

# Laura Hildt



Laura is undertaking her pupillage in the Planning and Environment Group, under the supervision of Thea Osmund-Smith.

Before starting pupillage, Laura worked at the European Environmental Bureau (EEB), Europe's largest network of environmental civil society organisations, for over 7 years. During this time, she worked on biodiversity law and policy, strategic litigation against intensive agriculture, the implementation and enforcement of the Nature Directives, as well as the Aarhus Convention. She led the organisation's advocacy work on the EU Nature Restoration Law, drafting position papers and legislative amendments to advocate towards the EU institutions during the law-making process. From 2023, she then initiated and led a new work stream on strategic agriculture litigation in the EU where she developed a litigation strategy for the organisation and wider network. Through her work at the EEB, she collaborated with environmental organisations and institutions across Europe, regularly presented on panels and represented the organisation in expert groups on EU environmental law and policy.

In 2021-22, Laura initiated and led a new environmental law work strand of Youth and Environment Europe, focused on EU environmental law capacity building for young people. As part of this work, she wrote handbooks on the basics of EU law, the Aarhus Regulation, and public participation in environmental impact assessments, delivered workshops, and represented the organisation at the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention.

Alongside her work, Laura is pursuing a PhD in strategic biodiversity litigation at the University of Ghent. Her research focuses on exploring litigation opportunities relating to the EU's Nature Restoration Law, industrial agriculture and the link between biodiversity and human rights.

## Accreditations

- Inner Temple Exhibition Scholarship
- University of Law Career Changer Scholarship
- Utrecht University Law, Economic and Governance International Talent Scholarship
- Winner of UKELA Moot (Lord Slynn of Hadley) 2023
- Winner of Inner Temple Lawson Moot 2023/24
- Winner of Magna Carta Moot 2024

### Birmingham

103 Colmore Row  
Birmingham  
B3 3AG

DX: 16075 Fountain Court Birmingham  
Telephone: +44 (0) 121 606 0500

### London

Fifth Floor  
7 Savoy Court  
London WC2R 0EX

DX: 449 London Chancery Lane  
Telephone: +44 (0) 207 420 7500

### Bristol

30 Queen Square  
Bristol  
BS1 4ND

DX: 7838 Bristol  
Tel: +44 (0) 117 917 8501

## Memberships

- UK Environmental Law Association (UKELA)
- Planning and Environment Bar Association (PEBA)
- Legal Working Group of the Society for Ecological Restoration
- The Honourable Society of Inner Temple

## Qualifications

- University of Cambridge, Trinity College, BA Hons Law (2017)
- Utrecht University, LLM Public International Law, cum laude (2019)
- Johannes-Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, LLM German Law, summa cum laude (2022)
- The University of Law London, Bar Practice Course, outstanding (2024)

## Languages

- German (fluent)
- French (intermediate)

## Publications

### Publications (selection)

- L Hildt, Levers for successful implementation of the EU Nature Restoration Law: preparing for systemic biodiversity litigation (2025) Restoration Ecology e70197. <https://doi.org/10.1111/rec.70197>
- L Hildt, Restore Now, Destroy Later? A Legal Analysis of the Non-Deterioration Obligations in the Nature Restoration Regulation and beyond (2025) ClientEarth <https://www.clientearth.org/latest/documents/restore-now-destroy-later-a-legal-analysis-of-the-non-deterioration-obligations-in-the-nature-restoration-regulation-and-beyond/>
- L Hildt, The Habitats Directive as a Tool for Systemic Biodiversity Litigation: The Dutch Nitrogen Case II (2025) Verfassungsblog <https://verfassungsblog.de/the-habitats-directive-as-a-tool-for-systemic-biodiversity-litigation/>
- L Hildt, Prohibiting Drivers of Biodiversity Loss: How the Court of Justice of the European Union provides further teeth to the Habitats Directive (2024) Verfassungsblog <https://verfassungsblog.de/prohibiting-drivers-of-biodiversity-loss/>
- L Hildt, A Leap Forward for Biodiversity Litigation: The Naturschutz-Klage in the Biodiversity and Climate Litigation Context (2024) Verfassungsblog <https://verfassungsblog.de/a-leap-forward-for-biodiversity-litigation/>
- L Hildt, R Weyland, Stepping up Enforcement: Recommendations for a Commission better compliance agenda to ensure the application of EU environmental law (2022) EEB <https://eeb.org/library/stepping-up-enforcement/>
- L Hildt, Implementation of rulings for nature conservation: Court of Justice of the European Union case studies (2020) EEB <https://eeb.org/library/implementation-of-rulings-for-nature-conservation-court-of-justice-of-the-european-union-case-studies/>

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