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UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM
Amsterdam Centre for Transformative
Private Law



Amsterdam Centre for Transformative Private Law (ACT)

Exploring the Role of Private Law in the Making of Society and the Processes of Private
Law-Making in a Diverse World | Newsletter | Issue 16 | June 2026

Dear reader,

This has been yet another exciting semester at the Amsterdam Centre for Transformative Private Law. We hope that this short overview of our academic activities and outputs will set you off for a summer full of inspiration and joy!

Kind regards,
Marija Bartl

Congratulations to our Colleagues for Completing their PhD's!

Dr. Nena van der Horst

On March 27th, Nena van der Horst defended her PhD dissertation entitled, *"Between Purpose and Profit: How the Legal Framework of Profit Distribution Can Promote Corporate Purpose"*.



Dr. Muhammad Nabil Afham Bin M Fuad

On May 6, Nabil defended his PhD dissertation entitled, *"From Menu to Misuse: The Case for Regulating Unfair Terms in Online Food Delivery Services in Malaysia"*.



Event Highlights

ACT Heidag

On 22 January, ACT's heidag included preliminary discussions on an ACT conference planned for 2027, the first conference of its kind in several years. The event will broadly explore the relationship between private law and processes of economic and social transformation, considering how private law both responds to and helps shape changing societal conditions. Details will follow as planning develops.



Interfacing Private Law Lecture Series

This spring we kicked off the second half of our lecture series, [Interfacing Private Law](#), which explores how private law is reshaped through its interfaces with other legal fields, technology, society, and the economy. The series featured lectures by [Martijn Hesselink \(EUI\)](#), [Britta van Beers \(Vu\)](#), [Julia Delm \(La Trobe University, Australia\)](#), [Bronwen Morgan \(UNSW, Sydney\)](#). [Ralf Michaels' \(MPI Hamburg\)](#) lecture will close off our series on June 29th.



INTERFACING PRIVATE LAW
Amsterdam Centre for Transformative Private Law (ACT)
Lecture Series 2025-2026

Private law today no longer operates in isolation as a self-contained normative system; it is continuously shaped by its encounters with adjacent domains, including other legal fields and broader social, technological, and economic environments, where it intersects with digital infrastructures, social movements, climate exigencies, financial architectures, and circular economy imperatives. The concept of interfacing foregrounds these seams of connection. We invite scholars to reflect on how private law is stitched into wider regulatory landscapes, and how it is re stitched or reinforced through these points of contact, tracing the normative fictions and alignments that animate contemporary private law.

For more information, please scan the QR code:



HYBRID LECTURES
MONDAYS
15:30-17:00 (GET)
REG. A3.01
+ BORREL

SEMESTER 1 LINEUP

- 30 MARCH**
Martijn Hesselink (EUI) | *Prefigurative EU Law*
- 30 APRIL**
Britta van Beers (VU) | *Humanhood: The Humanising Functions of Legal Personhood in a Posthuman Age*
- 11 MAY**
Julia Delm (La Trobe University, Australia) | *Climate Injustice, Racial Capitalism, and the Contradictions of Property*
- 18 MAY**
Elbert de Jong (Universiteit Utrecht) | *Forthcoming*
- 15 JUNE**
Bronwen Morgan (UNSW Sydney) | *Legal Infrastructure for Regenerative Economies*
- 29 JUNE**
Ralf Michaels (MPI Hamburg) | *Equality through Private Law?*

Historisch onrecht: erkenning en genoegdoening in het privaatrecht

Part two of the [Historisch onrecht](#) symposium, organized by **Anna van Duin**, **Bregje**

Dijksterhuis, Christine Mertens, Jacob Giltaij and **Sacha Tamboer**, took place on 18 March. Guest speakers explored the role of private law in addressing historical injustice, focusing on recognition, redress, and the ways civil law can respond to the continuing impact of past wrongs.



