

# The ICE LAW Project, Two Years On

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## Introduction

The Project on Indeterminate and Changing Environments: Law, the Anthropocene, and the World (the ICE LAW Project) investigates the potential for a legal framework that acknowledges the complex geophysical environment in the world's frozen regions and explores the impact that an ice-sensitive legal system would have on topics ranging from the everyday activities of Arctic residents to the territorial foundations of the modern state. The project had its origins in a 2014 meeting of anthropologists, geographers, political scientists, and legal scholars, where the focus rapidly expanded from the place of sea ice in international law to broader questions that centre on the concerns and practices of peoples and institutions that encounter the specificities of polar landscapes and seascapes.

The nascent project secured a three-year international networking grant from the Leverhulme Trust, which has led to a series of workshops and community meetings, and will culminate in a final conference in April 2019 (see more details below).

Five sub-projects make up the ICE LAW Project: **Territory** (Stuart Elden, leader), **Resources** (Gavin Bridge, leader), **Migrations and Mobilities** (Claudio Aporta, Aldo Chircop, Kate Coddington and Stephanie Kane, co-Leaders), **Indigenous and Local Perspectives** (Jessica Shadian and Anna Stammler-Gossmann, co-leaders) and **Law** (Timo Koivurova, leader). More on the mission of each of the sub-projects, the overall aim of the ICE LAW Project, and activities held over the past two years may be found on the ICE LAW Project website (<http://icelawproject.org>) as well as in the Project's article in the 2017 edition of *Current Developments in Arctic Law* (Vol. 5, at 110). Here we focus specifically on activities planned for 2019.

## Resources Sub-Project Workshop

The Resources Sub-Project will be holding a workshop on 'Economizing the offshore Arctic: Dynamic marine policies and global production networks in a thawing world', to be held at Durham University in March 2019. This workshop, featuring invited presentations, will take forward discussions from the Resources Sub-Project's previous event on 'Anticipating Abundance' (<https://icelawproject.org/news-events/news-archives-2017/report-from-anticipating-abundance-economizing-the-arctic-resources->

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[subproject-workshop-durham-may-2017/](https://icelawproject.org/2018/12/10/resources-sub-project-workshop-entitled-economizing-the-offshore-arctic-dynamic-marine-policies-and-global-production-networks-in-a-thawing-world-march-2019-in-durham-uk/)). The workshop is being co-organised by Gavin Bridge, Durham University (Resources subproject leader) and Berit Kristoffersen, UiT - The Arctic University of Norway. Updates regarding the workshop will be posted at <https://icelawproject.org/2018/12/10/resources-sub-project-workshop-entitled-economizing-the-offshore-arctic-dynamic-marine-policies-and-global-production-networks-in-a-thawing-world-march-2019-in-durham-uk/>.

### **Migrations & Mobilities Sub-Project Workshop**

The Migrations & Mobilities Sub-Project will be holding a workshop entitled 'Questioning territory: extending concepts of territory through engagement with experience, affect, and embodiment' in Albany, New York on March 8<sup>th</sup> 2019. Inspired by changing climatic conditions that are destabilizing formerly solid territory, indigenous approaches towards territory and territoriality that upend the stability of the concept, and feminist perspectives that emphasise the relational and embodied nature of control and power, the workshop encourages interested scholars to join invited speakers from feminist legal studies, international relations, political theory, and geography who are considering the relationship of embodiment, experience, affect and territory in interesting and

diverse ways. The workshop seeks to bring together emerging work on the intersection of feminist thinking and studies of territory in order to develop new collaborations, writing opportunities, and future research topics. For more information, see the full announcement at <https://icelawproject.org/2018/12/10/migrations-and-mobilities-sub-project-workshop-entitled-questioning-territory-extending-concepts-of-territory-through-engagement-with-experience-affect-and-embodiment-march-2019-in-durham-uk/>.

### **ICE LAW Final Conference**

The Final ICE LAW Project Conference will run from 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> April 2019 in Durham, UK. The ICE LAW sub-project leaders will discuss findings from the workshops and community meetings that they have been holding for the past three years, along with four keynote speakers who will share their thoughts on topics that join the physical and regulatory environments of the Arctic:

- **Michael Bravo** (Cambridge) – Professor of Geography and Convener of Circumpolar History and Public Policy Research, Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge University, UK
- **Chris Burn** (Carleton) – Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies., Supervisor of Carleton's Graduate Programs in Northern

Studies, Carleton University, Canada

- **Bruce Forbes** (Lapland) – Professor of Global Change, Environmental sciences and Social and economic geography, Leader of the Global Change Research Group at the Arctic Centre.
- **Rachael Lorna Johnstone** (Akureyri/Greenland) – Professor of Law, Arctic Oil and Gas Studies, at Ilisimatusarfik (the University of Greenland) and Professor of Law at the University of Akureyri, Iceland.

The ICE LAW conference will be held in conjunction with the first annual Summer School of the DurhamARCTIC programme, an interdisciplinary training initiative for PhD students and early career researchers. Funding will be available for eligible PhD students and

Early Career Researchers to attend this joint event. A poster session by Summer School participants will be integrated into the ICE LAW Project conference, and Summer School specific training will follow the conference, on 27 and 28 April. Application material for Summer School participants is available at <https://www.dur.ac.uk/arctic/conference/>.

The conference will also include sessions looking at unsolicited papers presenting research that broadly addresses the ICE LAW project theme. To propose a paper, please submit an abstract (300 words maximum) to [ice.law@durham.ac.uk](mailto:ice.law@durham.ac.uk) no later than 15th January 2019.

For further details on the ICE LAW Project please visit the project's website <https://icelawproject.org/>, and for information on DurhamARCTIC, please see <https://www.dur.ac.uk/arctic/>.

