

## Conversation with the UN Human Rights Committee Member -Prof Helene Tigroudja

Date: Thursday, 12 October 2023

Time: 13:15 – 14:15 SAST

Venue: Zoom Meeting

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The Dullah Omar Institute for Constitutional Law, Governance and Human Rights will host a *Conversation* session on the right to a healthy, clean and sustainable environment with Prof H el ene Tigroudja, a member of the UN Human Rights Committee- and our postgraduate students.

### BACKGROUND

The triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity and nature loss, and pollution is increasingly affecting the human rights of people across the globe. From climate change induced drought that is precipitating hunger and famine around the world, to pollution that is contaminating water sources everywhere, the global environmental crisis is disproportionately impacting the world's most marginalized communities. In July 2022, the United Nations welcomed the recognition by the General Assembly that a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment is a human right. This recognition followed the UN Human Rights Council resolution 48/13 which acknowledged the right in October 2021. These resolutions represent a landmark achievement in mobilizing to protect the human right to a healthy environment and the interdependent and indivisible human rights which depend on it. Recognition of the right to a healthy environment empowers all people with a critical tool to hold their governments, big polluters and all those responsible for environmental harm to account.

It will be hosted and moderated by Prof Benyam Dawit Mezmur, the Deputy Dean: Research and Postgraduate Studies.



### About Prof H el ene Tigroudja

H el ene Tigroudja (France), is a member of the UN Human Rights Committee (2019-current) where she has been instrumental in the Committee's jurisprudence on climate change. She is a Law Professor at Aix-Marseille University (France), Co-Director of the Law School's Master Program of International Law, Director of the Summer School on Practice of Human Rights and Expert on reparations before the International Criminal Court. Since 2002, she has acted regularly as an expert for the Council of Europe; the United Nations and the European Union. Her focus in teaching and research ranges from international law, European law, international human rights law, international criminal law, and international migration law, with special focus on comparative approaches of universal and regional human rights mechanisms; remedies; States' and International Organizations' immunities; law of armed conflicts; domestic implementation of international legal obligations and fight against terrorism. More details are available at: [https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/en\\_a5\\_candidature-tigroudja\\_v1\\_cle0731d7.pdf](https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/en_a5_candidature-tigroudja_v1_cle0731d7.pdf)