

PNRR – Missione 4 “Istruzione e Ricerca” – Componente 2 “Dalla Ricerca all’Impresa”
Investimento 1.1 Fondi PRIN – Settore ERC SH2 “Institutions, Governance and Legal Systems”

Newsletter of the PRIN 2022 PNRR

ECCE-HUMAN

Empowering Citizens for Circular Economy: a HUMAN-centred law model

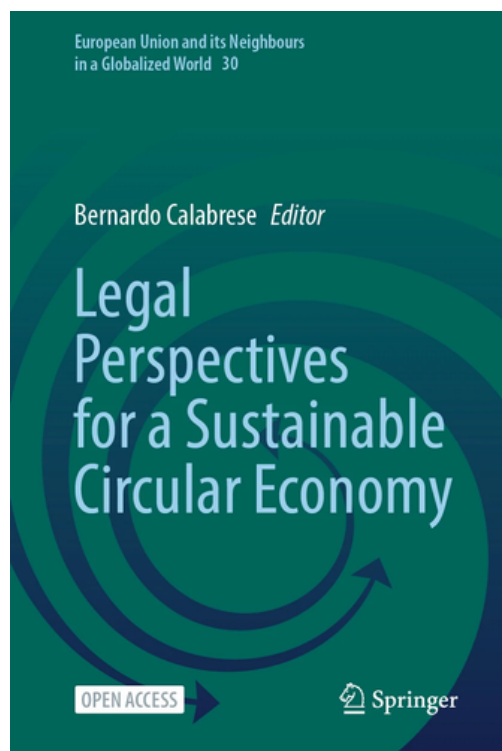
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Issue No. 4 - November 2025

Final Conference

The final conference of the PRIN 2022 PNRR project Empowering Citizens for Circular Economy: a Human-Centred Law Model (ECCE-HUMAN) took place on 20 November 2025 at the Aula Magna of the Department of Legal Sciences at the University of Verona.

The event gathered scholars, practitioners, and students to discuss the outcomes of the research conducted over the past twenty-four months by the three participating units: the University of Verona, the University of Udine, and Ca' Foscari University of Venice.



During the conference, the research teams presented the results of the twelve lines of inquiry developed within the project, covering commercial law, EU law, international law, constitutional law, and sociology. These findings illustrate how the transition to a sustainable circular economy requires an integrated legal framework that places citizens at the centre of economic, social, and environmental transformation.

The event also provided the occasion to present the project's open access volume, **Legal Perspectives for a Sustainable Circular Economy**, edited by the Principal Investigator, Prof. Bernardo Calabrese, and published by Springer. The book gathers contributions from each member of the three research units and offers an interdisciplinary analysis of key themes such as sustainable corporate governance, consumer empowerment, multilevel regulation, and the evolving role of environmental rights in circularity policies.

The conference concluded with a closing lecture by Prof. Vincenzo di Cataldo, who offered an in-depth reflection on the scientific results of the project. His remarks placed ECCE-HUMAN within the broader context of current and future challenges facing European and global society, highlighting the need for legal systems capable of addressing ecological limits, economic transformation, and the inclusion of citizens in sustainability governance. The event marked the culmination of two years of collaborative work and opened the way for future academic and policy-oriented discussions on the legal foundations of a sustainable circular economy. Yet our scientific commitment to these themes continues: the reflections and results generated by ECCE-HUMAN will serve as a foundation for future research, dialogue, and policy engagement on the legal pathways to a truly sustainable circular economy.