Kingdom of Morocco ◆ Abdelmalek Essaâdi University ◆ Faculty of Legal and Political Sciences of Tangier

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Refugee Law in the Face of Climate-Induced Migration:

What Developments for Effective Contemporary Protection?

Scientific Programme

19–21 January 2027

Tangier, Kingdom of Morocco

Organised by the Faculty of Legal and Political Sciences of Tangier and the Master's in Human Rights and International Litigation

Under the scientific patronage of the International Centre of Comparative Environmental Law (CIDCE) – France

INTRODUCTION

Detailed Scientific Programme of the International Conference

The programme comprises an official opening ceremony, an inaugural lecture and four scientific themes spread across six sessions, followed by a roundtable devoted to the "Tangier Declaration on the International Protection of Environmentally and Climate-Displaced Persons" and the official closing session.

> The times indicated below remain provisional until they are approved by the Organising Committee and the speakers' participation is confirmed.

Organising institution	Faculty of Legal and Political Sciences of Tangier – Abdelmalek Essaâdi University
Scientific Director	Dr Abdelkader MOUSSAID, Coordinator of the Master's in Human Rights and International Litigation
Venue and dates	Tangier, Kingdom of Morocco · 19–21 January 2027

INSTITUTIONS

ORGANISERS

كلية العلوم القانونية والسياسية - طنجة
Faculté des Sciences Juridiques et Politiques - Tanger

Faculty of Legal and Political Sciences of Tangier · Master's in Human Rights and International Litigation

SCIENTIFIC PATRONAGE

CENTRE INTERNATIONAL de DROIT COMPARÉ de l'ENVIRONNEMENT

International Centre of Comparative Environmental Law (CIDCE) – France

ASSOCIATED SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION

FONDATION RENÉ CASSIN

René Cassin Foundation – International Institute of Human Rights, Strasbourg

THREE DAYS OF DEBATE

Day One 01

Tuesday, 19 January 2027

Climate-Induced Migration and the Challenges of International Refugee Law

Day Two 02

Wednesday, 20 January 2027

Complementary Legal Protection and Regional Approaches to Climate Displacement

Day Three 03

Thursday, 21 January 2027

The Future of International Protection and Global Governance of Climate Mobility

THE FOUR SCIENTIFIC THEMES

Theme 1	The Legal Construction of Climate-Induced Migration: From the Emergence of a Phenomenon to Its Normative Qualification
Theme 2	International Refugee Law and Climate Displacement: Between the Rigidity of the Conventional Framework and Interpretative Potential
Theme 3	Protecting Climate-Displaced Persons Through Complementary Legal Regimes
Theme 4	Towards a Renewed Legal Governance of Climate Mobility

Day One

01

Tuesday, 19 January 2027

Climate-Induced Migration and the Challenges of International Refugee Law

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY — 09:30 – 12:15

Time	Programme
09:30–10:00	Reception and Registration of Participants
10:00–10:15	Address by the President of Abdelmalek Essaâdi University
10:15–10:30	Address by the Dean of the Faculty of Legal and Political Sciences of Tangier
10:30–10:45	Address by Dr Abdelkader MOUSSAID, Scientific Director of the Conference and Coordinator of the Master's in Human Rights and International Litigation
10:45–11:00	Address by the Representative of the René Cassin Foundation – International Institute of Human Rights, Strasbourg
11:00–11:45	**Inaugural Lecture by Professor Michel PRIEUR**
11:45–12:15	Coffee Break and Group Photograph

INAUGURAL LECTURE

11:00–11:45

“Environmental and Climate Displacement and the Contemporary Challenges of International Law”

Professor Michel PRIEUR

Emeritus Professor of Law, University of Limoges, France · President of the International Centre of Comparative Environmental Law (CIDCE).

Note Provisional title, subject to Professor Prieur’s confirmation.

Day One · Tuesday, 19 January 2027

SCIENTIFIC SESSION ONE — **12:15 – 14:00**

THEME 1

The Legal Construction of Climate-Induced Migration: From the Emergence of a Phenomenon to Its Normative Qualification

Session Chair: *To be confirmed* **Session Rapporteur:** *To be confirmed*

12:15–12:35 1 The Legal Characterisation of Climate-Induced Migration: Between Voluntary Migration and Forced Displacement.
Speaker: *To be confirmed*

12:35–12:55 2 The Legal Status of Environmental Refugees in International Law: The Limitations of Traditional Categories and the Challenge of Legal Recognition.
Speaker: *To be confirmed*

12:55–13:15 3 The Causal Relationship Between Climate Change and Population Displacement: Legal and Evidentiary Challenges.
Speaker: *To be confirmed*

13:15–13:35 4 The Right to Remain in One's Place of Origin in the Context of Climate Change: Protecting Persons Unable to Migrate.
Speaker: *To be confirmed*

13:35–14:00 **General Discussion and Remarks by the Session Chair.**

14:00–15:00 Lunch Break

Day One · Tuesday, 19 January 2027

SCIENTIFIC SESSION TWO — 15:00 – 16:45

THEME 2

International Refugee Law and Climate Displacement: Between the Rigidity of the Conventional Framework and Interpretative Potential

Session Chair: *To be confirmed* **Session Rapporteur:** *To be confirmed*

15:00–15:20 (5) International Refugee Law in the Face of Climate Change: Limits of Conventional Protection and Prospects for Legal Development.

