

Preface

This volume would not have been possible without the work of many. First, to mention, all the helpful support by Springer Publishers, in particular to highlight Fritz Schmuhl, open and supportive to the book idea from the very first proposed structure in August 2014 onwards as well as Devi Ignasy providing quick and precise instructions and responses on all the (more or less) little issues popping up during the implementation of the task. Additionally, two anonymous book reviewers provided several helpful proposals which are hereby especially acknowledged.

However, the main part of the work was done by the contributors who managed to submit their drafts within the—often short—deadlines and to appropriately respond to (perhaps sometimes annoying) requests made by a (perhaps often too) keen editor. All those original contributions constitute the core part of this edited volume, and without any of them, it would not be (hopefully) as helpful and insightful as it is.

The editor would also like to express his gratefulness to those contributors for their dedication as well as efforts who originally committed to submit a chapter but were not able to provide a first draft or—in particular—who were not able to finish a final draft due to time restrictions or other reasons.

The editor would also like to thank all the organizations who provided the setting by means of conferences and other types of meetings which made it possible to bring together in this edited volume such a variety of authors with such a plurality of topics. Alphabetically in the order of their abbreviations, these are the

- the annual European Environmental Law Forum (ELFF) (<http://www.elff.info>),
- the biannual legal conference track of the European Society for Ecological Economics—ESEE (<http://www.euroecolecon.org>),
- the annual legal conference tracks of the International Sustainable Development Research Society—ISDRS (<http://www.isdrs.org>),
- the biannual legal conference track of the International Society for Ecological Economics—ISEE (<http://www.ecoeco.org/>),

- the Annual Colloquium of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature—IUCN Academy of Environmental Law (<http://www.iucnael.org>) and
- diverse meetings of the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCL) of the IUCN (<http://www.iucn.org/about/union/commissions/cel/>).

Finally, the editor takes the freedom to thank, firstly, in the name of all contributors—additionally to acknowledgements at the end of several chapters—the responsible persons within their respective organizational settings who allowed working time to write as well as provided technical, financial and organizational support. Without these essential surroundings, many of the contributions would not have been possible at all or not in this quality and quantity. Secondly, the same freedom is taken to express thankfulness to all the family and other personal surrounding which (at least) respected or even actively supported the dedication of all the contributors to this edited volume. In particular, latter embedding can hardly be overestimated.

Volker Mauerhofer



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