

# GRI's Climate Change Laws of the World



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# Climate Change Laws of the World

Global, comprehensive, up to date, free, downloadable resource

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Climate Change Laws of the World website. At the top left, there are logos for LSE (The London School of Economics and Political Science) and the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment. To the right, there are navigation links for 'Work for us', 'Study', 'Contact', and 'Mailing list', along with a search bar. Below the navigation is a menu with 'About', 'Research programmes', 'News & commentaries', 'Publications', 'Events', 'People', and 'Learn'. The main heading is 'Governance and legislation'. Below this, there are two main sections: 'Explore country data with our interactive map' featuring a world map with a red circle, and 'Search for laws and litigation cases in our databases' with the Grantham Research Institute logo. At the bottom, there are two columns: 'Research' with a photo of a man and the text 'Do international factors influence the passage of climate change legislation?' and 'Programme keywords' with terms like 'carbon targets', 'economic competitiveness', 'GLOBE', 'international policy legislation', and 'Paris Agreement policy instruments'.

Main page: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/GranthamInstitute/legislation>

# A searchable database with c. 1500 laws and policies globally

## Climate Change Laws of the World

Please make a selection

**Legislation**   **Litigation**

### Search Climate Change Laws of the World

Region  
All

Country  
All

From year      To year  
All              All

Country importance as emitter ⓘ  
All

Country income group ⓘ  
All

Framework legislation ⓘ  
All

Executive/Legislative ⓘ  
All

Categories ⓘ  
All

**Search**

Search the databases by selecting the legislation or the litigation search and applying your search criteria.  
You can also [click here to explore our interactive country map](#).

### About

Climate change Laws of the World and Climate Change Litigation of the World build on several years of data collection by both the Grantham Research Institute and the Sabin Center, including the collaboration of Grantham Institute with GLOBE International on a series of Climate Legislation Studies.



Climate Change Laws of the World covers national-level climate change legislation and policies in 164 countries. They include the world's 50 largest greenhouse gas emitters and 93 of the top 100 emitters. Together they account for nearly 95 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions. The database covers climate and climate-related laws, which reflects the relevance of climate policy in areas including energy, transport, land use, and climate resilience.

Climate Change Litigation of the World features climate litigation cases from 25 countries. These cases raise issues of law or fact regarding the science of climate change and/or climate change mitigation and adaptation policies or efforts before an administrative, judicial or other investigatory body. The dataset does not include the United States – To access information about climate change litigation in the US, please [click here to go to the Sabin Center / Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer database](#). This will take you to a different website and will open in a new window.

For details about methodology and scope, as well as for a report on trends in litigation and legislation in 2017, [see](#) <http://www.lse.ac.uk/GranthamInstitute/publication/globaltrends2017/>

### Use and reference of the data

The authors encourage the use of this database. Users are welcome to download, save, or distribute the results electronically or in any other format, without written permission of the authors.  
Please reference the source as follows:  
Climate Change Laws of the World database, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment and Sabin Center for Climate Change Law. Available at:  
<http://www.lse.ac.uk/GranthamInstitute/Legislation>.

# Search laws by various criteria

[Write to us](#)

## Climate Change Laws of the World

Legislation Litigation

### Search Climate Change Laws of the World

Region: South Asia

Country: All

From year: 2013 To year: All

Country importance as emitter: All

Country income group: All

Framework legislation: All

Executive/Legislative: All

Categories: All

or [Clear all](#)

Filtered view - (10) [Download results \(CSV in .zip\)](#)

**National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan** (Afghanistan / 2014 / Executive)

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**National Comprehensive Agriculture Development Priority Program 2016 – 2020** (Afghanistan / 2016 / Executive)

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**Rural Renewable Energy Policy (RREP)** (Afghanistan / 2013 / Executive)

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**Action Plan for Energy Efficiency and Conservation** (Bangladesh / 2013 / Executive)

Published by the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources, the action plan aims to set a cohesive framework for energy efficiency and conservation activities under the guidance of the ... [read more »](#)

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**Climate Fiscal Framework** (Bangladesh / 2014 / Executive)

