energy law and materialize the center's research as a tangible tool within NOVA School of Law and its partners. The efforts to publish this work with an ISBN is now ongoing. It will be an open access publication available both online and in physical format.

## Observatory of EU Contract Case-Law for the European Review of Contract Law

Siince 2020 as continues project

The project consists of continuous research for identifying and classifying the judgments with contract law dimension at the of the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU), collecting data since 2020. The results of the project are published periodically, in three issues yearly, with the European Review of Contract Law (Scopus-indexed journal) as peer-reviewed articles entitled 'EU Contract Case Law,' which gather op-eds on the most important judgments of the CJEU. The **project is led and conducted by two Professors of NOVA School of Law, Fabrizio Esposito and Lucila de Almeida**. Since June 2023, they have also invited PhD researchers from different universities as guest co-writers to join them and share the task of describing some cases. The output of this project is available in the issues of the website of the European Review of Contract Law.

# 04 Projects

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## 4.2 Educational Projects

### Capacity building project for SMEs in partnership with AICEP and Instituto do conhecimento da Abreu

#### Advogados

September 2023 - December 2024

The ESG para PMEs is a capacity-building project resulting from the agreement between the Portuguese public entity named AICEP, the agency in charge of attracting foreign investment and supporting Portuguese companies to export, and the Knowledge Institute Powered by Abreu Advogados. The project consists of developing an online course of four hours entitled Curso ESG de A a Z do Relato de Sustentabilidade. It is addressed free of charge to SMEs incorporated in Portugal and concerns the companies' reporting obligations enshrined in the CSRD - Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive, including Environmental, Social, and Governance metrics in the ESRS, European Sustainability Reporting Standards. The online course has an open-access format and is available in Portuguese on the AICEP Academy platform, which is expected to have an outreach of approximately 2.000 PMEs.

The NOVA Green Lab is part of this capacity-building project since Professor Lucila de Almeida was its scientific coordinator through our partnership with Instituto do Conhecimento da Abreu Advogados.



aicep Portugal Global

Instituto de  
**conhecimento:**

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## 04 Projects

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### **Scientific initiation for selected members of NOVA Green Lab**

September 2023 - July 2024  
September 2024 - July 2025

Integrating a new research cohort into the NOVA Green Lab is an endeavor that demands meticulous planning, coordination, and sustained effort. As a premier knowledge center for environmental, climate, and energy law, we are dedicated to fostering a robust platform for independent discussion and knowledge exchange. This integration is not merely an administrative task; it involves a comprehensive process to ensure alignment with our mission of promoting a sustainable future.

Firstly, we meticulously select and onboard researchers whose expertise and vision resonate with our core values. This involves rigorous vetting, interviews, and alignment meetings to guarantee that each cohort member is a perfect fit for our dynamic and interdisciplinary environment.

Secondly, integrating a new cohort necessitates extensive collaboration across our various outputs—scientific research, events, courses, blogs, podcasts, and YouTube series. We provide structured training and support to ensure that new members can effectively contribute to and enhance these diverse initiatives.

Lastly, the integration process requires continuous monitoring and adaptation. We implement feedback mechanisms and regular check-ins to assess the progress and address any challenges faced by the new cohort. This iterative process ensures that both the cohort and the NOVA Green Lab evolve together, maintaining our commitment to excellence and innovation in environmental, climate, and energy law.

# 04 Projects

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## **E-Curso ESG Reporting and Due Diligence: edição em português**

1st edition - September to November 2024

The NOVA Centre on Business, Human Rights and the Environment (NOVA BHRE) and the NOVA Green Lab, both knowledge centers of NOVA School of Law, developed a course designed to help participants understand the evolution of the legal framework and adapt to new requirements for businesses. This includes small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Portugal looking to gain a competitive advantage in today's market. The course aims to improve risk management and value creation, positioning these businesses as leaders in corporate sustainability by leveraging the opportunities presented by new ESG regulations.

Coordinated by Professor Claire Bright and Professor Lucila de Almeida, the online course consisted of three modules, covering topics related to 'E', 'S', and 'G'. The 1st edition has 48 participants at the executive level. The 2nd edition was already confirmed for 2025.





