



# The Sustainability Dispatch 2026 / No. 1

From the frontlines of global change

## Literary Lens:

**“Our remedies oft in ourselves do lie,  
Which we ascribe to heaven.”**

William Shakespeare,  
*All's Well That Ends Well*,  
Act 1, Scene 1

Welcome to *The Sustainability Dispatch* — your quick guide to the latest in sustainability and ESG. From global regulatory developments in finance to cutting-edge research, thought-provoking literature, and policy insights, we bring you news, hot takes, and exclusive access to events and publications. All in one place, across finance, law, science, and the humanities.

## ESG Global Developments



### USA & Texas Senate Bill 13 (SB13)

Texas federal judge Alan Albright, an appointee of President Trump, has struck down Texas Senate Bill 13 (SB 13) — a 2021 *anti-ESG* state law that barred state pension funds and government contracts with companies deemed to be “boycotting” the fossil fuel industry.

The court ruled the law violated the U.S. Constitution’s First and Fourteenth Amendments, finding it overly broad and vague because it could penalize firms for protected speech or associations related to climate issues, and thus chilled ESG-related investment decisions. The ruling blocks the law’s enforcement, though Texas officials say they plan to appeal.

#### Reference

<sup>1</sup> *American Sustainable Business Council v. Hegar, No. 1:2024cv01010, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas – Austin Division.*