Rethinking Corporation: Between Purpose, Profit, and Property

The ACT held a symposium entitled “[Rethinking Corporation: Between Purpose, Profit, and Property](#)” on 26 March 2026 featuring **Prof. Colin Mayer** (*Saïd Business School, University of Oxford*) and **Prof. Paddy Ireland** (*University of Bristol Law School*). The speakers reflected on the evolving role and legal foundations of the corporation, with Mayer discussing corporate purpose and the meaning of corporate “success” in contemporary capitalism, and Ireland examining the historical and structural contradictions of corporate law and their social and environmental implications.



Apologies & Law: Intersections, Tensions, and Transformation

On April 23, INLAR and ACT's researcher **Sébastien De Rey**, hosted a [symposium](#) at Ghent University that brought together doctoral researchers, senior academics, legal practitioners, and policymakers working at the intersection of law and apology. An edited volume, published by Springer, will follow the symposium.



News

Reimagining Prosperity, Presented Across Leading Asian Universities

Marija Bartl continued the presentation of her book *“Reimagining Prosperity: Toward a New Imaginary of Law and Political Economy in the EU”* (CUP 2024, open access) this spring, with inspiring discussions at the China University of Political Science and Law; the Renmin University, the University of Hong Kong and Macau University.



OCA Publication Prize

Anna van Duin and **Aart**

Jonkers received the 2024 Publication Prize which was awarded to them and their co-authors **Jan Wassink** and Kirsten Meiring by the Foundation for Research into Collective Action (OCA) for their [article](#) on collective (damages) actions and the GDPR, published in the Netherlands Journal of Civil Law. The jury praised the article for its rigorous analysis of collective enforcement in data protection law and its contribution to debates on legal protection in mass harm cases.



Book Launch -Ecocide: Criminalising Serious Harm Against the Environment

On June 8th, **Laura Burgers** and her co-editors marked the launch of the volume, [Ecocide: Criminalising Serious Harm against the Environment](#), at the T.M.C. Asser Instituut. The volume explores the emerging concept of ecocide and its place within international criminal law. Bringing together contributions from scholars and practitioners, the book examines key questions surrounding the definition, prosecution, and justification of ecocide, as well as its broader implications for environmental protection and justice.

Research on Consumer Protection in Digital Networks for the EU Parliament

Marco Loos has obtained funding from the European Parliament for a briefing note and accompanying presentation for a workshop in June. The project, funded at €6,000, focuses on consumer protection in cases of terminated or altered access to

interconnected networks and services. The briefing note, provisionally titled “*Computer says ‘No’: Consumer Protection against Terminated or Changed Access to Interconnected Networks or Services*,” will also be developed into a Dutch-language paper, combining academic research with broader knowledge dissemination and impact.

Vladimir Bogoeski Awarded KNAW Early Career Grant

Vladimir Bogoeski has been awarded a [KNAW Early Career Partnership Grant](#) for 2026. The grant will serve for the organisation of an international conference on the topic “*From Industrial Food Law to Agroecological Justice: Reimagining Legal Frameworks for a Just Food System Transition*”. The conference will happen in early 2027 and will lead to an edited volume on the same topic.

Contribution to Humanity in the Automated State

Anna van Duin co-authored a contribution to the DigiBook, [Humanity in the Automated State](#) with Elke Olthuis. Drawing on their research project *Access to Digital Justice from a Citizen-Centered Perspective*, the chapter examines how citizens experience digital and automated dispute resolution. Based on survey and focus group research, it highlights the importance of procedural fairness, the diversity of citizen perspectives, and the need to involve citizens in shaping the future of digital justice.

Featured Researcher

Sébastien De Rey

Sébastien De Rey has published *Algemeen regime van de verbintenis*, a new volume in the prestigious *Beginselen van het Belgisch Privaatrecht* series. The book examines the general law of obligations under the new Belgian Civil Code from a European and comparative perspective.

"Can you tell us a bit more about the work in the Royal Commission on the New Civil Code, and at which stage the legislative process is?"...