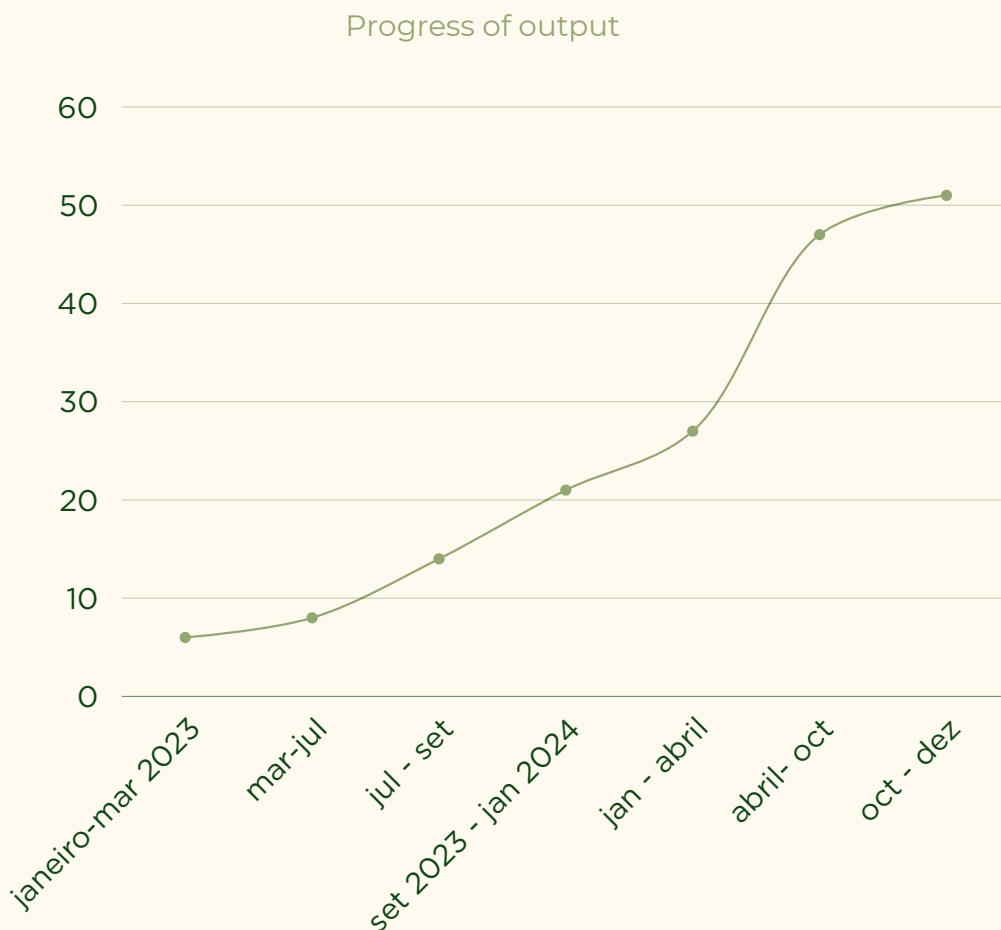
# 05 Publications

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Our publications are categorized into different categories according to their reach and academic prestige. These segments ensure diverse, high-quality contributions to our environmental, energy, and climate law output.

Since the relaunch of the NOVA Green Lab, we have seen a positive evolution in the number of publications, a direct reflection of the growing involvement and interest of our members. This increase not only highlights the team's commitment to quality scientific production, but also demonstrates our maturity as a research centre.

As peer-review processes have become more agile and efficient, members feel more comfortable developing and submitting their work, contributing to a dynamic of innovation and scientific excellence that strengthens our mission.



# 05 Publications

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## 5.1 Peer-reviewed articles in scopus indexed journals



Ross, Violet, and **Lucila de Almeida**. 'Refining Reflexive Environmental Law by Nature and Nurture: Autonomy, Accountability, and Adjustability'. *Transnational Environmental Law* 13, no. 2 (July 2024): 428–52. - (Scopus-indexed, Citation Score 3.6)

<https://doi.org/10.1017/S2047102524000037>

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Ross, Violet, **Lucila de Almeida**, Judith van Leeuwen, and Josephine van Zeben. 'Reflexive EU Environmental Law: Exploring Divergence in the French and German Transposition of the Single-Use Plastics Directive'. *Review of European, Comparative & International Environmental Law* 33, no. 3 (2024): 577–91. - (Scopus-indexed, Citation Score 2.12)

<https://doi.org/10.1111/reel.12564>.



# 05 Publications

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Esposito, Fabrizio, **Lucila de Almeida**, and Carolina Paulesu. 'EU Contract Case Law, July–December 2023'. *European Review of Contract Law* 20, no. 1 (1 April 2024): 128–47. - (Scopus-indexed, Citation Score 1.1)

<https://doi.org/10.1515/ercl-2024-2005>.

Esposito, Fabrizio, **Lucila de Almeida**, and Antonia Grimolizzi. 'EU Contract Case Law, April–June 2024'. *European Review of Contract Law* 20, no. 3 (1 September 2024): 245–61. - (Scopus-indexed, Citation Score 1.1)

<https://doi.org/10.1515/ercl-2024-2011>.

Requires Authentication Published by De Gruyter April 10, 2024

**EU Contract Case Law, July–December 2023**

Fabrizio Esposito, Lucila de Almeida and Carolina Paulesu

From the journal *European Review of Contract Law*

<https://doi.org/10.1515/ercl-2024-2005>

Unlicensed September 6, 2024

**EU Contract Case Law, April–June 2024**

Fabrizio Esposito, Lucila de Almeida, Antonia Grimolizzi

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Esposito, Fabrizio, **Lucila de Almeida**, and Elisa Valletta. 'EU Contract Case Law, January – March 2024'. *European Review of Contract Law* 20, no. 2 (1 June 2024): 188–206. -(Scopus-indexed, Citation Score 1.1)

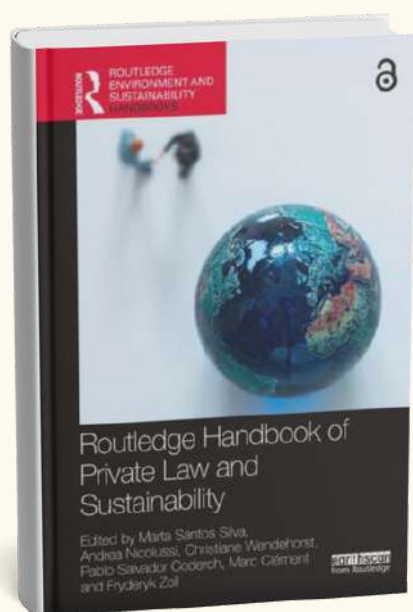
<https://doi.org/10.1515/ercl-2024-2008>.



# 05 Publications

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## 5 . 2 Book chapters with internationally recognized publishers



**Almeida, Lucila de, and Fabrizio Esposito.** *'The Blinding Effect of EU Consumer Policy Overshadows the Role of Consumer Law in Delivering the Green Transition'*. In *Routledge Handbook of Private Law and Sustainability*, edited by Marta Santos Silva, Andrea Nicolussi, Christiane Wendehorst, Pablo Salvador Coderch, Marc Clément, and Fryderyk Zoll. Routledge, 2024.

## 5 . 3 Handbook for capacity building purposes

**Lucila de Almeida,** *De A a Z do Relato de Sustentabilidade*, AICEP (2024).

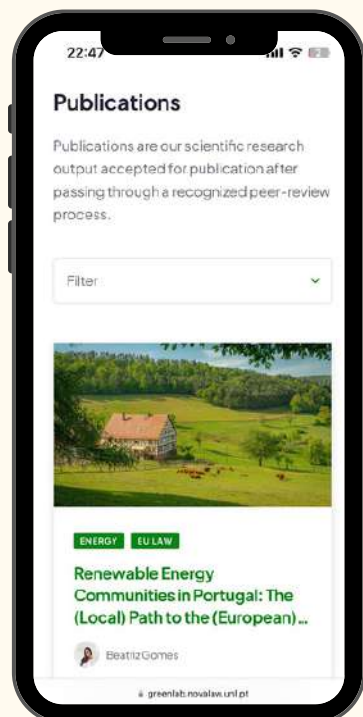


# 05 Publications

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## 5.4 Essays & blogposts published in the NOVA Green Lab website after internal peer-review

NOVA Green Lab continuously publishes on its webpage essays & blogposts written by students of NOVA School after a rigorous internal peer-review process. Those outputs mostly cover recent and landmark case laws concerning environmental, climate, and energy law, case studies, and new legislation highlights.



click here to access it!



