

## **Gian Maria Farnelli**

Gian Maria Farnelli, Ph.D. (University of Verona, 2014) is Senior assistant professor (fixed term) at the Department of Legal Studies, University of Bologna; visiting scholar at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law (2012). He has been entrusted with teaching modules of International Law at the School of Law of the University of Bologna (2015 – ongoing). He has been a member of the Italian Legal team in the M/V *Norstar* case (ITLOS Case No. 25), and research assistant in inter-state and investor-state disputes.

He has been Editorial Assistant of the online journal *Questions of International Law* (2014 – ongoing); editorial secretary of the book series *La ricerca del diritto nella comunità internazionale* (Editoriale Scientifica) (2019 – in corso) and a member of the Editorial board of the *Osservatorio sulle attività delle organizzazioni internazionali e sovranazionali, universali e regionali, sui temi di interesse della politica estera italiana* (Study centre on activities of universal and regional international and supranational organizations concerning issues of interest for the Italian foreign policy).

His publications, in Italian and English, address issues of law of the sea, environmental law, State immunity, investment law and the law of international adjudication.

## **The EU and the ‘Greening’ of the Energy Charter Treaty: towards the Protection and Promotion of Clean Energy**

The Energy Charter Treaty has been ever since its entry into force in 1998 the cornerstone of the international investment regime in the energy sector across Europe. Its pull towards cooperation in the development of the energy industry has been at the basis of the ample flowing of capitals in that economic sector.

However, the ECT system has been under stress for some time. The ample case law concerning incentives in the renewable energies sector against Czechia, Italy and Spain, has shown that this instrument does not put enough focus on sustainability issues so as to foster ‘green’ investments and/or oblige State to pursue environmental-friendly energy policies.

The seminar will present the recent ECT case law, showing the – limited – attention that tribunals have devoted to sustainability issues in construing the relevant investment standards. It will also address the EU proposal for amendments of the ECT, so as to highlight recent trends towards the development of that Treaty in a sustainable development-friendly way.