# Jocoming lecture

# STRENGTHENING ENVIRONMENTAL LAW: LEGAL PERSPECTIVES ON GREENING EUROPE

FREE LECTURE SERIES

## PROF. DR. BARBARA POZZO

# ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITY: THE DIFFICULTIES IN HARMONIZING LIABILITY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HARM IN THE EU.

### **Abstract**

In April 2004, Directive 2004/35 was promulgated establishing a framework for environmental liability based on the 'polluter pays' principle, with a view to preventing and remedying environmental damage. The Directive is the result of a long-running discussion on the usefulness of civil liability as a means of allocating the responsibility for environmental costs, on the various options to be taken into consideration, and on the various legislative systems that needed to be analyzed in order to have a comparative law perspective. The lecture will discuss:

- 1. the situation at national level before the entrance into force of Directive 2004/35;
- 2. the institutional steps taken by the European Commission in order to elaborate the text of the Directive;
- 3. the main features of the Directive; and
- 4. the process of assessing the remaining differences at national level.

### Bio

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