The Climate Fiscal Framework (CFF), published by the Ministry of Finance, provides principles and tools for climate fiscal policy-making (CFP), helping to identify the demand and supply sides of climate ... [read more »](#)

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**National Sustainable Development Strategy (2010-2021)** (Bangladesh / 2013 / Executive)

The NSDS identifies five strategic priority areas and three cross-cutting areas that are critical to achieve sustainability in Bangladesh. The five strategic priority areas are: - Sustained economic growth - ... [read more »](#)

# Download and save results

Climate Change Laws of the World

Write to us

Legislation **Litigation**

Filtered view (10) **Download results (CSV in .zip)**

Search Climate Change Laws of the World

National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (Afghanistan/2014/ Executive)

Region: South Asia

Country: All

From year: 2013 To year: All

Country importance as emitter: All

Country income group: All

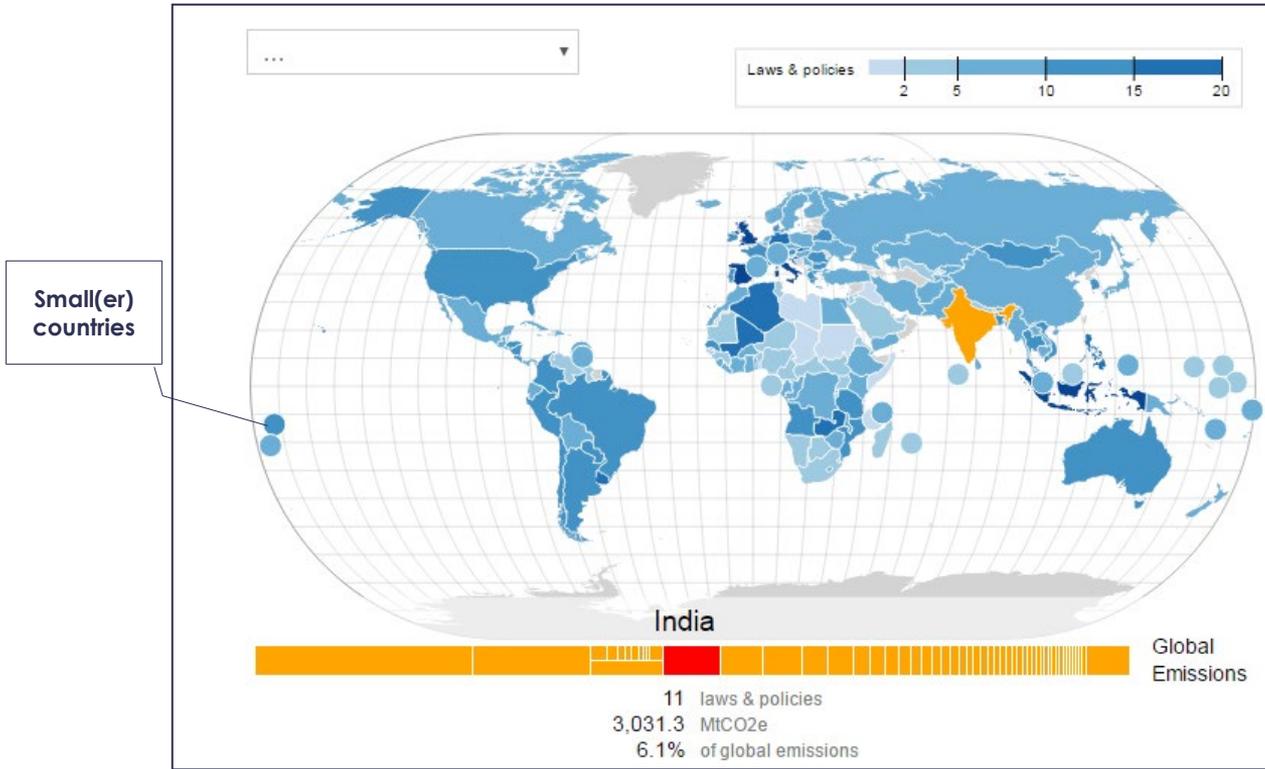
Framework legislation: All

Save As: law\_search.zip

Save as type: Compressed (zipped) Folder

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	Country	Name	Year Passed	Executive/Legislative	Framework	Categories					
2	Afghanistan	"National Biodiversity Str	2014	Executive	No	"Carbon Pricing"					
3	Afghanistan	"National Comprehensive	2016	Executive	No	"Adaptation"					
4	Afghanistan	"Rural Renewable Energy	2013	Executive	No	"Energy Supply, Adaptation"					
5	Bangladesh	"Action Plan for Energy Ef	2013	Executive	No	"Energy Demand"					
6	Bangladesh	"Climate Fiscal Framewor	2014	Executive	No	"Institutions / Administrative arrangements"					
7	Bangladesh	"National Sustainable Dev	2013	Executive	No	"Energy Supply, Energy Demand, REDD+ and LULUCF, Transportation, Adaptation"					
8	Sri Lanka	"Sri Lanka Energy Sector D	2015	Executive	No	"Energy Supply, Energy Demand, Transportation, Research and Development, Insti					
9	Pakistan	"National Energy Efficient	2016	Legislative	No	"Energy Demand, Institutions / Administrative arrangements"					
10	Pakistan	"National Power Policy"	2013	Executive	No	"Energy Supply, Energy Demand"					
11	Pakistan	"Pakistan 2025: One Natio	2014	Executive	No	"Energy Supply, Energy Demand, REDD+ and LULUCF, Adaptation"					
12											
13											
14											
15											

# Interactive country map



# Detailed country profiles

Write to us

## Kenya



 **Intended National Determined Contribution (INDC) (PDF)**

### Country Data

Region  
**Sub-Saharan Africa**

Income Group (World Bank)  
  
**Lower middle income**

Annual loss from natural disasters (average percent of GDP)   
**23.6%**

GHG Emissions (MtCO<sub>2</sub>e, including LULUCF), 2013  
**28.96**

Rank as emitter   
**Below Top 50**

Main groups  
**G77**

Paris Agreement ratification status

Approach to Climate Change

**Legislative Portfolio**

Executive Portfolio

Litigation

Indicators

Legislative Process

Sources