# 05 Publications

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## 5.4.1 Conference proceedings



17 December 2024

*Conferência ibérica: contributos para o mercado europeu de energia, NOVA Green Lab.*  
*Edited and introduction by*  
**Lucila de Almeida and Beatriz Gomes.**

## 5.4.2 Case notes and essays

11 December 2024

*Incompatibility of the Financial Compensation of Reduced Electricity Price for Vulnerable Consumers with the Criterion of Non-discrimination of Public Service Obligations: Judgment in Case C-683/19 Viesgo Infraestructuras Energéticas*

by **Lucila de Almeida**

# 05 Publications

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21 December 2024

*Renewable Energy Communities in Portugal: The (Local) Path to the (European) Energy Transition.*

by **Beatriz Gomes**



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03 September 2024

*Change in Conditions of Renewable Support Schemes Agreements does not Violate the Principle of Protection of Legitimate Expectations of Investors: Judgment in Case C-148/23 GSE v Erg Eolica Ginestra Srl and Others.*

by **Lucila de Almeida**

*“In the present case, the obligation of the undertakings benefiting from the green certificate scheme to conclude the GRIN Agreement with GSE does not appear to affect that contractual freedom (para 66), nor the undertakings’s right to make free use of the economic, technical and financial resources at their disposal (para 63).”*

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12 July 2024

*Design and Liability Challenges in Offshore Wind Farms: the case of MT Højgaard A/S v E. ON Climate & Renewables UK Robin Rigg East Limited and another.*

by **Enriqueta Ramirez.**

# 05 Publications

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08 July 2024

*Análise Do Processo C-278/21 Da Segunda Secção Do Tribunal De Justiça Da União Europeia (AquaPri) - by **Madalena Carranca***

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02 April 2024

*The Norwegian Supreme Court rules on its first “climate case”: an analysis of People v. Arctic Oil and possible future developments at the European Court of Human Rights.*

by **Carolina Simon**

*“One must assume that the Constitution is the most important legal instrument inside the national legal order. Therefore, when the Supreme Court decided that Article 112<sup>o</sup> does not allow individual rights to be asserted in court (unless there’s “gross negligence”), it ended up turning a constitutional provision into an empty norm.”*

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11 April 2024

*Case T-883/16 Republic of Poland v. European Commission: the principle of energy solidarity.*

by **Eduardo Cerqueira**

# 05 Publications

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03 May 2024

*Mandatory Purchase of Green Certificates on Importers from Italian Renewable Energy Producers as Compatible with EU Law: RED II, State Aid and Freedoms. Judgment in Case C-558/22 Fallimento Esperia and GSE.*

by **Lucila de Almeida**

*“The Court of Justice’s decision is important because it develops its precedents in Essent Belgium’s saga, where the Court considered national measures that benefitted national renewable producers with free access to the network grid and mandatory purchases of national guarantees of origins as discriminatory and/or disproportional.”*

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30 April 2024

*May national courts assess the proportionality of the termination penalty fees of contracts between energy suppliers and SMEs? For the CJEU, the answer is yes. Case C-371/22 G Frais de résiliation anticipée.*

by **Lucila de Almeida.**



# 05 Publications

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26 June 2024

*AquaPri (2023): Conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (Natura 2000) and activity of fish farming.*

by **Leonor Neves.**

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05 July 2024

*Justiciability of Climate Change Legislation: Case Study of KlimaSeniorinnen v. Switzerland.*

by **Rok Glavan.**

*“Supporters of the Court’s decision have hailed the case as being the crucial next step in climate change litigation. This is not the first case where a state has been found in violation of the right to life regarding its insufficient climate change action – that would be the Dutch case of State of the Netherlands v Urgenda Foundation, in which the Supreme Court of the Netherlands held that the Dutch government violated human rights protected under Articles 2 and 8 of the ECHR by not meeting scientifically established emission reduction goals.”*

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18 March 2024

*Analysis of the ECJ Decision (C-17/03) on VEMW and Others.*

by **Rodrigo Cunha.**



# 05 Publications

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## 5.4.3 Case studies

05 August 2024

*A Estação Dessalinizadora Do Algarve: uma Análise À Luz Da Avaliação De Impacto Ambiental.*

by **Beatriz Gomes**

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13 August 2024

*O Projeto De Melhoria Das Acessibilidades Marítimas Ao Porto De Setúbal.*

by **Rodrigo Cunha**



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05 September 2024

*A expansão da Pedreira de Vale de Mós: A AIA e o impacto na zona protegida da Arrábida*

by **Eduardo Cerqueira**

# 05 Publications

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## 5.4.3 Blogposts

13 December 2024

*The new Brazilian legislation on the regulation of Carbon Markets: highlights*

by **Victoria Weber**

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04 June 2024

*Proposal of the Directive on Common rules promoting the repair of goods (Right to Repair Directive)*

by **Beatriz Gomes** and **Madalena Carranca**

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19 January 2024

*Como o financiamento misto (blended finance) pode acelerar o desenvolvimento sustentável*

by **Ana Flávia Barros** and **João Botelho**

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26 February 2024

*Green shipping: Updates on MRV Regulation to Maritime Transportation (blogpost)*

by **Sofia Tello Barradas**

# 05 Publications

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31 May 2024

*Unveiling the Green Curtain: European Parliament Takes Firm Action to Combat Greenwashing and Safeguard Consumers* - by **Victoria Weber**

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03 June 2024

*Green-shipping: provisional agreement on CO2 emission standards for heavy-duty vehicles (HDVs)*

by **Sofia Tello Barradas**

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08 March 2024

*Green Lab Talk: Escassez de Água em Portugal e o Direito com a Presidente do Conselho de Administração da ERSAR, Vera Eiró.* (report).

by **Beatriz Gomes** and **Catarina Rocha**



# 06 Organized Conference, Workshops and other events

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## 6.1 Organized conferences

### 6.1.1 AICEP – Conferência ESG para PME Exportadoras

**12 March 2024**, at Auditório da AICEP, Lisbon  
(organized with Instituto de Conhecimento and AICEP)

A **AICEP Portugal Global**, in partnership with IAPMEI, organized the ESG Conference for Exporting SMEs: Awareness and Capacity Building, during which the “ESG Course from A to Z of Sustainability Reporting,” developed by the Abreu Advogados Knowledge Institute, was presented, scientifically coordinated by our Director, Professor Lucila de Almeida.