Speaker: **Dr Najib Ben Omar OUINAT, University of Jendouba, Tunisia (proposed speaker)**

> **Note** Original proposed title: "International Refugee Law and the Challenges of Climate Change". The expanded title remains subject to his approval.

15:20–15:40 (6) The Concept of Persecution under the 1951 Geneva Convention and Its Potential Application to Climate-Related Displacement.

Speaker: *To be confirmed*

15:40–16:00 (7) The Evolutionary Interpretation of the Refugee Definition in the Context of Climate Change: Judicial Developments and the Limits of Treaty Interpretation.

Speaker: *To be confirmed*

16:00–16:20 (8) Revisiting the 1951 Geneva Convention in Response to Climate Displacement: Legal Possibilities and Challenges of Reforming International Protection.

Speaker: *To be confirmed*

16:20–16:45 **General Discussion and Remarks by the Session Chair.**

16:45–17:00 **Presentation of the First Day's Scientific Conclusions.**

Day Two

Wednesday, 20 January 2027

Complementary Legal Protection and Regional Approaches to Climate Displacement

TODAY'S PROGRAMME

09:00–09:30	Reception of Participants
09:30–11:15	**Scientific Session Three**
11:15–11:45	Coffee Break
11:45–13:30	**Scientific Session Four**
13:30–14:30	Lunch Break
14:30–15:45	**Scientific Discussion Session**
15:45–16:15	General Discussion and Second Day's Conclusions

SCIENTIFIC SESSION THREE — 09:30 – 11:15

THEME 3

Protecting Climate-Displaced Persons Through Complementary Legal Regimes

Session Chair: *To be confirmed* **Session Rapporteur:** *To be confirmed*

09:30–09:50 (9) International Human Rights Law as a Basis for Complementary Protection of Persons Displaced by Climate Change.
Speaker: *To be confirmed*

09:50–10:10 (10) The Principle of Non-Refoulement in the Context of Climate-Related Risks: The *Teitiota v. New Zealand* Case.
Speaker: *To be confirmed*

10:10–10:30 (11) Temporary Protection and Humanitarian Residence Permits in Situations of Environmental Displacement: A Comparative Study of National Legislation.
Speaker: *To be confirmed*

10:30–10:50 (12) Legal Protection of Internally Displaced Persons in the Context of Climate Change: The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and the Kampala Convention.
Speaker: *To be confirmed*

10:50–11:15 **General Discussion.**

11:15–11:45 Coffee Break

Day Two · Wednesday, 20 January 2027

SCIENTIFIC SESSION FOUR — **11:45 – 13:30**

THEME 3 — CONTINUED

Regional and National Approaches to the Protection of Climate-Displaced Persons

Session Chair: *To be confirmed* **Session Rapporteur:** *To be confirmed*

11:45–12:05 (13) The 1969 Organization of African Unity Refugee Convention and the Potential Application of the Expanded Refugee Definition to Environmental and Climate Displacement.
Speaker: *To be confirmed*

12:05–12:25 (14) Climate-Induced Migration in European Migration and Asylum Policies: Between the Absence of Legal Recognition and the Development of Protection Mechanisms.
Speaker: *To be confirmed*

12:25–12:45 (15) Planned Relocation in Response to Climate-Related Risks: Legal Safeguards for the Rights of Affected Populations.
Speaker: *To be confirmed*

12:45–13:05 (16) Protecting Persons Displaced Across Borders in the Context of Natural Disasters: International Initiatives and National Admission and Residence Practices.
Speaker: *To be confirmed*

13:05–13:30 **General Discussion.**

13:30–14:30 Lunch Break

SCIENTIFIC DISCUSSION SESSION — **14:30 – 15:45**

Judicial and Regional Approaches to the Protection of Persons Displaced by Climate Change

Moderator: *To be confirmed* **Rapporteur:** *To be confirmed*

This session is devoted to the practical questions raised by applying international and regional protection rules to situations of climate displacement, drawing on a range of legal and judicial experiences, with the participation of several speakers from the previous sessions.