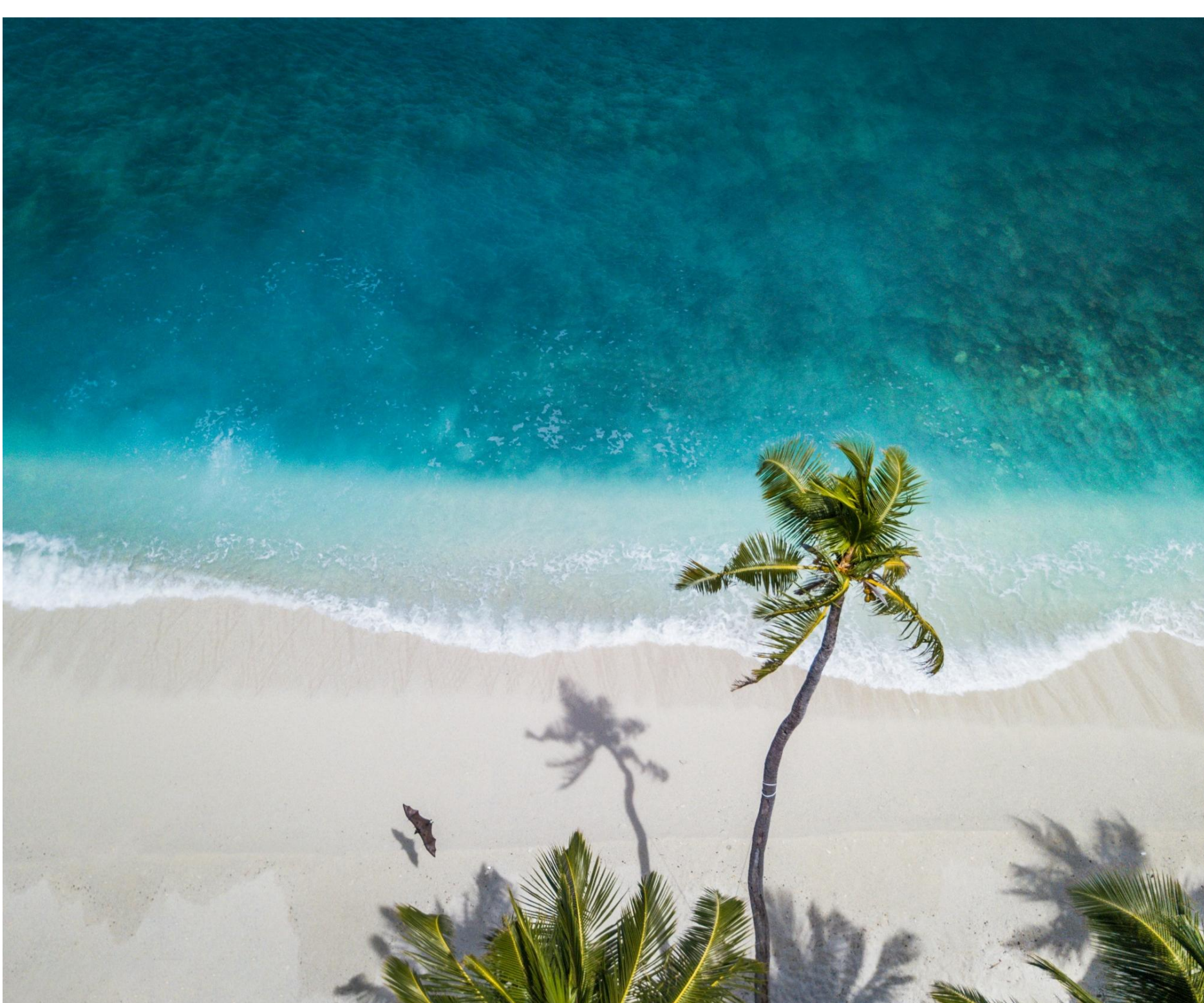
### UK Parliament & Stablecoin

The House of Lords Financial Services Regulation Committee is actively holding *public hearings* on the *growth and proposed regulation of stablecoins* — exploring how they might interact with traditional banking, risks and opportunities for the UK’s financial system, and whether existing regulatory responses are proportionate.

Under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2023, stablecoins used for payments are being brought within the regulatory perimeter, with the Bank of England and FCA developing proportionate frameworks focused on financial stability, consumer protection, and systemic risk. The debate reflects a wider ESG-aligned global trend: encouraging fintech innovation and market efficiency while safeguarding financial resilience, governance standards, and long-term economic stability. Prof. Kern Alexander was invited to give oral evidence.

#### Watch the recording: [parliamentlive.tv](https://parliamentlive.tv)

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## Sustainability Events @UZH

- **UZH Sustainable – 25 February 2026** – [Recap overview here](#)
- **Sustainability Week Zurich – 13-17 April 2026** – [Read more](#)

## Recap: Lunchtime Sustainability Seminar Series, No. 1 & 2

### No. 1: Swiss Sustainable Finance Regulation at a Crossroads – 03 December 2025

Prof. Dr. Kern Alexander launched the new Lunchtime Sustainability Seminar Series, with Prof. Dr. Aline Darbellay and Dr. Tadas Zukas presenting at the inaugural seminar.

### No. 2: Climate-Proofing Sovereign Bonds – 16 December 2025

Dr. Dominic Wälchli presented key insights from his new book, hot off the press, *Climate-Proofing Sovereign Bonds*, published by DIKE.



[Watch on YouTube](#)

## Lunchtime Sustainability Seminar Series, No. 3:

### Sustainability-Linked Insurance

#### Expert speaker:

Robert Eigenheer, Head of Corporate Finance, Swiss Federal Railways SBB and Chairman of the Board of Directors at SBB Insurance AG