This conference aimed at launching the among SMEs (Small and Medium Enterprises) regarding ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) principles and their role in international markets. It emphasized strategies for sustainable business practices, particularly for companies seeking to enhance their competitive edge in export markets.

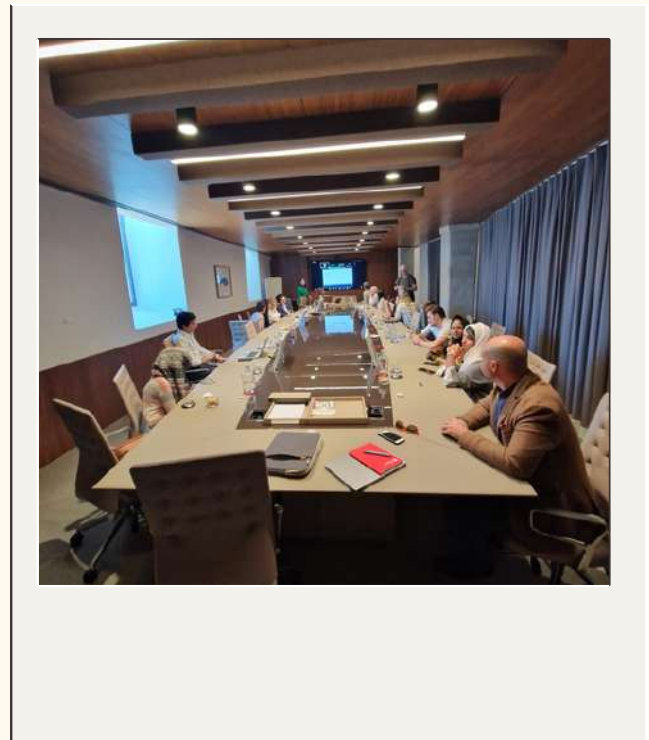


# 06 Organized Conference, Workshops and other events

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## 6.1.2 8th meeting Global Observatory GoP2P

The 8th Global Observatory GoP2P meeting, hosted at NOVA University of Lisbon on **May 28 and 29**, was organized by User-Centred Energy Systems and focused on scaling up local energy markets. This year's event, in collaboration with NOVA Green Lab, NOVA School of Law and NOVA IMS, was funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (UK FCDO).



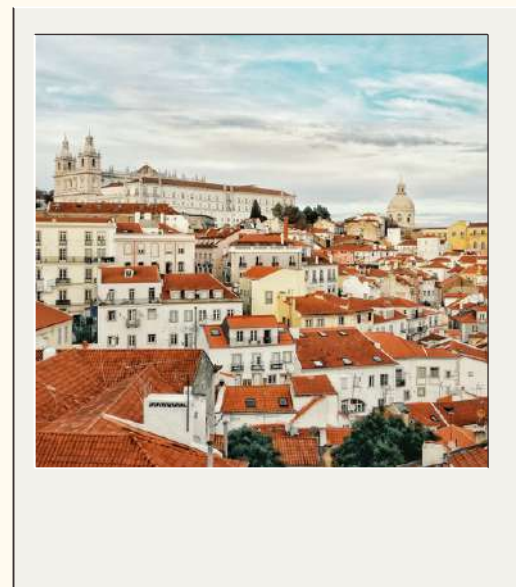
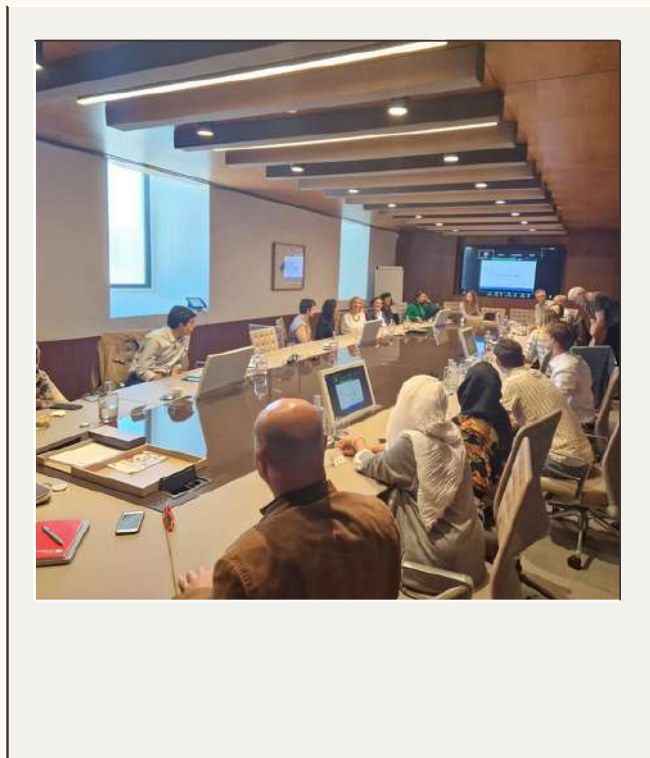


# 06 Organized Conference, Workshops and other events

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The event explored the increasing momentum of local energy markets, including peer-to-peer trading and community self-consumption, which empower users to exchange electricity directly. While pilot projects have demonstrated feasibility, challenges such as regulatory and technical barriers hinder scalability. Portugal, a leader in this field, offers valuable insights.

