Dear Readers,

In this issue, the EECJ delves into the intricate relationship between legal principles, environmental considerations and energy dynamics within Europe. We tackle pivotal inquiries, ranging from the environmental accountability of nuclear energy to the complex processes of orchestrating species conservation within the context of the ongoing energy transition.

Veuchelen, in his article, 'The applicability of the Polluter Pays Principle in the field of nuclear energy in the EU', dives headfirst into the complexities of nuclear energy within the European Union. His examination is a timely reflection on how to balance the scales of responsibility and sustainability in this critical sector.

Schoder, Baudet von Gersdorff and Dr. Danelzik in their report, 'How to shape species conservation in the energy transition? The 2023 KNE-Conference', highlight the need for in-depth discussions on new legal regulations in Germany affecting nature and species conservation. Participants displayed a strong willingness to develop mutually beneficial solutions that accommodate both the expansion of renewable energy and the preservation of natural ecosystems.

Veuchelen returns with ‘The failure of Euratom to harmonize EU nuclear safety and environmental regulation’, critically examining the historical shortcomings of the Euratom Treaty. This article emphasizes the urgent need to reconsider the equation between the advantages and risks of nuclear power, particularly in the context of global warming.

Shifting gears to climate litigation, Dolmans, Brady-Banzet, Tarawali, Champsaur and Wildner in their article 'English High Court refuses permission for derivative claim against Shell’s Board of Directors’ shed light on a fascinating aspect of legal strategy. Climate litigation has emerged as a growing field, capable of pressuring companies and their share prices. This article reveals the intricacies of adducing expert evidence while offering valuable insights for future litigants.

Enjoy the issue!

Dr. Nicole Ahner