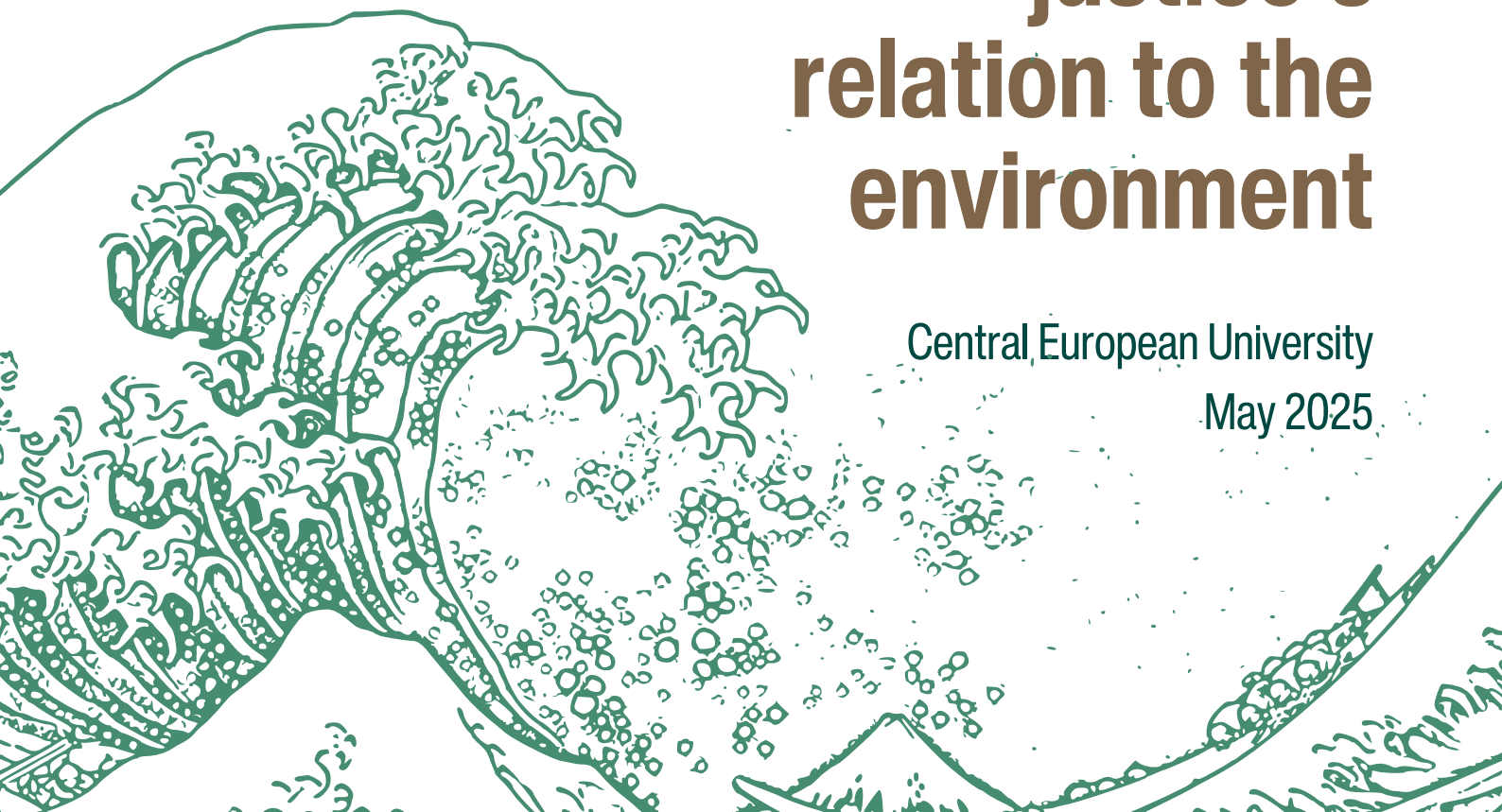


# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, HARM, AND REPAIR

**Reimagining  
transitional  
justice's  
relation to the  
environment**

Central European University  
May 2025





## Background

The intersection of environment and Transitional Justice (TJ) has never been more urgent. Historically, Euro-Western legal frameworks have conceptualised nature as something external, a commodity or resource, governed through conservation and environmental laws shaped by (neo)colonial property relations. This paradigm often marginalises and/or renders illegitimate the voices of Indigenous, Afro-descendant and Global South(s) communities while ignoring the ecological, relational and intersectional harms central to many conflicts. Emerging scholarship challenges these frameworks, emphasising relational understandings of humans and the more-than-human world.

