

# 12.06.2018

---

## gLAWcal Comment #259

**COMMON BUT DIFFERENTIATED RE-  
SPONSES**

---

*Based on*

**Imad Ibrahim, Thomas Deleuil, Paolo Davide Farah "The Principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities in the International Regime of Climate Change"**



**A gLAWcal comment on  
Imad Ibrahim, Thomas  
Deleuil, Paolo Davide Farah  
“The Principle of Common  
but Differentiated Respon-  
sibilities in the International  
Regime of Climate Change”  
in Paolo Davide Farah and  
Elena Cima (Eds.) China’s In-  
fluence on Non-Trade Con-  
cerns in International Eco-  
nomic Law**

---

The very origin of the international response to combating global climate change has its roots in the 1970s for the Multilateral Environmental Agreements and the more modern United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Kyoto Protocol. Even with these multiple frameworks, there is the existence of the Principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities. This concept is not just present in the global efforts for combating climate change, but are also present in the World Trade Organization’s variable response to an action done by a developing nations, as compared to their response to the same action done by a developed nation. Simply, there is a common goal, but the resources and methodologies used by a given nation must necessarily be varied. While effectively difficult for the lay observer

to understand, it has provided a continued push forward in allowing these frameworks to exist through many decades. These CBDR’s, as they are referred to as, provided a platform for comparing the progress made by one nation as compared to another. This is the modern mechanism by which international organizations can ensure that participants are holding up their end of the bargain when it comes to the collective effort. While this chapter is not necessarily prescriptive in nature, the authors tend to show how the CBDR as a concept has produce more often good than ills.

# CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT



Cite as: gLAWcal Comment #259 “Common But Differentiated Responses” (2018) based on Imad Ibrahim, Thomas Deleuil, Paolo Davide Farah “The Principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities in the International Regime of Climate Change” in Paolo Davide Farah & Elena Cima (Editors), *China’s Influence on Non-Trade Concerns in International Economic Law*, gLAWcal Book Series, Routledge Publishing (New-York/London), 2016

The gLAWcal comments are insight and short analytical pieces written by the gLAWcal team. The gLAWcal comments are based on, and inspired by, the books and chapters published within one of the [gLAWcal book series](#) published by Routledge Publishing (New York/London).

gLAWcal is an independent non-profit research organization (think tank) that aims at providing a new focus on issues related to economic law, globalization and development, namely the relationship between international economy and trade, with special attention to a number of non-trade-related values and concerns. Through research and policy analysis, gLAWcal sheds a new light on issues such as good governance, human rights, right to water, rights to food, social, economic and cultural rights, labour rights, access to knowledge, public health, social welfare, consumer interests and animal welfare, climate change, energy, environmental protection and sustainable development, product safety, food safety and security.

## OUR MISSION

To collaborate with Government, Civil society and business community to balance the excess of globalization with Non Trade Concerns.

## OUR GOALS

To influence policymakers, to raise awareness over Non Trade Concerns, to encourage stakeholder participation, and to disseminate gLAWcal’s publication results.



**Email:** [research@glawcal.org.uk](mailto:research@glawcal.org.uk)

**Website:** [glawcal.org.uk](http://glawcal.org.uk)

**Facebook:** gLAWcal - Global Law Initiatives for Sustainable Development

**Twitter:** @gLAWcal

**LinkedIn:** gLAWcal