### **Climate Change Act, 2016** ( 2016 / Mitigation and Adaptation Framework )

This Act provides a framework for promoting climate resilient low carbon economic development. It aims to (Art 3-2): “mainstream climate change responses into development planning, decision making and implementation; build resilience and enhance adaptive capacity to the impacts of climate change; formulate programmes and plans to enhance the resilience and adaptive capacity of human and ecological...[read more](#)

### **Energy Act 2006, Parts of which is executed by the Energy Management Regulations 2012** ( 2007 )

Encompassing several laws related to energy, the Act has a very broad scope, covering all forms of energy, from fossil fuels to renewables. The Act mandates the government to promote the development and use of renewable energy, including biodiesel, bioethanol, biomass, solar, wind, hydro-power, biogas, charcoal, fuel-wood, tidal, wave, municipal waste, among others. The Act...[read more](#)

*Last modified 18 October, 2016*

# Law/policy summaries in English

Write to us

## Kenya



Total number of climate laws and policies:  
7

Total number of climate litigation cases: 0

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[see full executive portfolio](#)

[see all litigation](#)

## Climate Change Act, 2016

Legislative, Mitigation and Adaptation Framework © 2016

This Act provides a framework for promoting climate resilient low carbon economic development. It aims to (Art 3-2):

1. "mainstream climate change responses into development planning, decision making and implementation;
2. build resilience and enhance adaptive capacity to the impacts of climate change;
3. formulate programmes and plans to enhance the resilience and adaptive capacity of human and ecological systems to the impacts of climate change;
4. mainstream and reinforce climate change disaster risk reduction in strategies and actions of public and private entities;
5. mainstream intergenerational and gender equity in all aspects of climate change responses;
6. provide incentives and obligations for private sector contributions to achieving low carbon climate resilient development;
7. promote low carbon technologies to improve efficiency and reduce emissions intensity by facilitating approaches and uptake of technologies that support low carbon, and climate resilient development;
8. facilitate capacity development for public participation in climate change responses through awareness creation, consultation, representation and access to information;
9. mobilize and transparently manage public and other financial resources for climate change response;
10. provide mechanisms for, and facilitate climate change research and development, training and capacity building;
11. mainstream the principle of sustainable development into the planning for and decision making on climate change response; and
12. integrate climate change into the exercise of power and functions of all levels of governance, and to enhance cooperative climate change governance between national government and county governments".