Participants had the opportunity to learn from European cases and discuss solutions for wider adoption beyond pilot phases.



# 06 Organized Conference, Workshops and other events

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## 6.1.3 NOVA Green Lab annual conference

On **November 11 and 18**, NOVA Green Lab hosted its 2nd Annual Conference, titled “O «E» em ESG e a Competitividade – Os Desafios da União Europeia nos Próximos Cinco Anos.” The event served as a powerful platform to examine and discuss the profound implications of recent EU legislation, particularly the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD), on European industry and sustainability practices.

The first day of the conference, held at the esteemed Abreu Advogados Auditorium in Lisbon, the conference brought together a diverse and engaged audience of legal experts, policymakers, corporate leaders, and academics. The discussions revolved around the EU’s legislative efforts to foster sustainable, transparent corporate practices, as well as the challenges and opportunities these new reporting and due diligence requirements present for businesses and policymakers. The panel examined not only the implementation strategies for these regulations but also the broader context of competitiveness in Europe, drawing insights from Mario Draghi’s influential report on the future of European competitiveness.

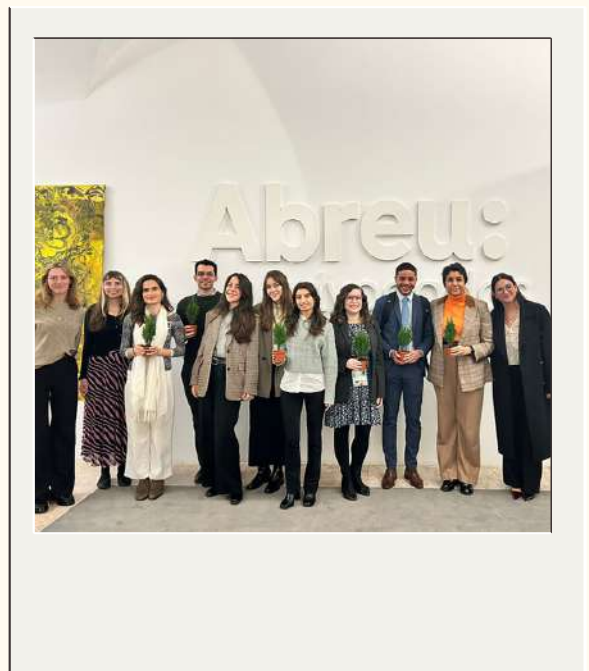


# 06 Organized Conference, Workshops and other events

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The second day of the 2nd Annual Conference of NOVA Green Lab centered on showcasing the outcomes of the “E of ESG” Project, a flagship initiative of the NOVA Green Lab. The focus of the day was on the members’ presentations of their essays for the NOVA Green Lab Book 2024-2025: ‘E of ESG: Legal Insights and Research on Sustainability Reporting’, which are central to advancing the understanding of environmental sustainability within the framework of EU competitiveness.

The relevance of these essays lies in their direct connection between sustainability and economic growth and innovation in the European Union, particularly as new regulatory measures such as the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD) continue to shape business practices across Europe.





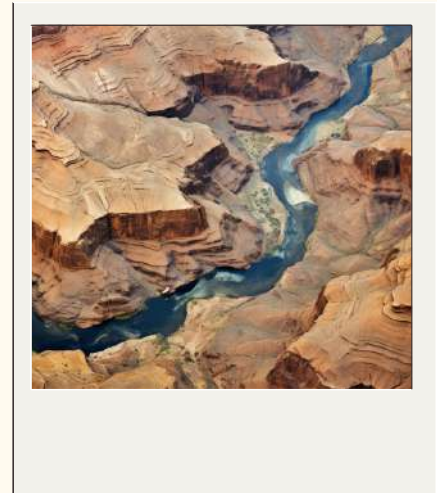
# 06 Events

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## 6.2 Organized workshops

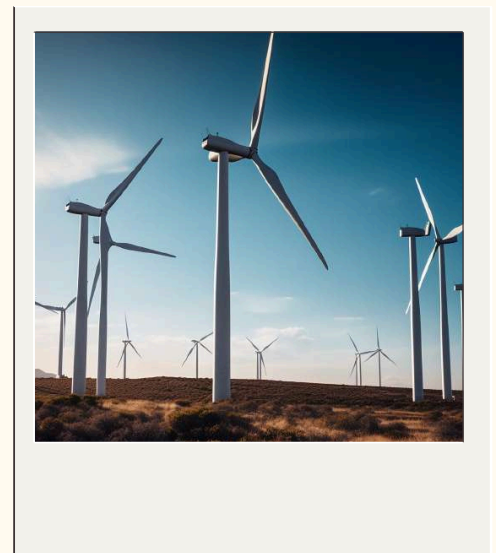
### 6.2.1 1st Workshop on Regulação e Riscos Ambientais

On 14 May, between 9.30am and 11.30am, the NOVA Green Lab welcomed students from the 'Regulation and Environmental Risks' course to a workshop to present their final coursework projects. Each participant had the opportunity to make a pitch about their final project in 7 minutes, followed by comments and recommendations for improvement from Prof Lucila de Almeida and the other participants.



### 6.2.2 2nd Workshop on Energy, Climate, and Just Transition

On May 15th, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM, the NOVA Green Lab hosted its 2nd Workshop on Energy, Climate, and Just Transition. This event provided a platform for master's students enrolled in a related course to present their innovative ideas and solutions in energy and climate law, linking them to the normative theories of just transition. Each speaker delivered a 7-minute pitch of their essay, followed by feedback from discussants Professor Lucila de Almeida and guest discussant Dr. **Shamilka Samarasinha**, along with other participants.



# 06 Events

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## 6.2.3 2024 Master Thesis Proposals Workshop in Environment, Climate and Energy Law

On October 3rd, the master's students at NOVA School of Law, who were admitted into the research phase of their master's programs for the 2024-2025 academic year, presented their research proposals. Each presentation included a detailed identification of the problem issue, research question, methodology, and literature review.