The historical moment we are living in is characterised by interlocking crises that reverberate across the Earth, including pandemics, the rise of anti-democratic and authoritarian regimes, genocidal and ecocidal violence, the enduring legacies of coloniality manifest in the politics of gender, protracted wars and armed conflicts, climate catastrophes, environmental degradation, and rapid loss of biodiversity.



Eschatological discourses alert us of this bleak context by pointing to the vast movements of living beings to seek refuge from ruin and death and highlight the need for a possible transition to liveable, decolonial, abolitionist, and pluriversal futures. Recent shifts in the field towards critical and feminist approaches to TJ scholars are increasingly acknowledging the potential of the arts in political and social transitions and moments of fundamental change and repair within Transitional Justice frameworks.

Situating ecological harm as central to discussions of Transitional Justice, the first day of this workshop discusses new frameworks that incorporate diverse epistemologies, disciplines and critical and decolonial approaches to Transitional Justice. It aims to disrupt anthropocentric and Eurocentric approaches, fostering inclusive conversations that consider ecosystems as vital to historic reparations, reconciliation, accountability, and sustainable peacebuilding in transitional justice. The first day will conclude with a documentary film(s) created by Indigenous artists and movements in the Global South that focus on the relationality of ecological justice and ecological harm beyond the prevailing anthropocentric formulation and possibilities of ecological repair.



# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, HARM, AND REPAIR


The second day of the workshop explores the emerging nexus between Transitional Justice, the arts, gender, and the environment through an open feminist town hall format held in collaboration with external local institutions and arti(vi)sts. The town hall is focused on the role of arts in envisioning environmentally and historically just futures and gathers expertise from critical, queer, feminist, crip, decolonial and anti-racist approaches to transitional justice, environmental studies, and gender studies.



## Format

This workshop aims to convene a diverse group of scholars, grassroots activists, artists and communities outside academia who have lived and material experiences with extractive industries, climate-related conflicts and other themes relevant to Transitional Justice, cultivating inter- and transdisciplinary exchanges that cut across law, environmental studies, gender studies, political science while creating opportunities for novel perspectives, as well as participatory and collaborative thinking not typically placed in dialogue with each other.

The first day of the workshop will take place in the form of a hybrid long-table conversation. The long-table format encourages intimate, open-ended, non-hierarchical and informal discussions, which offer a more open space for dialogue than is usually provided in traditional formats for academic discussions. This setting aims to open a space for diverse voices to co-construct knowledges grounded in the lived experiences of environmental harm and injustices, creative endeavours for transitional justice, as well as community insights and aspirations. The option to join discussions remotely will also be available in recognition of the material barriers facing researchers, especially from the Global South(s).




# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, HARM, AND REPAIR

## Themes

We invite contributions on themes including but not limited to:

- What place for the environment in transitional justice?
- Reimagining transitional justice's relation to the environment
- What role does art hold in reimagining possible transitions to liveable, queer, crip, decolonial, anti-colonial and pluriversal futures?



# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, HARM, AND REPAIR

## What place for the environment in transitional justice?

Discussions could explore questions such as: Historically, how has the environment been conceptualised within the dominant canon of Transitional Justice, and how has this shaped the field? How do colonial histories of land dispossession and categorisation complicate restitution claims in transitional justice mechanisms? How does recognising the environment as a victim challenge or reshape transitional justice frameworks designed primarily for human-centric notions of harm and justice? What role should the environment have within the field of Transitional Justice?




ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE,  
HARM, AND REPAIR

## Reimagining transitional justice's relation to the environment

Discussions could explore questions such as: What does decolonising transitional justice look like in relation to environmental redress? How can transitional justice frameworks integrate socio-ecological imagination as a means to cultivate new relational ethics in the living world in post-conflict scenarios? Considering ecological and territorial harm within TJ, what are the possibilities and manifestations of territorial or ecological repair to envision and establish liveable, decolonial, anti-colonial, and universal futures?





# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, HARM, AND REPAIR

## What role does art hold in reimagining possible transitions to liveable, queer, crip, decolonial, anti-colonial and pluriversal futures?

Discussions could explore questions such as: What consequences, responsibilities and possibilities derive from the environment, being treated not simply as land that can be owned, resources that can be extracted, or the stage where conflicts are wielded but as a living entity with which we share a reciprocal relationship? What imaginaries might emerge from viewing the environment as a fellow-dweller in the continuous processes of life and transformation? How does art account for ancestral cosmologies, and historically silenced conceptions of the environment and body-territorialities?

Considering ecological and territorial harm within TJ, what are the possibilities and manifestations of territorial or ecological repair to envision and establish liveable anti-colonial, feminist, pluriversal and universal futures? What does socio-ecological, territorial and gendered imagination have to do with our collective capability to generate urgently needed changes for more just climate futures?



## Deadlines and details

If you would like to share your insights at the workshop, please submit expressions of interest by February 28th 2025 to the form provided.

Contributors are invited to submit either 300-word abstracts or audio/video abstracts (maximum 2 minutes) in relation to the themes of day one. We also welcome artistic submissions for the second day's feminist town hall, the format of which may take any medium (please add a short audio or written description to any visuals or video proposals and/or further information about the researcher(s) and activist(s)). We will notify prospective contributors of our selection decisions by 20 March 2025.


There is no registration fee to attend and present the workshop. Due to a limited budget, there is very limited needs-based support available for early career-stage researchers affiliated with CIVICA partner institutions. Please mention in the dedicated section of the form whether you would need support to cover your expenses. Participants are strongly encouraged to seek out institutional or external funding to cover their travel and stay in Vienna.



# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, HARM, AND REPAIR

## Key dates

- **28 February 2025:** Deadline for expression of interest
- **20 March 2025:** Participant selection announced
- **1 April 2025:** Deadline for official registration
- **1 May 2025:** Final programme revealed (May Day)
- **27-28 May 2025:** Workshop in Vienna



# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, HARM, AND REPAIR

## Organizers

This workshop is being organised by a multi-disciplinary collective comprising Andya Paz (she/her) and Sophie Raehme (she/her/they/them) from Central European University, Jadé Botha (she/her), Arianna Crosera (she/her), and Luca Tenreira (he/him) from the European University Institute, and rémy-paulin twahirwa (he/him/they/them) from the London School of Economics and Political Science, with support from the CIVICA Student Engagement Fund.

Feel free to direct any questions or queries to the designated contact person.

**Jadé Botha** ([Jade.botha@eui.eu](mailto:Jade.botha@eui.eu))

# Organizer's Profile



**Sophie Raehme**  
**(she/her**  
**/they/them)**

Sophie is a PhD candidate at the Department of Gender Studies at the CEU in Vienna and a visiting research student at the Department of Gender Studies at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Her PhD project focuses on examining and identifying different strategies used by state, non-state actors and victim/survivors in negotiating concepts of collective reparation for gendered, intersectional and relational harm of more-than-human victim-subjects in the Colombian urban territorial peace context.

At the same time her work is guided by critical decolonial feminist ethics, art-based methodologies (e.g. participatory documentary) and queer studies and her project aims to go beyond liberal Transitional Justice normativity to re-map transformative and radical anti-colonial reparations via the amplification of long stories of gendered, territorial and queer resistance in and via art. As a researcher, musician and audiovisual artist, Sophie has been active in queer- & transfeminist communities and decolonial climate justice practice in Vienna, Frankfurt, Bogotá and Medellín.