The Act establishes a National Climate Change Council, chaired by the President, with Deputy President as vice-chair, that provides an overarching national climate change coordination mechanism. It also establishes the Climate Change Directorate – Secretariat to the Council and the lead agency of the government on national climate change plans and actions.

The prerogatives of the National Climate Change Council include (Art 6):

1. ensure the mainstreaming of the climate change function by the national and county governments;

# Litigation

'Cases brought before administrative, judicial and other investigatory bodies that raise issues of law or fact regarding the science of climate change and climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts'

- Over 270 cases in 25 jurisdictions
- >900 US cases (Sabin Center)

## Climate Change Laws of the World

Please make a selection

**Legislation** **Litigation**

### Search Climate Change Litigation of the World

From year  To year

Country

Side A (plaintiff / claimant) type

Side B (defendant) type

Side C (intervenor) type

Category

Climate area covered

Status

**Or free text search**

[Write to us](#)

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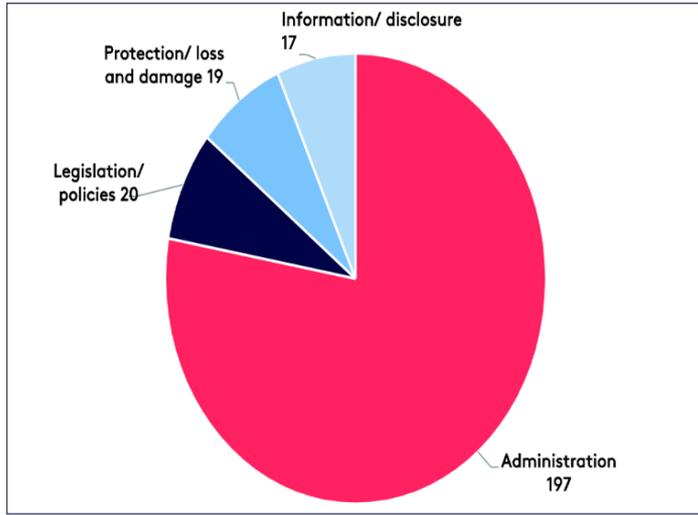
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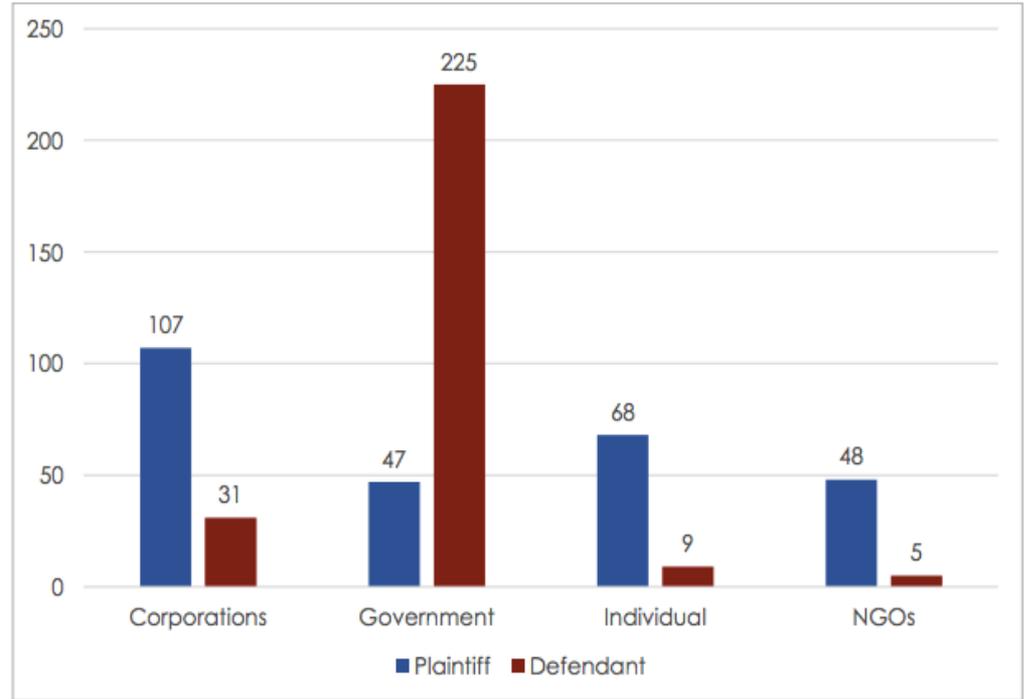
### Invitation to contribute

