

University of Groningen

## Editorial Preface

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## EDITORIAL PREFACE

When it became clear that Professor Martha Roggenkamp would retire from her chair in Energy Law at the University of Groningen, ideas started to flourish on how to mark this memorable occasion and pay tribute to her academic work and scholarly accomplishments. Several people who have worked closely with Martha over the last decades put their heads together to consider what would be an appropriate celebration of her work. It was decided that Martha should be honoured with nothing less than a *Liber Amicorum*, to showcase her immense knowledge of practically all aspects of energy law and to draw on the networks and connections that Martha Roggenkamp made across institutions and continents in the past decades.

As Martha was born in Groningen and became professor at the University of Groningen, the choice for a publisher came naturally: the University of Groningen Press (UGP). The editorial team not only invited prospective authors but was also actively approached by various lawyers, academics and other practitioners who at some point in time shared a part of their working life and interests with Martha, and who wished to be included in the book. We are delighted that many have delivered a contribution.

Martha Margrethe Roggenkamp is known for her academic rigour, her passion for energy law and her original, sometimes strong-willed, views. We asked the authors to write chapters that celebrate and reflect this. We invited Martha's colleagues to write academic contributions with a scholarly perspective on the past, present or future of a topic related to energy law, either in English or in any other language that Martha masters. Rather than having one overarching topic, we chose to leave the theme of each contribution to the author to decide. This resulted in sound, creative and often innovative coverage of a rich and diverse range of legal as well as non-legal topics related to energy law.

With family roots both in Norway and the Netherlands, Martha started her career with the study of Scandinavian languages as well as Dutch law at the University of Groningen. Until this day, Martha is able to debate energy law matters with Dutch, English, Norwegian, Swedish and Danish colleagues in their mother tongues. From her early academic years Martha's focus was simultaneously national and international, a duality that still infuses her approach to research and teaching today, connecting international developments to national and local issues.

Academia has been a big part of her professional life. After working as a student assistant at the Asser Institute in The Hague, Martha became a researcher at the University of Leiden's International Institute for Energy Law. This turned out to be an important stepping-stone in her professional development, as this Institute became one of the 'breeding grounds' for European energy law. Martha met many people there that were decisive for her development. This culminated in the establishment of the first chair in Energy Law at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands in 2005, and subsequently, keeping up with the wider developments in the field, she co-founded the Groningen Centre of Energy Law in 2007 (together with Edwin Woerdman). In line with developments in energy law, this centre of expertise was further expanded and renamed to Groningen Centre of Energy Law and Sustainability in 2019.

But academia was not all. Martha also worked for various law firms as *of counsel* for more than a decade. Here she established long-lasting relationships in the professional world and engaged in the world of energy law. As a result, Martha has always been a keen advocate for a type of energy law academic that is not fixated on methodological discussions and 'ivory towers', but one who keeps the practical implications of academic research firmly in sight. This is also what she did and still does as chair of the Dutch Energy Law Association, co-established by her in 2002 (together with five other co-founders, including Michelle de Rijke), which currently has some 400 members.

Martha's work as a pioneer of energy law in the Netherlands influenced many young scholars as well as practitioners in various countries – and continues to do so to this very day. Her numerous publications including the landmark reference work 'Energy Law in Europe' (informally referred to as 'The Energy Law Bible'), her devotion to establishing energy law as an academic discipline, and her relentless efforts to connect lawmakers and researchers were recognized by her appointment as Knight of the Order of the Netherlands Lion in 2019.

This *Liber Amicorum* pays tribute to her work and to the force of energy that she is. It revisits some of the energy law topics that have been most important to Martha's working life, but also takes a leap forward to explore the multitude of energy law issues that lie ahead. This vibrant collection of essays, which is up to date until 1 April 2022, can only echo one of Martha's favourite expressions: 'never a dull moment' in energy law!

Ruven Fleming, Kars de Graaf, Leigh Hancher, Edwin Woerdman  
Groningen, 1 April 2022