The purpose of the workshop was to ensure that all students received constructive feedback from their supervisor, Professor Lucila de Almeida, Abreu Chair in ESG Impact, as well as from their peers. This collaborative environment aimed to foster a safe and proactive peer-to-peer learning community among the supervisees, enhancing their research skills and promoting academic growth.

| Time          | Speaker             | Title  |
|---------------|---------------------|--|
| 13:30 - 13:45 | Lucila de Almeida   | Open Remarks   |
| 13:45 - 14:10 | Rodrigo Porciuncula | Greenwashing in the Financial Sector: Case Analysis of Green Finance   |
| 14:10 - 14:35 | Ana Bertazzo        | Ensuring Integrity in Voluntary Carbon Markets: A Legal Examination of Scandals and Reforms in European Countries, Brazil, and China                               |
| 14:35 - 15:00 | Victoria Weber      | Greenwashing in the Age of Sustainability: A Comparative Analysis of Trends in Brazil, Europe, and the U.S.  |
| 15:00 - 15:15 |                     | Coffee Break   |
| 15:15 - 15:40 | Lotte Reuter        | Legal Pathways to a Just Transition: A Case Law Analysis of Tort-Based Climate Litigation as a Catalyst for a Just Transition in the Agricultural Sector           |
| 15:40 - 16:05 | Luma Aleixo         | Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Mobility in Brazil: A Legal Analysis of the State's Responsibility in Light of the Climate Crisis                     |
| 16:05 - 16:30 | Silvia Nemchuk      | The Effectiveness of Licensing Agreements in the EU Energy Sector: A Comparative Analysis of Portugal and Germany with Environmental and Maritime Law Perspectives |



# 06 Events

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## 6.2.3 2nd Workshop on Energy Law for Master and PhD students

On December 5th, the students following the Energy Law course presented the first draft of their case essays at NOVA School of Law. The essays cover the most recent and relevant cases of the Energy Law at the International, EU, and national level.

This workshop targeted advanced students, focusing on the latest developments in energy law, including regulatory frameworks, market structures, and policy tools aimed at promoting sustainable energy transitions



# 06 Events

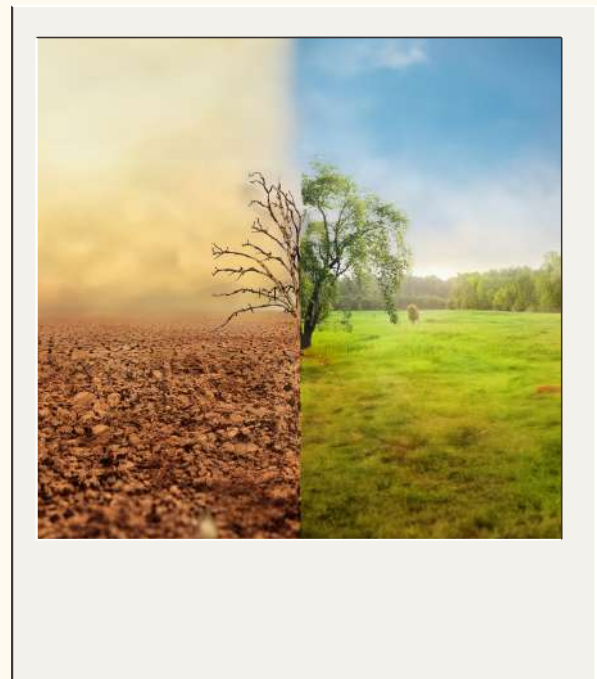
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## 6.3 Organized seminars

### 6.3.1 Escassez de Água em Portugal e o Direito

On **23 February**, NOVA Green Lab organised an event to discuss the current situation of water scarcity in Portugal and its implications for the law. The keynote speaker was Professor Vera Eiró (ERSAR and UNL) and the debate moderator was Professor Lucila de Almeida.

The event began by discussing the meteorological and hydrological drought situation in the Algarve and the public's perception of it. The discussion progressed through the following: identification of the role of ERSAR, some characteristics of water as a substance, the current situation of scarcity in the Algarve, the challenge of water management from a public policy perspective and the legal expert's solutions.



# 06 Events

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## 6.3.2 'Green Claims Directive': Proteger os consumidores de práticas de Greenwashing

On **March 21, 2024**, NOVA Green Lab, in collaboration with NOVA Consumer Lab, hosted an event to discuss the new legislative framework regarding consumer protection in relation to green claims.

NOVA Consumer Lab focused on developing activities related to Consumer Law, including issues like contract clauses, advertising, pricing, unfair trading practices, and digital economy challenges. This event presented a unique opportunity to leverage the expertise of both NOVA Consumer Lab and NOVA Green Lab in environmental law, fostering an interdisciplinary analysis of the topic.



## 6.3.3 How to Write a Paper: The Do's and Don'ts

On **April 2, 2024**, NOVA Green Lab, in collaboration with NOVA Financial Markets, hosted a workshop designed to equip researchers with essential skills and techniques for effective academic writing.

The workshop was based on Gareth Davies' text titled "The Relationship between Empirical Legal Studies and Doctrinal Legal Research," which emphasized the interdependence of empirical legal studies and doctrinal research. It highlighted the importance of integrating both approaches to enrich legal analysis and enhance its social relevance.

Speakers:

- **Prof. Lucila de Almeida**
- **Prof. Joana Farrajota**



# 06 Events

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## 6.3.4 EU Contract Case Law of the CJEU: What is New?

WhatNext.Law and NOVA Green Lab invited participants to two webinars:

- "EU Contract Case Law of the CJEU (July 2023-March 2024 and April-June 2024): What is New?" on **June 7**;
- "EU Contract Case Law of the CJEU (July 2023-March 2024 and April-June 2024): What is New?" on **September 27**.

The events highlighted significant judgments by the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) related to contracts during this period.

The sessions were based on articles from the European Review of Contract Law, presented by their authors: Fabrizio Esposito, Lucila de Almeida and Elisa Valletta.

Since 2020, the European Review of Contract Law has published articles titled "EU Contract Case Law," featuring commentary on significant CJEU judgments. These articles resulted from ongoing research by Professors Fabrizio Esposito and Lucila de Almeida, with PhD researchers contributing to the case descriptions.