[Read the full interview →](#)

New Visiting Researchers Join the ACT



Zarifeh Ghasemi

[Zarifeh Ghasemi](#) holds LL.M. degrees from the University of Tehran and Leiden University. Her research focuses on children's rights and child labour, with a particular interest in EU human rights due diligence law. During her fellowship at the ACT, she works on the CSDDD and CSRD, with a focus on protecting children's rights in global supply chains.

Chiara Bassini

[Chiara Bassini](#) is a final-year Law student at the University of Brescia (Italy). During her research stay, she is working on her master's thesis on the intersection of Artificial Intelligence and Intellectual Property Law. Her research focuses on legal challenges in the digital era, including IP protection of AI-generated outputs and system components, as well as the legality of using protected works for training AI systems.

Impact

Collective Redress and Digital Fairness: Blog Symposium Published

A [blog symposium](#) on Collective Redress and Digital Fairness has been published on the ACT blog, emerging from the December [conference](#) on the same topic. The series examines collective enforcement in digital markets and its role in strengthening fairness and accountability. It concludes with a [contribution](#) by ACT researchers **Anna van Duin**, **Aart Jonkers** and **Francesca Episcopo** on collective data harms and the potential of the GDPR framework to support effective collective redress.

Bonaire Climate Case Verdict on BNR Newsradio

Following the landmark ruling in the Bonaire climate case, ACT researcher **Laura Burgers** appeared on [BNR Nieuwsradio](#) on January 28th to discuss the significance of the judgment. The District Court of The Hague ruled that the Dutch state had

failed to adequately protect Bonaire's residents from the impacts of climate change, a decision Burgers described as a historic development in climate litigation.

Cross-Border Sperm Donation Practices Under Scrutiny in Zembla Report

Bregje Dijksterhuis contributed to the Zembla investigation [Zaad zonder grenzen](#), which examined the growing use of donor sperm from foreign sperm banks and its implications for children's rights. Drawing on her expertise in family law, Dijksterhuis highlighted concerns about large numbers of donor-conceived siblings worldwide and stressed the importance of a child's right to know their biological origins. The investigation received [national attention](#) and was later cited in parliamentary debates preceding a [House motion](#) calling for a major historical inquiry into past abuses in donor conception.

Liability for AI Harm Discussed in Claimcast Podcast

On May 21st, **Anna van Duin** appeared on the podcast "[AI & claims: wie draait er op voor de schade?](#)", to discuss liability for harms caused by AI systems. She explains how responsibility is often distributed across multiple actors in the AI value chain and highlights how emerging EU rules may shift evidentiary burdens and strengthen legal tools for prevention and redress beyond traditional damages claims.

Upcoming Events

Jun
29

Interfacing Private Law Lecture Series with Ralf Michaels (MPI Hamburg)

A3.01, 15.30-17.00

[More information](#)

sep
04

Teaching Law at the End of the End of History - A Symposium in Honor of Prof. Aukje van Hoek

New Library - Chirurgisch Theatre

[More information](#)

Recent Research Output

Books

- > Burgers, L., Kooijman, M., Pantazopoulos, S. E., & Paulussen, C. (Eds.) (2026). Ecocide: Criminalising Serious Harm Against the Environment. (International Criminal Justice Series; Vol. 38). Asser Press.
- > Eller, K. H. (2026). Rechtsverfassung globaler Produktion: Zur sozialen Aufgabe des Rechts der Globalisierung. (Rechtstheorie - Legal Theory). Mohr Siebeck.
- > Kreileman, N., Salemink, T., van der Horst, N., & van Uchelen-Schipper, M. J. (Eds.). (2026). Sociale ondernemingen in een juridische context. Serie Van der Heijden Instituut (No. 202). Wolters Kluwer Nederland B.V
- > De Rey, S. (2026). Algemeen regime van de verbintenissen. In Beginselen van het Belgisch privaatrecht. Wolters Kluwer.