15:45–16:15 **General Discussion and Presentation of the Second Day's Conclusions.**

Day Three

Thursday, 21 January 2027

The Future of International Protection and Global Governance of Climate Mobility

TODAY'S PROGRAMME

09:00–09:30	Reception of Participants
09:30–11:15	**Scientific Session Five**
11:15–11:45	Coffee Break
11:45–13:30	**Scientific Session Six**
13:30–14:30	Lunch Break
14:30–16:00	**International Scientific Roundtable**
16:00–17:00	**Tangier Declaration and Official Closing Session**

SCIENTIFIC SESSION FIVE — 09:30 – 11:15

THEME 4

Towards a Renewed Legal Governance of Climate Mobility

Session Chair: *To be confirmed* **Session Rapporteur:** *To be confirmed*

09:30–09:50 (17) States' International Obligations and Responsibility for Climate-Related Harm in Light of the 2025 Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice.
Speaker: *To be confirmed*

09:50–10:10 (18) Protection of Climate-Displaced Persons in Light of the 2025 Inter-American Court of Human Rights Advisory Opinion on the Climate Emergency.
Speaker: *To be confirmed*

10:10–10:30 (19) Climate Justice and the Financing of Protection for Environmentally Displaced Persons: The Role of the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage and International Solidarity.
Speaker: *To be confirmed*

10:30–10:50 (20) Sea-Level Rise and the Future of Threatened Island States: State Continuity, Nationality and the Legal Protection of Populations.
Speaker: *To be confirmed*

10:50–11:15 **General Discussion.**

11:15–11:45 Coffee Break

Day Three · Thursday, 21 January 2027

SCIENTIFIC SESSION SIX — **11:45 – 13:30**

THEME 4 — CONTINUED

Prospects for Developing the International Legal Framework for the Protection of Environmentally Displaced Persons

Session Chair: *To be confirmed* **Session Rapporteur:** *To be confirmed*

11:45–12:05 (21) The Draft International Convention on Environmentally and Climate-Displaced Persons Prepared by CIDCE: Foundations and Prospects for Legal Protection.

Speaker: **Professor Michel PRIEUR — France**

Note Provisional title, subject to Professor Prieur's approval.

12:05–12:25 (22) National and Institutional Governance of Climate Mobility: The Role of Public Policies in Preventing Displacement and Protecting Affected Populations.

Speaker: *To be confirmed*

12:25–12:45 (23) Towards an Integrated International Legal Framework for the Protection of Environmentally and Climate-Displaced Persons: Strengthening Existing Mechanisms or Establishing a Dedicated International Convention?

Speaker: *To be confirmed*

12:45–13:05 (24) International Cooperation and the Distribution of Responsibilities Between States and International Organisations in Addressing Climate-Induced Displacement.

Speaker: *To be confirmed*

13:05–13:30 **General Discussion.**

13:30–14:30 Lunch Break

Day Three · Thursday, 21 January 2027

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC ROUNDTABLE **14:30 – 16:00**

Towards the Tangier Declaration on the International Protection of Environmentally and Climate-Displaced Persons

From Scientific Dialogue to Shared Legal Principles and Recommendations

Moderator: *To be confirmed* **General Rapporteur:** *To be confirmed*

Participants: Professors and experts contributing to the four scientific themes.

Time	Topic of discussion
14:30–14:40	Opening of the Roundtable and Presentation of Its Objectives.
14:40–15:00	Key Findings from Themes 1 and 2: Legal Characterisation and the Development of International Refugee Law.
15:00–15:20	Key Findings from Theme 3: Complementary Protection and Regional Approaches.
15:20–15:40	Key Findings from Theme 4: International Responsibility, Governance and Prospects for Legal Reform.
15:40–16:00	Discussion of the Principles and Recommendations Proposed for the Tangier Declaration.

Day Three · Thursday, 21 January 2027

TANGIER DECLARATION — 21 JANUARY 2027

Tangier Declaration on Strengthening International Legal Protection for Environmentally and Climate-Displaced Persons

The principal intended scientific outcome of the conference: a proposed academic declaration, to be discussed and potentially adopted by participants, drawing together the legal principles and recommendations of the four scientific themes.

Proposed academic outcome — not an adopted declaration and not a legally binding treaty.

OFFICIAL CLOSING SESSION — 16:00 – 17:00

Time	Programme
16:00–16:20	Presentation of the Conference's General Scientific Report.
16:20–16:45	Presentation and Discussion of the Proposed Tangier Declaration on Strengthening International Legal Protection for Environmentally and Climate-Displaced Persons.
16:45–17:00	Closing Addresses, Acknowledgements and Official Closing of the Conference.

Close of the Conference

ORGANISATIONAL NOTES

- The times in this programme are provisional until approved by the Organising Committee and until speakers' participation is confirmed.
- The names of speakers, session chairs and rapporteurs will be added once their participation is confirmed.
- Titles marked as provisional remain subject to their authors' approval of the final wording.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

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Tangier · 19–21 January 2027

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