# Aims and plaintiffs



Court action is increasingly used to hold governments accountable and to increase ambition

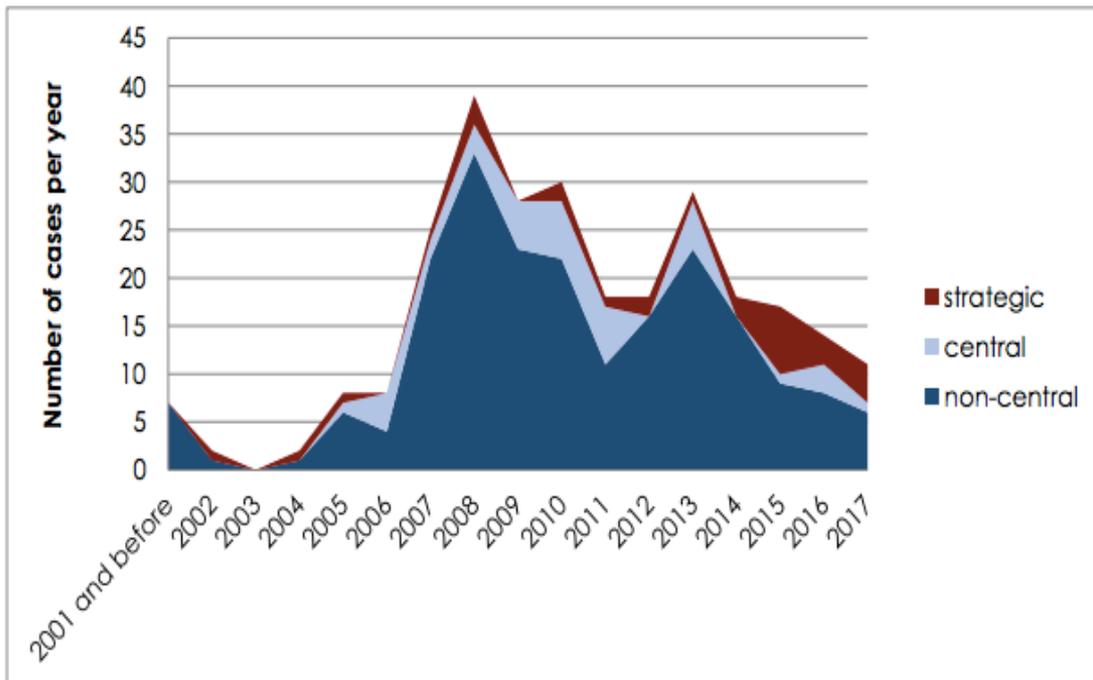
Figure 4. Number of plaintiffs and defendants in litigation dataset by type



Proportion of litigation cases in the database, by plaintiff type

# Centrality

Figure 5. Degree of centrality of climate change to court cases, to 2017



**Netherlands**



Total number of climate laws and policies: 9  
Total number of climate litigation cases: 1

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[see full executive portfolio](#)  
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## Urgenda Foundation v. Kingdom of the Netherlands (District Court of the Hague, 2015)

**Year opened:** 2015  
**Status:** Appeal pending  
**Jurisdiction:** The Netherlands  
**Principle law(s):** European Convention on Human Rights, UNFCCC  
**Mitigation/adaptation:** Mitigation

