



Call for Submissions to the *University of New South Wales Law Journal* Issue 39(4)

### **‘Rethinking Climate Change and the Law’**

The *UNSW Law Journal* is currently welcoming submissions for Issue 39(4). The Issue will comprise both a thematic component and a general component. The topic for the thematic component is ‘Rethinking Climate Change and the Law’.

Climate change is one of the most pressing and complex political, social, scientific and legal challenges to face our world. The impacts of climate change will be profound, and we have begun to see its effects on natural and human systems across the planet. Climate change will reduce biodiversity, endanger food security, create health problems, precipitate poverty and displacement, and may even lead to violent conflict. In many respects, the adverse effects of climate change will be more pronounced for the disadvantaged.

Following the 2015 Paris Climate Change Conference, the *Journal* believes that it is an apt time to revisit this topic. The thematic component of this Issue invites contributors to reconsider the interaction between climate change and the law, including the fields of climate science, politics and public policy. There are two main aspects to the thematic component. First, the *Journal* invites submissions that consider recent developments and emerging trends in climate change and the law in both the national and international context. Authors may wish to consider, but are not limited to, issues such as:

- The impacts of climate change on international law, including international climate agreements and negotiations and the particular implications of the 2015 Paris Climate Change Conference;
- Comparative analysis of foreign domestic climate change regimes;
- Domestic developments in climate policy, including the repeal of the Carbon Tax, the adjustment of the Renewable Energy Target and the implementation of Direct Action;
- Future directions in Australian climate policy and law; and
- Shifts in the focus of climate change policy, such as the growing focus on *adapting* to the effects of climate change as a key policy objective.

Secondly, the *Journal* would particularly welcome submissions that consider the wider impact of climate change for the law. Climate change is systemic, and its impacts will extend beyond what may conventionally be considered ‘climate change law’ or ‘environmental law’. As such, the *Journal* invites contributors to consider the broader implications of climate change and the impact it may have on the law. This aspect of the thematic component is intended to have a wide scope, and encourages novel contributions to the scholarship on climate change. By way of example, authors may wish to consider issues such as:

- The impact of climate change on established legal fields, such as refugee law, constitutional law or planning law;
- The capacity of the law to mediate between scientific knowledge, policy development and policy implementation;
- The capacity of the law and legal institutions to adapt to the particular needs of climate change;
- Alternative legal means for addressing climate change, such as administrative law or litigation; and
- The legal implications of localised or community based action on climate action.

The submission deadline for the thematic component of Issue 39(4) is **1 June 2016**. Publication of Issue 39(4) is set for late 2016. In addition to submissions for the thematic component, authors are welcome to submit on any topic for the general component. Submissions for the general component will be considered on a rolling basis, and will be published in a forthcoming Issue of the *Journal*. Any changes to these deadlines will be indicated on the *Journal*'s website at <http://www.unswlawjournal.unsw.edu.au>.

Articles must be between 7000 and 12 000 words in length (excluding footnotes). The style guide for the *Journal* is the third edition of the *Australian Guide to Legal Citation*, available online at <http://www.law.unimelb.edu.au/mulr/aglc>, as supplemented by the latest edition of the *Journal*'s 'Additions', available at <http://www.unswlawjournal.unsw.edu.au/submission>.

The *Journal* is an independent, peer-reviewed publication. Although all submissions received are subject to peer review, decisions as to publication remain at the discretion of the Editor, in council with the Executive Committee of the *Journal*.

The *Journal* does not publish articles that have been, or will be, published elsewhere, either in identical or substantially similar form. If articles are posted on online repositories, such as SSRN, they should be removed at the time of submission to ensure the anonymity of the peer review process.

If you are interested in, or have any queries about, submitting for Issue 39(4), please contact the *Journal* at [law.journal@unsw.edu.au](mailto:law.journal@unsw.edu.au). If you intend to submit an article, it would be greatly appreciated if you could provide some early indication of your proposed topic or area of research. We strongly encourage you to pass on this call for submissions to any colleagues, research network or organisations who may be interested in making a submission.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Roberts  
Editor, Issue 39(4)

20 December 2015