

Climate Litigation: the rights of disadvantaged groups in a global context (abstract)

This thesis examines climate litigation from the perspective of disadvantaged populations and their rights in a global context, South and North. It is based on the premise that structurally marginalised groups such as youth, women, Indigenous peoples, and others are much worse affected by climate change than those who do not face disadvantage.

The thesis focuses on how these groups utilise their disadvantaged position in arguments before national and international courts, and analyses key cases from the global North and South. In addition to introducing climate litigation and its development, including an introduction to the most significant judgments, the thesis presents the arguments of disadvantaged groups in selected judgments (Held v. Montana, Sacchi v. Argentina, Maria Khan v. Pakistan, and Klimaseniorinnen v. Switzerland). The thesis aims to contribute to the understanding of climate litigation as a tool for advancing the rights of disadvantaged groups and to present the arguments used by claimants and plaintiffs before the courts. The work is based on the concept of climate justice, which links the environmental and social dimensions of climate change with an emphasis on the human rights framework of climate litigation.

Key words

climate, climate litigation, strategic litigation, structural disadvantage, climate justice