Journal Articles

- > Eller, K. H., & Duval, A. A. (in press). The 'digital turn' of value chain due diligence regulation: How technology reconfigures stakeholder engagement. Global Policy.
- > Loos, M. B. M. (2026). Where do you go to, my lovely? 50 years of European consumer protection in the EU. Journal of European Consumer and Market Law, 33-39.

Book Chapters

- > Eller, K. H. (2026). Private International Law and the Interlegality of Global Value Chain Due Diligence. In G. Rühl, & A. Frackowiak-Adamska (Eds.), Private International Law

and Global Crises (European Association of Private International Law series). Edward Elgar Publishing.

- > Episcopo, F. (2026). Fundamental Rights and Consumer Law. Manuscript submitted for publication. In C. Twigg-Flesner, & C. Bush (Eds.), Handbook on European Consumer Law
- > Episcopo, F. (in press). Commentary to Art. 6 Unfair Contract Terms Directive. In R. Schulze, E. Arroyo, & S. Troiano (Eds.), Commentary on EU Legislation on Consumer Law Nomos - Beck - Hart.
- > Loos, M. B. M. (2026). Consumer Rights Directive. In R. Schulze, & E. Arroyo Amayuelas (Eds.), European Consumer Law, Article-by-Article Commentary (pp. 191-334). Nomos.
- > Loos, M. B. M. (2026). Updating the legal framework on unfair contract terms for digital services. In S. Cámara Lapuente (Ed.), Cláusulas abusivas en los contratos de servicios digitales (pp. 91-114). (Derecho Digital). Atelier.
<https://doi.org/10.71237/RIWFmCuA>
- > De Rey, S. (2026). Belgium. In B.C. Steininger (Ed.), Landmark Cases on European Tort Law 2001–2025 (pp. 35–45).
- > De Rey, S. (2025). Belgium. In E. Karner & B.C. Steininger (Eds.), European Tort Law 2024 (pp. 37–62).
- > De Rey, S. (2025). Uitvoering in natura van de verbintenis. In S. Stijns & P. Wéry (Eds.), Sancties in de boeken 5 en 6 van het Burgerlijk Wetboek / Les sanctions dans les livres 5 et 6 du Code civil (pp. 167–200).
- > Stijns, S., & De Rey, S. (2025). De controle door de rechter na toepassing van een sanctie op kennisgeving uit boek 5 BW. In Sancties in de boeken 5 en 6 van het Burgerlijk Wetboek / Les sanctions dans les livres 5 et 6 du Code civil (pp. 375–409).
- > Stokkermans, C., & van Uchelen, M. J. (2026). Enterprise Foundations in the Netherlands. In A. Sanders, & S. Thomsen (Eds.), Enterprise Foundation Law in a Comparative Perspective (pp. 225-251). Larcier Intersentia.
- > van Uchelen, M. J. (2026). Conventionele rechtsvormen voor sociaal ondernemen. In N. Kreileman, T. Saleminck, N. van der Horst, & M. van Uchelen-Schipper (Eds.), Sociale ondernemingen in een juridische context (pp. 85-104). (Serie Van der Heijden Instituut; No. 202). Wolters Kluwer.

Professional Publications

- > Bogoeski, V. (2026). The CJEU judgment on the adequate minimum wages directive: on (small) victories and continuing struggles for social Europe. *European Law Open*, 5(1)
- > De Rey, S. (2026). Requiem voor Boek 7A BW: Nederland als Napoleons trouwste onderdaan? *Nederlands Tijdschrift voor Burgerlijk Recht*, 2026(3), Art. No. 2026/12, 125–128.
- > De Rey, S. et al. (2025). Over de redactie (door de redactie). *Nederlands Tijdschrift voor Burgerlijk Recht*, (9), Art. No. 34, 285–290.
- > van Uchelen, M. J. (2026). Column: De derde macht? *Goed Bestuur & Toezicht*, 2026(1), 89.
- > [For the full list of publications, click here.](#)



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