### Summary

A Dutch environmental group, the Urgenda Foundation, and 900 Dutch citizens sued the Dutch government to require it to do more to prevent global climate change. The court in the Hague ordered the Dutch state to limit GHG emissions to 25% below 1990 levels by 2020, finding the government's existing pledge to reduce emissions 17% insufficient to meet the state's fair contribution toward the UN goal of keeping global temperature increases within two degrees Celsius of pre-industrial conditions. The court concluded that the state has a duty to take climate change mitigation measures due to the "severity of the consequences of climate change and the great risk of climate change occurring." In reaching this conclusion, the court cited (without directly applying) Article 21 of the Dutch Constitution; EU emissions reduction targets; principles under the European Convention on Human Rights; the "no harm" principle of international law; the doctrine of

**European Union**



Total number of climate laws and policies: 32  
Total number of climate litigation cases: 39

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[see full executive portfolio](#)  
[see all litigation](#)

## Air Transport Association of America v. Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change (EU Court of Justice, 2011)

**Year opened:** 2011  
**Status:** Decided  
**Jurisdiction:** European Union  
**Principle law(s):** Directive 2008/101/EC  
**Mitigation/adaptation:** Mitigation

### Summary

U.S. airline operators filed a claim in the European Union Court of Justice seeking to avoid inclusion in the EU's Emissions Trading System on the grounds that it was invalid as applied to them and not justified by international law or specific arguments between the EU and the United States. The Court, confirming an earlier decision of its advocate general, rejected the claim, holding that the EU has the right to permit a commercial activity, in this instance air transport, to be carried out in its territory only on the condition that operators comply with the criteria that have been established by the EU. The court rejected the argument by the airlines that the ETS could not apply to flights that mostly take place outside of EU territory. A 2008 Directive requires that, beginning January 1, 2012, all airlines flying into, out of, and within the EU possess enough carbon allowances to cover their greenhouse gas emissions.

# “Flood the courts” with legal cases



Jeffrey Sachs, economist, presenting 'A proposal for climate justice' (LSE, Oct/2017)



James Hansen, former Nasa scientist, with his granddaughter at COP23 (Bonn, Nov/2017)



Professor Myles Allen, climate scientist Oxford University, speaking to the CHR (LSE, Nov/2018)

## 1. From general to strategic

## 2. Human Rights turn

## 3. Science

**Philippines**



Total number of climate laws and policies: 16  
Total number of climate litigation cases: 2

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[see full executive portfolio](#)  
[see all litigation](#)

### In re Greenpeace Southeast Asia et al., 2015-\_\_\_ (Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines, 2015)

<b>Year opened:</b>	2015
<b>Status:</b>	Open
<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Philippines
<b>Principle law(s):</b>	Filipino Constitution of 1987 UNHCR's Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights
<b>Mitigation/adaptation:</b>	Mitigation

#### Summary

Greenpeace Southeast Asia and numerous other organizations and individuals filed a petition asking the Commission to investigate a general issue—"the human rights implications of climate change and ocean acidification and the resulting rights violations in the Philippines"—and a more specific one—"whether the investor-owned Carbon Majors have breached their responsibilities to respect the rights of the Filipino people." The core factual allegation of the petition draws on research identifying particular entities' quantum of responsibility for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions since 1751. The original petition names 50 of those entities, all publicly traded corporations, as respondents. It identifies multiple sources of human rights, but draws most heavily on the UN Human Rights Commission's Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

During a conference held on December 11, 2017, the Commission accepted the petition and confirmed that they would investigate the potential human rights violations stemming from major fossil fuel companies' contributions to climate change. The Commission announced it would hold fact-finding missions and public hearings in 2018. In March 2018, the Commission held its first public hearings to investigate the alleged responsibility of major fossil fuel companies or "carbon majors" for climate change and the potential impacts on the human rights of Filipinos.

## National Inquiry on Climate Change, Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines

# Student competition



Undergraduate and graduate students from around the world

***What recommendations should the Philippine Human Rights Commission give as a result of the Carbon Majors inquiry?***

Up to 1,000 words, to [cc.inquiry.competition@gmail.com](mailto:cc.inquiry.competition@gmail.com), by Friday **1 March 2019**

Details: <http://essc.org.ph/content/student-competition>