# 06 Events

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## 6.4 Organized guest lectures

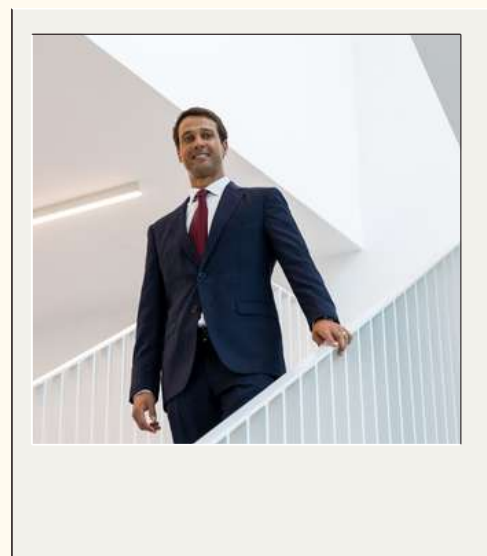
### 6.4.1 Regulating Energy Networks by Filipe Matias Santos, 14 November at NSL

Held as part of a broader Energy Law course, this guest lecture provided students with insights into regulatory and legal aspects of energy markets, emphasizing practical applications and current trends in the energy sector.



### 6.4.2 Energy Law and the Ocean by João Lupi, 28 November at NSL

Certified in Space Law by the European Centre for Space Law and in ESG by the European Institute of Management and Finance, João also has expertise in Public International Law. Previously, he served as Deputy Director and Legal Head of a financial group's holding company based in Luxembourg. João Lupi, senior associate at Abreu Advogados, has been active in the fields of Finance and Projects since 2022, specializing in investment operations, M&A, and capital markets.



# 07 Participation in external events

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## 7.1 Oral Presentation in International Conferences

(selected list)

### **International Conference on Sustainable Markets Social, Economic, and Environmental Challenges from a Private Law Perspective,**

at University of Pisa 12-13 December

The subject of the initiative was the role of private law in the realisation of sustainable development models, techniques and practices in the framework of the single market. The programme was structured in five sessions, each of which devoted to a sector of the market considered crucial in terms of social, financial and economic sustainability: credit, energy and greenhouse gas emissions, health, new assets, labour. Each session featured papers by PhD students in the curriculum, followed by commentary by authoritative lecturers.





# 07 Participation in external events

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## **Congreso Iberoamericano AEDEN: energia y regulacion,** Universidad Carlos III, 24-25 October

For the first time, the III Congress of the Spanish Association of Energy Law (AEDEN) and the VI Congress of the Ibero-American Association of Energy Law (ASIDE) was held together. The conversations and connections were focused on action, inspiring innovation and driving the world towards a future powered by clean and sustainable energy.

Among the topics addressed, the main were: the reform of the European market, new regulatory models for renewables, infrastructures and energy networks, regulatory aspects of distributed management, the legal treatment of innovation in the new energy paradigm, the legal regime of green hydrogen, the determination of the green taxonomy, investment arbitration and renewable energy; the institutional vision of the sector in the face of the new challenges of energy law, among others.



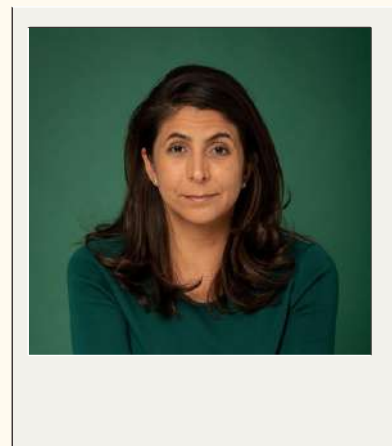
# 07 Participation in external events

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## **Conference Between narratives and reality: The EU at the gates of a new mandate,**

at Maastricht University Faculty of Law, on 20 and 21 June

Lucila de Almeida was one of the invited speakers and opened the second panel on environmental law with a presentation entitled "Between Narratives, Realities, and Legal Fictions: Empowerment as the Role of Consumers, the Technology Neutrality Principle, and National Energy and Climate Plans".



# 07 Participation in external events

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## 7.2 Oral Presentation in National Conferences

(selected list)

### Abreu Sustainability School

03 September 2024

From 3 to 6 September, the Abreu Advogados Knowledge Institute organised the 5th edition of the Abreu Sustainability School, dedicated to 'Fundamental Rights in the Age of Artificial Intelligence'. This initiative, unique in Portugal, consists of a Summer School aimed at law students, which aims to deepen current issues related to sustainability.

The following topics were covered, among others:

- What is sustainability and ESG and what is their relevance to the future of society, companies and the law?
- What is the transformative potential of artificial intelligence, and how can it be put at the service of people.

Professor Lucila de Almeida was a speaker in the training session.

**Abreu:**  
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# 07 Participation in external events

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## **ELECPOR 20th Anniversary Conference: “Future on”**

at Pavilhão do Conhecimento on 5 June

Lucila de Almeida opened the event as keynote speaker with a presentation on the challenges of electrification from a legal perspective was praised for its clarity and engagement. Her insights provided a comprehensive understanding of the legal intricacies involved in advancing electrification, making her talk one of the high points of the conference.



## **GALP Innovation Talk at GALP**

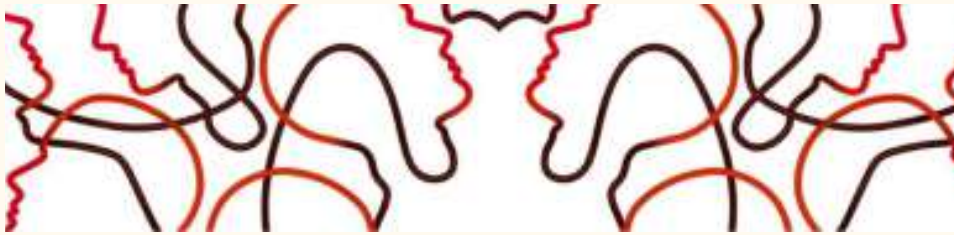
on 6 June

Lucila de Almeida was the speaker of the Innovation Talk Series at GALP with the presentation was entitled “Regulation and Technology: The paradox of technology neutrality in the age of energy innovation” and was composed of an audience of 25 people in person and 65 online.