#### Date & Time:

**Tuesday, 10 March 2026, 12:15-13:45 incl. Apéro**

#### Location:

UZH, Law Faculty  
Room RAI-F-041 (floor F)  
Rämistrasse 74, Zurich



<https://ema.uzh.ch/RVWY4>

#### Contact

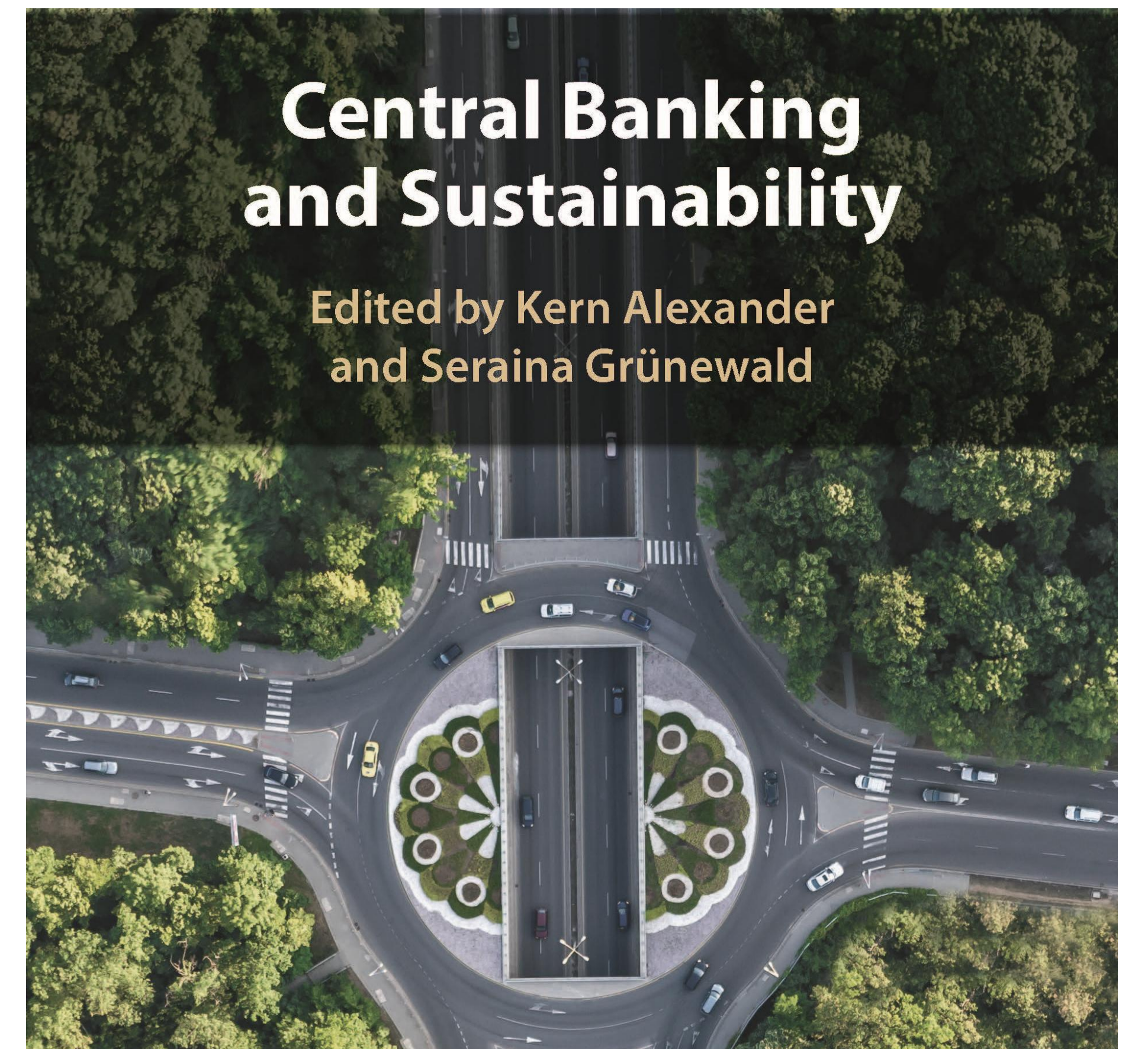
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## Conference & Book Launch

### The Role of Sustainability in Central Banking

Date: Friday, 8 May 2026, 9:00 – 15:00

Location: University of Zurich, Location TBA



Source: Book Cover, *Central Banking and Sustainability*, ed. Kern Alexander & Seraina Grünewald, CUP 2026

#### Book Editors

Kern Alexander (UZH) and Seraina Grünewald (HSG)  
Cambridge University Press, forthcoming, 2026

#### Chapter Authors & Expert Speakers

- Kern Alexander, UZH
- Seraina Grünewald, HSG
- Paul G. Fisher, Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership
- Elia Cerrato García, CUNEF Universidad, University of Madrid

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