EBI European Banking Institute

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The **University Carlos III of Madrid (UC3M)** together with the **European Banking Institute (EBI)** are pleased to invite you to their joint conference on:

"Joining the Dots in Climate Accountability and Risk: States, Companies, Markets"

[Call for Papers]

Madrid, 30 October 2026

The conference will bring together leading academics, judges, regulators, practitioners and policymakers to engage in a forward-looking discussion.

Abstract

Climate accountability and climate risks are usually approached from three perspectives: the obligations of States; the duties of companies; and the identification, disclosure and supervision of risk in financial markets. On top of this, each perspective is often adopted by different scholarly and professional communities, with distinct legal vocabularies and analytical methods.

This does not help understand the problem, let alone solve it. These different perspectives form part of an interconnected legal and economic process. Developments at one level may shape arguments, decisions and risk assessments at the others. Their translation, however, is neither automatic nor uncontested: causation, attribution, responsibility and exposure are understood differently in the law of State responsibility, in domestic private and corporate law and in financial risk assessment, and these differences are not merely technical.

The conference examines the points at which the three meet. It invites contributions exploring how judgments, legal duties, disclosures, transition plans and climate-related exposures move between States, companies and markets, and how accountability is reinforced, transformed, diluted or redirected in that process. The three headings below indicate where a contribution might begin; papers are not expected to remain within one.

1. States

Contributions may consider the climate-related obligations of States, their legal bases, and the manner in which they are being clarified before international and domestic courts and tribunals. Decisions and advisory opinions of international courts are principally addressed to States and do not, by themselves, generally impose obligations on private companies; they may nevertheless influence legislation, public policy and the interpretation of domestic law. Relevant questions include how such developments are received by national legislators and courts, and through what mechanisms; what they may imply for investment protection, arbitration and the characterisation of transition-related measures; and how the responsibility of States relates to that of private actors.

2. Companies

Contributions may consider whether, and by what route, developments at the international and legislative levels are translated into duties applicable to companies. Relevant questions include the legal basis and content of such duties; their reach along the value chain; the position of directors and the treatment of corporate groups; the status of transition plans; disclosure- and greenwashing-based claims as routes to accountability; and the effects of legislative simplification on the substance, and not only the cost, of corporate obligations.

3. Markets

Contributions may consider how climate-related exposures are identified, measured, disclosed and supervised; the treatment of litigation risk alongside physical and transition risk; the availability and quality of the data on which markets and supervisors rely; the mandates of central banks and supervisory authorities; and the role of ratings, benchmarks and market discipline. A recurring question is the relationship between risk-based and accountability-based framings, and the conditions under which the financial system transmits accountability rather than reallocating exposure.

Call for papers: Early Career Researchers EBI Young Researchers Group (YRG) and Associate Researchers Group (ARG) Panel

Aiming to foster intergenerational dialogue and showcase the work of early-career scholars, **UC3M** and the **EBI Young Researchers Group** (EBI YRG) will host an EBI YRG panel with selected speakers. The EBI YRG will also host activities to promote the exchange of ideas with the other sessions and among speakers.

The panel is open to **early career researchers, including PhD candidates, postdoctoral researchers and other scholars who obtained their PhD within the last seven years, but also to consolidated, mid-career researchers**. Members of, or applicants to the EBI Associate Researchers Group (ARG) are especially encouraged. The panel is designed as a supportive and intellectually rigorous space, fostering dialogue between junior and mid-career researchers and senior academics participating in the conference, and encouraging comparative, interdisciplinary and forward-looking perspectives.

We invite researchers working on topics related to the themes above to submit an **abstract (350–500 words)** and a **CV** **copying all of the following recipients:** **Pedro Aránguez-Díaz (pedrojuan.aranguez@uc3m.es), Federica Agostini (f.agostini@uu.nl) and Milena Mitrović (milena.mitrovic@ebi-europa.eu)**, by **20 September 2026**. We welcome interdisciplinary as well as doctrinal scholarship on law and finance on the relevant topics of the conference. Notification of acceptance will occur by **30 September 2026**. Organisers may notify acceptance earlier for contributions that show excellence and/or innovation, so early submissions are encouraged.

The selected speakers will present their work in Madrid as part of the UC3M–EBI conference on **30 October 2026**.

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