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Uncovering Global South Narratives in ITLOS Advisory Proceedings on Climate Change

A Mixed-Method Approach
for Articulating Political and
Legal Arguments



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Political and Legal Arguments

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About This Book

Climate change has increasingly been understood as a ‘community interest’, reflecting a fundamental value that cannot be left to the free disposition of individual international actors. However, current international politics limit global achievements on climate change. In this context, international courts and tribunals (ICTs) have been provoked to fill in the gaps of climate inaction, notably via their advisory function. Multiple states have participated during the proceedings of the advisory opinion on climate change issued by the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), and Global South states were particularly engaged in these proceedings. Considering that states advance narratives before ICTs and that these stories may reflect their broader political strategies on global issues, the present research focuses on perceiving how and with what aim Global South states’ narratives are articulated in the ITLOS advisory proceedings on climate change. The study examines whether states’ narratives at ICTs are articulated with a broader political context, reflecting their interests expressed in other international arenas. Specifically, it analyses if the Global South states’ narratives advanced during the ITLOS advisory proceedings on climate change echo a common history of colonialism, uneven development, and unequal impacts of climate change.

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