

## Law and Ethics on Conservation of Aquatic Systems (C002469)

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits 3.0** **Study time 90 h**

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2025-2026**

A (semester 2)	English	Gent	peer teaching lecture
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**Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026**

Cliquet, An	RE22	lecturer-in-charge
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**Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026**

<a href="#">Master of Science in Marine and Lacustrine Science and Management</a>	<b>crdts</b> 3	<b>offering</b> A
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**Teaching languages**

English

**Keywords**

Marine and aquatic conservation, international and European marine and aquatic biodiversity law, environmental ethics

**Position of the course**

This course aims at giving an overview of international and European law on the conservation of marine and aquatic biodiversity. Specific attention is given to the ethical foundation of nature conservation, the conservation and management of marine and aquatic protected areas and the protection of marine species.

**Contents**

The course consists of four parts.

- 1 Environmental ethics and legal implications
- 2 General introduction on biodiversity law: institutional context of international biodiversity law; sources, tools and compliance mechanisms in biodiversity law; legal regime of marine and aquatic natural resources
- 3 Marine and aquatic protected areas: overview of international, European and national law on marine/aquatic protected areas (legal possibilities for the designation and management of protected areas)
- 4 Species protection: overview of international and European law on the protection of marine species (international wildlife trade, migratory species, protection of marine mammals)

After this overview, all students are asked to give an oral presentation in small groups on a topic relating to marine or aquatic biodiversity law (on a topic of their choice).

**Initial competences**

- 1 No basic knowledge is required.
- 2 To have the attitude to be willing to develop a critic, scientific and interdisciplinary attitude.

**Final competences**

- 1 To have a basic knowledge of international and European marine and aquatic biodiversity law.
- 2 To have the abilities to understand international and European biodiversity law texts and sources.
- 3 To have the attitudes to do self study in international and European biodiversity law.

4 To be open minded for concepts of other disciplines (law, environmental ethics and social sciences).

5 To be able to give an oral presentation on a topic related to marine or aquatic biodiversity law.

#### **Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

#### **Conditions for exam contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

#### **Teaching methods**

Lecture, Peer teaching

#### **Extra information on the teaching methods**

An overview of international and European law on the conservation of marine and aquatic biodiversity is given in ex cathedra lectures. There is frequent interaction with students. Peer teaching consists of presentations by students.

#### **Study material**

Type: Handbook

Name: An Cliquet, An introduction to international and European biodiversity law, Academia Press, 2026.

Indicative price: € 20

Optional: no

Author : An Cliquet

Online Available : No

Available in the Library : Yes

Available through Student Association : No

Type: Slides

Name: An Cliquet, Law and ethics on conservation of aquatic systems. Handouts of powerpoint presentations, 2026.

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Available on Ufora : Yes

Online Available : No

Available in the Library : No

Additional information: Available on Ufora

#### **References**

Bowman, M., Davies, P., Redgwell C., Lyster's International Wildlife Law, 2nd Edition, Cambridge University Press, 2010.

Morgera, E. & Razzaque, J. (eds.), Biodiversity and Nature Protection Law, Encyclopedia of Environmental Law, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2017.

Boyle, A. & Redgwell, C., Birnie, Boyle, and Redgwell's International Law and the Environment, Fourth Edition, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2021.

#### **Course content-related study coaching**

1. Answering questions and enabling discussion during the lectures
2. Answering questions of the students through e-mail or otherwise

#### **Assessment moments**

end-of-term and continuous assessment

#### **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period**

Oral assessment, Written assessment with open-ended questions

#### **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period**

Oral assessment, Written assessment with open-ended questions

#### **Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

Presentation

#### **Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

#### **Extra information on the examination methods**

- Permanent evaluation: evaluation of oral presentation in class. Examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form (written and

oral exam only, if the student has failed on the student presentation).

- Periodic evaluation: written and oral exam with questions on knowledge and basic applications of international and European marine and aquatic biodiversity law.

#### **Calculation of the examination mark**

First examination period: non-periodic evaluation (oral presentation 25%) and periodic evaluation (exam 75%)

Second examination period: periodic evaluation (exam 100%)

#### **Facilities for Working Students**

Work students are not obliged to attend every class.