



**Universität  
Zürich** UZH

**Competence Center of Sustainability:  
Finance, Law, Sciences, and the Humanities**

**SCFL** Society  
of Commercial  
and Financial  
Law

**16 December 2025, 12:15-14:15**

**University of Zurich, Center Campus  
In room KOL-F-104 (floor F)  
Rämistrasse 71, 8006 Zurich**

**Dr. Dominic Wälchli**

Senior Associate, Schellenberg Wittmer;  
Lecturer, University of Zurich, Faculty  
of Law

# **Climate-Proofing Sovereign Bonds**

Lunchtime Sustainability Seminar Series, No. 2

# Climate-Proofing Sovereign Bonds

The *Competence Center of Sustainability: Finance, Law, Sciences, and the Humanities (CCS)* of the University of Zurich warmly invites you to the following lunch seminar:

**Title:** Climate-Proofing Sovereign Bonds

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, 16 December 2025, 12:15-14:15, including Apéro

**Location:** University of Zurich, Center Campus, room KOL-F-104 (floor F), Rämistrasse 71, Zurich

## Expert speaker:

– **Dr. Dominic Wälchli**, Senior Associate – Schellenberg Wittmer; Lecturer – University of Zurich, Law Faculty

## Climate-Proofing Sovereign Bonds

Physical climate risks pose a threat to sovereign debt sustainability. For example, the financial losses connected to Hurricane Ivan's landfall on the Caribbean island of Grenada led to Grenada having to default on its outstanding sovereign debt. This begs the questions whether any legal mechanisms exist to minimize the risk of climate risk related sovereign defaults. Specific contractual mechanisms allowing for the deferral or adjustment of sovereign debt payment obligations under certain circumstances have been identified as one potential solution. In this seminar, these so called climate resilient sovereign debt clauses will be discussed with the aim to assess whether they are an effective solution to mitigate the risk of climate related sovereign defaults. The discussion is based on the speaker's recently published book, *Climate-Proofing Sovereign Bonds*.

This seminar (held in English) and the panel discussion will be hosted by **Prof. Dr. Kern Alexander**, Professor of International Banking and Financial Law and Chair of the UZH CCS. The **CCS** brings together an interdisciplinary network of experts to promote research and collaboration in the field of environmental and social sustainability.

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Competence Center of Sustainability:  
Finances, Law, Sciences, and the Humanities  
Rämistrasse 74  
8001 Zürich

In case of questions:  
Annina Melliger, Communications Manager  
+41 44 634 30 58  
annina.melliger@ius.uzh.ch  
www.sustainablefinance.uzh.ch/en

**Register here:**

