

# Strengthening EU Environmental Law: Legal Perspectives on Greening Europe

This lecture will be delivered by

**Prof. Stefan E. Weishaar**

## **The Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism**

*Encouragement of Cleaner Industries across the World?*

25 April 2024 | 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM CET

### **Abstract**

The United Nations Secretary General António Guterres, described the state of Climate change in no uncertain terms as: “[...] a highway to climate hell with our foot on the accelerator”. Substantial differences in national climate ambitions can give rise to carbon leakage. Approaches to prevent carbon leakage often include free allocation of emission rights to Energy Intensive and Trade Exposed industries, but such support schemes may do little to incentivize sectors to decarbonize. The EU’s new Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) puts a price on the carbon emitted during the production of carbon intensive goods that are entering the EU. As such, it encourages cleaner industrial production in non-EU countries. The CBAM covers cement, iron and steel, aluminium, fertilisers, electricity and hydrogen. After a transition period starting in October 2023, the system will commence full operation in January 2026. The gradual introduction of the CBAM is aligned with the phase-out of the allocation of free allowances under the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) to support the decarbonisation of EU industry. The lecture will give a brief overview of the CBAM and the underlying reasons why it is introduced. It will also examine how countries are affected, how they react to it and how the CBAM affects non-EU countries.

### **Bio**

Stefan E. Weishaar is Professor of Law and Economics at Groningen University. Stefan has a keen interest in the working of markets and regulatory instruments. His work covers several law and economics domains in the areas of Climate & Energy law, Competition law, Procurement law and Market integration. His research frequently employs a comparative law perspective. He is research affiliate at MIT Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research in Boston (USA) and Adjunct Professor at the School of Law and Economics at China University of Political Science and Law. Stefan has been appointed to the UN Subcommittee on Environmental Taxation which, among others, addresses the relation between Carbon Boarder Adjustment Mechanisms and developing countries.



**Register here!**

**We hope to see you on 25 April 2024!**



**Maastricht Centre  
for European Law**



**Maastricht University**



Co-funded by  
the European Union