

Eirik Finserås

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Profile

PhD Candidate on the law regulating offshore wind and the regional energy transition in the North Sea Basin. Determined to discover legal pathways to accelerate the energy transition through marine industrialization with offshore renewable energy through advocacy, research, and collaboration.

Experience

PhD Candidate – 2020 – 2024

University of Bergen, Law Faculty

Research Group for Natural Resource Law, Environmental Law and Development Law and Bergen Offshore Wind Centre

University of Cambridge, Department of Land Economy (Visiting Scholar)

Cambridge Centre for Environment, Energy and Natural Resource Governance

European University (Visiting Scholar)

Florence School of Regulation for Energy & Climate

PhD Research: Legal research relating to comparative licensing of offshore wind in the North Sea Basin in Norway, Denmark and England. The PhD thesis aims to assess how legal frameworks regulate licensing procedures for offshore wind and particularly how they respond to technological and socioeconomic changes.

Publications:

- *Forthcoming*, Eirik Finseraas and Sigrid Eskeland Schütz, “Offshore Wind in Norway” in Ignacio Herrera Anchustegui and Tina Soliman Hunter (eds) (Edward Elgar).
- Eirik Finseraas and others, ‘Gone with the Wind? Wind Farm-Induced Wakes and Regulatory Gaps’ (2023) 159 Marine Policy 105897. The article has received significant attention in national and international media, including Energi & Klima and The Guardian.

Project Management:

- Managed an interdisciplinary project requiring consolidation between lawyers and geophysicists.
- Contributed to an official report on marine spatial planning under the request of the Norwegian Ministry of Climate and Environment requiring comparative analysis across different North Sea jurisdictions.

Legal Advice & Communication:

- Chaired and moderated panel discussions at national/international conferences, namely the Sustainable Development Goals Conference 2020, Science Meets Industry Conference 2021, the MASTS Workshop 2021 and the Renewable Energy Conference (Fornybarkonferansen) 2022.
- Presented and disseminated research at world-renowned institutions such as the University of Cambridge and the European University.
- Advised NGO’s, working groups, embassies, ministries, and governments. This active communication has, in part, been explicitly recognized in a white paper (Meld. St 36) by the government.

Collaboration:

- Facilitator of seminars in which energy lawyers and civil servants from the Norwegian TSO and the Ministry for Petroleum & Energy take part. This is a stakeholder group with a diverse group of lawyers I have personally collated.
- Maintained and facilitated relations between universities through international partnerships, such as with Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3 through the ARQUS Alliance.
- Formalized and planned seminars in collaboration with partners from institutions such as Aarhus University in Denmark, LUISS in Rome and the University of Cambridge in the UK.

Teaching:

- Lectured for both masters` and first year students in Climate Law, Law of the Sea and its Uses and an introductory module to Norwegian legal methods.
- Advised students on masters` theses and enjoyed extensive responsibilities on these modules comprised of marking exams, leading seminars and otherwise plan lectures.

Education

University College London – LLM Energy Law

2017 – 2018

Qualification awarded: Merit

Modules; The Law & Policy of Climate Change, International Energy Law, International Trade Law and Carriage of Goods by Sea.

Dissertation; “Regulation of Trade in Energy Sources: The Tug of War Between A Liberalized International Trade and Domestic Measures to Promote Renewable Energies”

Kingston University – International Law (Hons)

2014-2017

Qualification awarded: First Class

Modules; English Legal Method & Legal System, Contract Law, Tort Law, Public Law, Land Law, Criminal Law, EU Law, International & Comparative Law, International Trade Law, Jurisprudence, International Criminal Law & Human Rights and Equity & Trusts

Academic Awards,

Grants & Other

Achievements

Meltzer Research Fund (2022)

Highly sought after and competitive grant awarded for researching overseas by the University of Bergen

Climate & Energy Transition Research Fund (2021)

Grant awarded for organizing and hosting an international workshop on comparative offshore windfarm licensing by the University of Bergen

Academic Award (2017)

Sweet & Maxwell award received for being “best final-year student” at Kingston University in LLB International Law (Hons).

Academic Award (2016)

Level 5 Top Course Performer received at Kingston University in LLB International Law (Hons).

Languages

Norwegian – Native

English – Fluent

Activities & Interests

Pianist in classical music; music; nature and hiking; culture and travel; cooking