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Progress report

François COLLART DUTILLEUL, Director of the Lascaux Program, recently published on the website an article entitled « [Law and issues of exploitation and trade of natural resources](#) ». This document gives an overview of the progress made in the work of our research project. It establishes a diagnosis of the major issues we are currently facing and presents some of the options that the Program intends to explore in the coming months.

The latest news of the Lascaux Program

The previous month ended with a [conference on natural resources](#) organized by the Institut Universitaire de France on May 30th and 31st. On this occasion, François COLLART DUTILLEUL, accompanied by a couple of Lascaux's PhD students, intervened on food issues in international trade of natural resources (audio file [here](#)).

On June 6th, the Lascaux Program was then represented at the [Scientific Sessions of the University of Nantes](#).

This was followed, on June 8th, by the Director's participation to a [seminar on « Biodiversity and biological resources »](#) at the [Ecole Normale Supérieure of Lyon](#).

Then, from June 6th to June 17th, the Lascaux Program welcomed two international researchers : [Otto HOSPES](#), Professor at the University of Wageningen, The Netherlands and [Miguel Angel MARTIN LOPEZ](#), Professor of International Law and International relations at the University of Seville, Spain. Together, we organized a [seminar on the right to food and the right to development](#) at the University of Nantes on June 10th. [Marie CORNU](#), Research Director at the CNRS and Director of the CECOJI (Centre d'études sur la coopération juridique), specialized in cultural law and cultural property, took part in the discussion. She explained the transition from a notion of « cultural exception » to the notion of « cultural diversity » and provided some useful thoughts for the implementation of this model to the area of food.

On June 15th and 16th, Otto HOSPES hosted a [doctoral seminar](#) at the University of Nantes. He first presented the results of his recent work of palm oil. Then, he discussed the concept of inter-legality developed by Boaventura DE SOUSA

SANTOS, which consists in describing the phenomena of overlap and interaction between legal field through their evolutionary nature, using the perspective of legal sociology (further information [here](#)). The second day of the seminar was dedicated to the notion of « food sovereignty », taken as a means to an objective of food security, and therefore as a tool to guarantee every individual sufficient food in a satisfactory quality.

Finally, in the coming weeks, in addition to the continuing work on the Dictionary and the Code on food law, the members of the Lascaux Program will gather again on Friday, July 1st, to prepare for [the seminar to be held in Canada](#) at the beginning of September.

Publication of theses

We would also like to mention the recent [publication](#) of two theses written by researchers associated to the Lascaux Program :

- Marlen LEÓN GUZMÁN, *L'obligation d'auto-contrôle des entreprises en droit européen de la sécurité alimentaire*, Doctoral thesis (University of Nantes), [preface F. COLLART DUTILLEUL](#), ed. [INIDA](#), June 2011
- Hugo MUÑOZ UREÑA, *Principe de transparence et information des consommateurs dans la législation alimentaire européenne*, Doctoral thesis (University of Nantes), [preface F. COLLART DUTILLEUL](#), ed. [INIDA](#), June 2011

Worldwide agro-food activities

[\(click here for further information about current news\)](#)

A couple of Lascaux's central thematic recently made the headlines. First, there was the health crisis related to the bacteria **Escherichia coli**, which has been affecting the European Union for several weeks now. A [note](#) was published on this subject on the Lascaux blog.

Another issue was the subject of attention : the question of the speculation in agricultural commodity markets, seen as a potential cause of price volatility and therefore a situation of food insecurity. It is therefore with great care that we will follow the outcome and the impact of the [G 20](#) that has just ended.

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In the meantime, you can also follow us on Lascaux's website and read the collective blog of the Lascaux team.