

CALL FOR PAPERS
W.G. HART WORKSHOP
PRINCIPLES OF ANIMAL JUSTICE

7th-8th July 2027, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (London)

Academic Directors: Prof. Jane Holder (Faculty of Laws, UCL) and Dr Rob Amos (School of Law, Birkbeck)

Workshop Co-organiser: Daijah Paris Valentine (Centre for Animal Law Studies, Lewis & Clark Law School)

Abstracts are invited for papers from academics at all career stages to be presented at the 2027 W.G. Hart Workshop on *Principles of Animal Justice*.

Over the last decade, animal law has emerged as an important subject of legal literature and practice. One view is that it does not yet present as a distinct doctrine, but rather as a ‘subject-specific lens’ through which to focus and apply traditional substantive areas – most notably environmental law. The *Principles of Animal Justice* workshop will challenge this narrative. Through close and critical examination of the underlying values of animal law, and drawing on scholarship ranging across disciplines and jurisdictions, this event will assert that animal law enjoys increasing coherence and significance as a legal field. At the same time, the reciprocal influence between animal law and animal justice will be mapped.

The main aims are to generate new perspectives on the role of law in relation to animals, defined broadly (see workshop streams, below), and to reach conclusions about the utility, relevance and achievability of a canon of principles. This focus on principles is a deliberate attempt to encourage cross-fertilisation between sub-disciplines of law (including family, administrative and private law); between scales of law (local, national, regional and international); and between jurisdictions of law, especially those that reflect distinct social and cultural values. The workshop will also provide opportunities for creative and reflective activities.

In addition to the generous support of the Institute for Advanced Legal Studies and the W.G. Hart Bequest, funding for this event has been received from the Centre for Animals and Centre Justice.

Workshop Streams

The following streams are designed to help applicants locate their research in the broad themes of the workshop. We also welcome proposals that engage with other issues relating to principles of animal law and justice not covered by the following:

- *Evolution of Animal Justice*
- *Developing Principles of Animal Justice*
- *Methods of Ethical Integration*
- *Animal Justice in Administrative Decision-Making*
- *Advancing Animal Law Pedagogies*
- *Intersections with Theories of Justice*
- *Multispecies Perspectives*
- *Animal Justice Activism*
- *Animal Justice Through Animal Rights*
- *Connecting Animal Law with Ecology and Ecological Law*
- *Animals, Justice, and Technology*

Note for Applicants

Please submit your application to the conference organisers (jane.holder@ucl.ac.uk, r.amos@bbk.ac.uk and daijah.valentine.24@ucl.ac.uk) by the end of **FRIDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2026**. All applicants will be informed whether they have been accepted by 29th January 2027.

When submitting your abstract, please include the following information:

- Full name
- Position
- Institution / affiliation
- Email address
- **The presentation format you are applying for (see below)**
- Whether you would be interested in publishing a version of your presentation in an edited collection of workshop proceedings (see below)
- Whether you require funding for travel and/or accommodation (see below)

Research Papers

If you would like to present a research paper during the workshop, please send an abstract of **no more than 250 words**. Each speaker will have **10 minutes** to present their paper to ensure plenty of time for discussion and Q&A.

When you submit your abstract, please also indicate to which of the stream(s) listed above your research relates.

Several speaking slots are reserved for PhD students. Priority will be given to those who will present on a substantive topic rather than simply provide an overview of their doctorate research.

Research and Policy Roundtables

Two 90-minute sessions have been allocated to roundtables. These provide opportunities for researchers to engage others in their work and actively advance scholarship relating to animal justice.

If you would like to run a roundtable during the event, please send a statement of **no more than 500 words** outlining:

- To which stream(s) listed above the proposed roundtable best relates.
- The main issues that participants will be invited to discuss.
- The anticipated structure, working within the 90-minute time limit.
- The research project and/or agenda that the roundtable is designed to advance, including the intended outputs and how the roundtable will help achieve these.
- A list of intended participants (noting that these individuals must register for the event as participants and, if necessary, make and cover the costs of their own travel and/or accommodation arrangements).

Mentoring Sessions

Mentoring sessions are opportunities for PhD students to gain advice on a specific issue (of substance, theory, or methodology) about their project. There will be two students per session, who will each have 10 minutes to present their topic and outline their question (using a maximum of two slides), followed by 20 minutes of discussion in a small-group setting.

If you would like to present during a mentoring session, please send a statement of **no more than 500 words** outlining:

- Your research project, including the stream listed above to which it relates.
- The question on which you would like advice and how presenting this at the workshop will benefit your research.

Poster Presentations

A poster exhibition will be running throughout the Workshop. Please send an abstract of no more than **500 words** detailing the subject and intended layout of your poster.

Posters must be emailed to the organisers no later than Friday 11th June 2027 to allow sufficient time for printing. We are also keen to exhibit multi-media and 3D works – please email the organisers if you would like to discuss this.

Evidence of Preparedness

Participation in the event will be conditioned on successful applicants providing evidence of preparedness by **28th May 2027**, comprising no more than two pages outlining the research paper or roundtable / mentoring session plan. This document is to demonstrate that you will be ready to present in July and will not be published.

Publication

We intend to publish an edited collection based on the workshop proceedings. If you would like your paper to be considered for inclusion in the collection, please indicate this when you submit your abstract. Full details, including word limits and indicative timetable, will be provided in the acceptance emails.

Funding

Funding may be available to cover (part of) participants' travel and accommodation costs. Priority will be given to early-career researchers.

Participants are kindly requested to make use of any funds to which they have access, where possible, for their travel and accommodation. This will allow us to maximise the support that we are able to offer others without such funding.