# 07 Participation in external events

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## 7.3 Participation in SPEED seminars at CEDIS



### SPEED PT, 4 December at NSL

“Racismo ambiental, necropolítica e crise climática: reflexões a partir da crise humanitária dos povos indígenas e comunidades tradicionais no Brasil”

presented by **Mariana Viana** and commented by **Lucila de Almeida**

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### SPEED Lunch Seminar, 17 April at NSL

Paper entitled “Framming the Technology Neutrality Principle within the European Green Transition”

by **Lucila de Almeida** and **Alessandra Porcari**.



# Some planned activities for 2025

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In 2025, NOVA Green Lab aims to advance its research, educational, and outreach activities with impactful outputs.

**(i) Publication of edited book project E of ESG:**

The primary research focus will be on publishing the "E of ESG Book," in the beginning of the year which seeks to demystify ESG frameworks, contributing to both academic and practical understanding. This book comprises contributions from 10 researchers.

**(ii) Publication of the book "De A a Z do Relato de Sustentabilidade" with Almedina:**

Publication do Handbook "De A a Z do Relato de Sustentabilidade" distributed by AICEP through their AICEP Academia platform as a book with Almedina.

**(iii) New collective project with NOVA Green Lab members cohort 2024-2025:**

A new annual project will be launched, integrating all members to foster collaboration and innovation across disciplines. Our second contribution is to pursue a collective work on comparative law on how the Corporate Sustainability Report Directive has been transposed in a list of 5 selected member states.

**(iv) Publication of a special issue in international peer-review journal:**

There is a special issue accepted for publication with the Yearbook of Environmental International Law (Oxford Journal) on Environmental, Climate and Energy Justice, where Prof. Lucila is co-editor

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## Some planned activities for 2025

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### **(v) Celebration of 3 years of partnership with NOVA Green Lab and Institute do Conhecimento powered by Abreu Advogados:**

We will dedicate the 3rd Annual Conference to release as a book whole contributions done into our website along the three years of partnership.

### **(vi) Impact:**

Also, Professor Lucila de Almeida was appointed by the European Commission as an energy law expert to - together with two other experts - draft the report on the consumer rights for future energy services, which is due by the end of 2025.



# general activities

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## every day involvements

### **Coordination of activities**

In addition to major projects, ongoing activities involve the coordination of research activities. This includes organizing internal meetings, preparing meeting agendas and task distribution.

These ongoing activities are integral to our research centre's mission, to foster collaboration, ensure the effective progress of projects, and maintain a consistent flow of innovative research outputs. By streamlining communication and task management, we aim to create an environment that supports academic excellence and impactful contributions to the fields of Environmental, Energy, and Climate Law.

### **Dissemination of output**

Managing communication channels and social media to ensure the effective dissemination of research outcomes is also a relevant component of every day involvements.

This is integral to enhance visibility, engage with a broader audience, and promote the impact of our work in Environmental, Energy, and Climate Law. By maintaining dynamic communication channels and a strong online presence, we aim to share knowledge, foster public engagement, and support the translation of research into actionable insights.

# general activities

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | <b>Research Projects</b>                   | <p>Conducting literature reviews and gathering data for ongoing research projects, such as the 'E of ESG' project.</p> <p>Analyzing data and synthesizing research findings to contribute to scholarly publications and reports.</p>  |
| 2 | <b>Event Organization and Coordination</b> | <p>Assisting in the organization and coordination of events, conferences, and meetings, such as the Global Observatory GoP2P meetings and the Celebration of the 3rd Year of Collaboration Protocol with Instituto do Conhecimento.</p> <p>Managing logistics, invitations, and communication with participants to ensure the successful execution of events.</p> |
| 3 | <b>Publication and Content Creation</b>    | <p>Contributing to the creation and management of publications, blog posts, and other relevant outputs produced by NOVA Green Lab members.</p> <p>Assisting in editing and formatting written materials, including academic papers, articles, and promotional content.</p>  |
| 4 | <b>Social Media and Web Management</b>     | <p>Supporting the management of social media platforms and the research center's website, including content creation, updates, and engagement with online audiences.</p> <p>Assisting in the creation and scheduling of social media posts to promote research activities and events.</p>   |
| 5 | <b>Peer-Review and Feedback</b>            | <p>Participating in peer-review processes for scholarly articles and research outputs related to Environmental and Energy Law.</p> <p>Providing feedback and assistance in improving the quality and clarity of written materials, such as reports and publications.</p>  |
| 6 | <b>Administrative Support</b>              | <p>Providing general administrative support, such as organizing documents, scheduling meetings, and communicating with internal and external stakeholders and partners.</p> <p>Assisting in the coordination of research activities and the dissemination of outputs, including managing communication channels and social media presence.</p>                    |

# Impact

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The contribution of the NOVA Green Lab to the capacity building of SMEs in Portugal on ESG and the reporting obligations, developed in partnership with Instituto do Conhecimento powered by Abreu Advogados and AICEP, was short listed for the prize on Innovation in Regulatory Solutions by Financial Times.

Besides this acknowledgement of our impact, the Centre has contributed indirectly through participation in academic discussions, conferences, and seminars of various nature.

These efforts have fostered engagement and dialogue on key issues such as environmental, energy, and climate law, thereby enhancing understanding and informing policy discussions. Public recognition of the center's work has been done directly in this event, as the work presented at conferences and workshops has been inspiring students to research on topics discussed in this initiatives. NOVA Green Lab continues to inform ongoing research and policy developments, contributing to a broader discourse within the academic and policy communities.



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# Conclusion and acknowledgements

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We acknowledge and deeply thank all the contributors that allow research to be carried out in a effective, interesting and engaging way.

We extend our thank you to:

Our group of brilliant researchers.

NOVA School of Law.

Our research colleagues from every knowledge centre.

This work was supported by CEDIS (Research & Development Centre on Law and Society), the Research Unit of NOVA School of Law, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa and by FCT, I.P. (Foundation for Science and Technology, Public Institute), through national funds from the Portuguese Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education, under grant UIDB/00714/2020 and UIDP/00714/2020.

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## **Report Edition**

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