

Special Workshop 23: (Legal) Animal Rights

Convenors:

Dr Visa Kurki, Collegium for Advanced Studies, University of Helsinki

Dr Tom Sparks, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law

Dr Saskia Stucki, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law

Workshop abstract:

The idea of animal rights has gained momentum in moral, political and legal discourse in recent years. Nevertheless, while it has been extensively explored in moral philosophy over the past decades, and more recently also in political philosophy, it remains remarkably undertheorised in legal philosophy.

This workshop will facilitate a discussion between scholars at the intersection of philosophy, legal theory and animal rights, in order to address some of the fundamental issues concerning legal animal rights. Notably, the workshop will consider issues relating to the overlaps and distinctions between moral and legal animal rights; what the sources of moral and legal animal rights are; whether animals need rights, or whether other forms of legal protection are sufficient; the recognition of animal rights by courts; whether legal personhood and animal rights are coextensive or separable; anthropocentrism, ecocentrism, wild law, global animal law, and other paradigms of animal protection and animal rights; and critiques of animal rights.

The papers which comprise the workshop will engage with these and other questions from a variety of standpoints and methodologies. These papers—and the intersections, confluences, and contradictions they reveal—will combine to give a rich picture of the possibilities, potentials and shortcomings of (legal) animal rights.

Participants:

- **Brian Favre** (Université de Lausanne):
‘The legal subsumption of animals: a philosophical and systematic approach’
- **Raffael Fasel** (University of Cambridge):
‘The Species Membership Approach’
- **Dr Guillaume Futhazar** (Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law):
‘Nature’s rights, animals’ rights: Questioning the divide between ecocentrism and anthropocentrism’
- **Dr Joseph Indaimo** (Murdoch University):
‘Levinas, Alterity and Animal Rights: Why the Face of the Other is not an Non-Human Animal’
- **Dr Joshua Jowitt** (School of Law, Newcastle University):
‘Legal Rights for Animals: Aspiration or Logical Necessity?’
- **Tero Kivinen** (University of Helsinki):
‘The rhetoric of animal law activism’
- **Dr Visa Kurki** (Collegium for Advanced Studies, University of Helsinki):
‘Legal Animal Rights’
- **Carolina Leiva** (University of Chile and University Autónoma of Barcelona):
‘Animals as Goods or Animals Has Goods? An Approach to a Coherent Distinction Between Civil and Criminal Law’
- **Prof Juan Pablo Mañalich** (Faculty of Law, Universidad de Chile):
‘Animalhood and Subjectivity: (Non-Human) Animals as Legal Subjects’
- **Prof Krishna Pathak** (Hindu College, University of Delhi):
‘Can There Be Animal Laws for Animal Rights? Aristotle’s Definition of Man Re-examined’
- **Prof Tomasz Pietrzykowski** (University of Silesia in Katowice):
‘Against Dignity. On the Foundations of the Legal Status of Animals’
- **Dr Tom Sparks** (Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law):
‘Anthropocentrism, Instrumentalisation, and the Possibility of Confluence: The Protection of Animals in the Jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights’
- **Dr Saskia Stucki** (Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law):
‘Legal Animal Rights’
- **Dr Joe Wills** (School of Law, Leiceseter University):
‘Rights, Legal Personhood and Cognitive Capacity: Responding to ‘Levelling-Down’ Concerns’

Workshop Timetable

Thursday, 11th July; 4.B02

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 14.00-14.30 | Welcome and Introductions |
| 14.30-15.00 | Visa Kurki and Saskia Stucki, <i>Animal Rights</i>
Commentator: Tero Kivinen |
| 15.00-15.30 | Brian Favre, <i>The Legal Subsumption of Animals: A Philosophical and Systematic Perspective</i>
Commentator: Guillaume Futhazar |
| 15.30-16.00 | Joshua Jowitt, <i>Legal Rights for Animals: Aspiration or Logical Necessity?</i>
Commentator: Visa Kurki |
| 16.00-16.30 | Coffee Break |
| 16.30-17.00 | Juan Pablo Mañalich, <i>Animalhood, Subjectivity, and Rights</i>
Commentator: Joseph Indaimo |
| 17.00-17.30 | Tomasz Pietrzykowski, <i>Against Dignity</i>
Commentator: Juan Pablo Mañalich |
| 17.30-18.00 | Joseph Indaimo, <i>A Place for the Face of the Non-Human Other in Levinas' Ethics of Alterity</i>
Commentator: Joshua Jowitt |

Friday, 12th July; 4.B02

- 14.00-14.30 Krishna Pathak, *Can There Be Animal Laws for Animal Rights? Aristotle's Definition of Man Re-examined*
Commentator: Joe Wills
- 14.30-15.00 Joe Wills, *Animal Rights, Legal Personhood and Cognitive Capacity: Addressing 'Levelling-Down' Concerns*
Commentator: Raffael Fasel
- 15.00-15.30 Raffael Fasel, *The Species Membership Approach*
Commentator: Tomasz Pietrzykowski
- 15.30-16.00 Guillaume Futhazar, *Invasive Alien Species and their Conceptual Challenges to the Notion of Non-Human Rights*
Commentator: Krishna Pathak
- 16.00-16.30 Coffee Break
- 16.30-17.00 Tero Kivinen, *The Rhetoric of Animal Law Activism*
Commentator: Saskia Stucki
- 17.00-17.30 Carolina Leiva, *Animals as Goods or Animals have Goods? An Approach to a Coherent Distinction Between Civil and Criminal Law*
Commentator: Brian Favre
- 17.30-18.00 Tom Sparks, *Anthropocentrism, Instrumentalisation, and the Possibility of Confluence: The Protection of Animals in the Jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights*
Commentator: Carolina Leiva