# Organizer's Profile



**Andya Paz**  
**(she/her)**

Andya is a decolonial scholar and PhD candidate in Environmental Sciences and Policy at Central European University (CEU). Her work focuses on the intersection of climate crises and coloniality, particularly on ways of knowing disasters and recovery. She is also an active co-organizer of the South/South Movement, where she led a transcontinental discussion series on Fanon's *The Wretched of the Earth*, focusing on coloniality and lifemaking. Her work emphasizes the importance of reciprocal learning and solidarity-building across continents, addressing historical and ongoing configurations of coloniality, epistemic disjunctures, and their repercussions on everyday life.

Against this backdrop, Andya seeks to cultivate a space where lived experiences and situated knowledges can be articulated and advanced, not only to challenge the western hegemony — and often top-down articulation — of climate crises but also to promote an intervention grounded in the realities of those most affected. In the long run, she aims to contribute to decolonial climate justice.

# Organizer's Profile



**Jadé Botha**  
**(she/her)**

Jadé Botha is a PhD Researcher at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy and previously a visiting researcher at the Institute for International and Comparative Law in Africa at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. Her research examines the epistemological foundations of African Union approaches to international justice.

Focused specifically on analysis of the 2019 African Union Transitional Justice Policy and the 2014 Malabo Protocol. Her work is situated within a decolonial and Pan-African philosophical framework and explores the intersections between ethnoepistemology, the ethics of knowledge production, and metaphysics as a means to challenge and expand the dominant epistemic paradigms within international law and transitional justice discourses.

# Organizer's Profile



**Arianna Crosera**  
**(she/her)**

Arianna Crosera is a PhD Researcher at the Department of Law of the European University Institute (EUI). Her thesis focuses on regulating data-centres as infrastructures in environmental law. Her research investigates the data-centre industry, its environmental impact and how the EU is developing new legislation to deal with data-centre growth.

She engages with infrastructure studies and regulatory theory and adopts a socio-legal perspective to the study of the “greening” of data-centres. Through her PhD, she has gained two years of experience in interviewing key and high-level stakeholders in EU policy, from regulators to NGOs, civil society and large/medium corporations in the tech sector.



# Organizer's Profile



**Luca Tenreira**  
**(he/him)**

Luca Tenreira is a PhD researcher in the Department of Law at the European University Institute (EUI). His dissertation, "The Troubled Dreams of Due Diligence in Entangled Global Value Chains," critically examines how regulators and corporations mobilize specific knowledge regimes to assess the environmental and social impacts of products, services, and activities.

As regulatory paradigms increasingly adopt impact-based tools to incentivize accountability in global value chains, Luca's research investigates the epistemic challenges of framing environmental and social problems through particular indicators, metrics, and processes - highlighting their role in including or excluding certain narratives and stakeholders. By examining material practices and activist interventions, his ethnographic study will highlight the normative consequences of such regulation and advocate for rethinking governance approaches to incorporate care, decolonial perspectives, and a commitment to place-based justice in shaping GVCs.

# Organizer's Profile



**rémy-paulin  
twahirwa  
(he/him/  
they/them)**

rémy-paulin twahirwa (he/they) is an abolitionist community organiser, writer, and Sociology doctoral researcher at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). Based in London (UK), rémy's work navigates the fraught landscapes of forced displacement to the UK, uncovering the haunting legacies of colonial violence and the parasitic mechanisms of governance that sustain the carceral state in this "time of monsters."

Their current research examines the extensive measures used to enforce borders, with a focus on administrative detention and its role in the (un)making of the human. Bridging activism and scholarship, rémy is dedicated to challenging systemic injustices and envisioning transformative futures grounded in collective liberation.

Follow their work and updates on Bluesky: @remypaulint.

# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, HARM, AND REPAIR

**CIVICA**  
RESEARCH



**CEU** CENTRAL  
EUROPEAN  
UNIVERSITY

**EUI** EUROPEAN  
UNIVERSITY  
INSTITUTE

