



Kindly Invite You to a Public Lecture and Debate on

Interdisciplinary Foundations of Environmental Law: Problems and Prospects

Prof. Dr. Sudhir Chopra

Law Fellow at the Cambridge Central Asia Forum
Cambridge University, UK

Chair: Prof. Dr. Geert Van Calster, KULeuven

Friday 28 May 2010

14h30 – 17h00

Meeting Room International House
Faculty of Law, Tiensestraat 41, Leuven

Abstract

Environmental law uses information gathered through various disciplines of science with best known technology at a certain point of time to determine how best to control, abate or eliminate the adverse effects on environment, followed by public policy-making or corrective action, taking into account cost-benefit or social cost factors. In this approach it is assumed that both the scientific information and the corrective actions are based on facts. Evidence and knowledge borrowed from other disciplines are generally applied without adequate understanding or scrutiny of the basic concepts, in the long term undermining the effectiveness of environmental laws and leaving us with more side effects to be corrected and studied.

"The least initial deviation from the truth is multiplied later a thousand fold", so wrote Aristotle. It will be Professor Chopra's effort to show the inadequacy of existing environmental laws and demonstrate that ethical solutions are more likely to protect the environment. Professor Chopra's presentation will delve into scientific, economic and ethical roots of environmental law.