

Call for Papers



for the

5th Annual UK Animal Law Conference

The UK's national animal law conference for academics, lawyers, NGOs, and students.

Conference theme:

Using Law to Advance Effective Animal Protection

Hosted by:

[UK Centre for Animal Law](#)

[Animals, Nature & Society Research Stream](#) (Centre for Human Rights,
Birmingham City University)

When:

Wednesday 4 – Thursday 5 June 2025

Where:

Curzon Building, Birmingham City University, Birmingham, UK

Abstract Submission Deadline:

28 January 2025

Our Vision:

The UK Animal Law Conference is the nation's definitive meeting place for academics, lawyers, NGOs, and students working toward full protection for animals in the UK's law and internationally. As such, the conference aims are:


- Educating one another about the national and international legal landscape for animals, the latest research, and recent updates on law, policy, and education.
- Network-building to create connections between academics, lawyers, NGOs, and students interested in animal law, and enhance the impact of work toward full protection for animals in law.
- Collaborating to generate new ideas and share good practice toward better legal futures for animals.

The scope of the conference encompasses animal law, ethics, policy, and education. The conference spans the full range of animal law issues, also covering animal law's interaction with environmental law, international trade law, and more.

Conference Details:

Venue: The conference will be hosted in central Birmingham, at Birmingham City University's [Curzon building](#). Fully vegan catering will be provided. The venue is wheelchair accessible via ramps and lifts, with an accessible bathroom on site. You are welcome to share any accessibility needs when purchasing your ticket for the conference, and we will do our best to accommodate.

Format: The conference will consist of inspiring keynote speeches, varied presentation panels, and practical workshops for academics, lawyers, NGOs, and students. A full programme will be circulated closer to the event, once all presenters have been confirmed. There will be a conference dinner on Wednesday 4th June which attendees are welcome to join (at their own expense).

Cost: There will be a modest cost to attend the conference. We are working to minimise these costs, particularly for students and charity workers. We will release the details regarding costs when we open for registration in early 2025. If you have any questions, you are welcome to contact us at: membership@alaw.org.uk 

Call for papers:

We would like to invite **academics, lawyers, NGOs, and students** to present **in person** at the conference on any topic within the conference's scope and which can speak to the conference theme. The theme of the 5th UK Animal Law Conference will encourage thinking about how to improve animals' lives in a context of environmental decline, technological innovation, and social reform. The 2025 edition of the conference is a space for education, collaboration, and network-building to advance the effective protection of animals through the law. Central to this year's conference is a reinvigoration and redefinition of collaboration, one that emphasises the importance of connecting academia and practice, law and society, and all animal advocates, to devise strategic, creative, and collaborative pathways to effective animal protection.

This approach is reflected in this year's keynote speakers who present knowledge from academia, legal practice, and advocacy. We are delighted to share that our **keynote speakers** will be **Justin Marceau, Chris Packham, and David Thomas**. The conference reflects this blend of expertise with presentations encouraged from animal law scholars, lawyers, NGOs, students, and others with professional interests in this field. Collaborative presentations are welcome, too.

You are welcome to apply alone or jointly with colleague(s). Please note there will be **no online presentations this year**. You can expect conference paper presentations to last 15-20 minutes, grouped in panel format, and followed by audience questions. To apply to present, please submit a 400 word abstract of your conference paper by email to iyan.offor@bcu.ac.uk by **28 January 2025**. Abstracts should include a proposed title and summary of your paper.

Additionally, we welcome applications to lead a 1-2 hour long interactive workshop. Please follow the same abstract submission process for this with the abstract including the workshop name and a summary of the activities involved. Please note that these workshops should not require preparation before the conference.

Depending upon interest, we will explore the possibility of a publication opportunity following the conference in the UK Journal of Animal Law or other suitable outlet.

We will review all abstracts received and provide all applicants with the results of our selection process by **28 February 2025**. Registration to attend the conference will open in early 2025.

PhD Workshop on Maximizing Doctoral Research for Optimum Impact:

This year, we are coordinating a PhD workshop to take place immediately before the conference, on Tuesday 3 June. This workshop is open to PhD candidates attending the UK Animal Law Conference, and other PhD students based at Birmingham City University and beyond. The workshop will provide an interdisciplinary platform for PhD students to present their research on animal law and other topics, engage in critical discussion with more senior academics, and network with peers. Details of the PhD workshop will be circulated along with conference registration details.