

# **FOURTH AARHUS WORKSHOP**

## **European Implementation of the Aarhus Convention**

—

### **Access to Justice & Public Participation**

24 March 2021

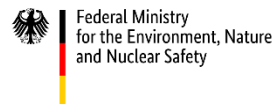
11.00 to 14.30 (CET)



FACULDADE DE DIREITO  
UNIVERSIDADE DE  
COIMBRA



This workshop is financially supported by



# Workshop Team



**Dr Maria Alexandra de  
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# About UfU

- NGO and scientific institute
- Offices in Berlin & Halle (Saale)
- around 40 employees, four departments
- Regional, national, EU & international projects
- Further information:  
<https://www.ufu.de/en/>

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Efficiency &  
Energy  
Transition

Climate  
Protection &  
Transformative  
Education

Nature  
Protection &  
Environmental  
Communication

Environmental  
Law &  
Participation

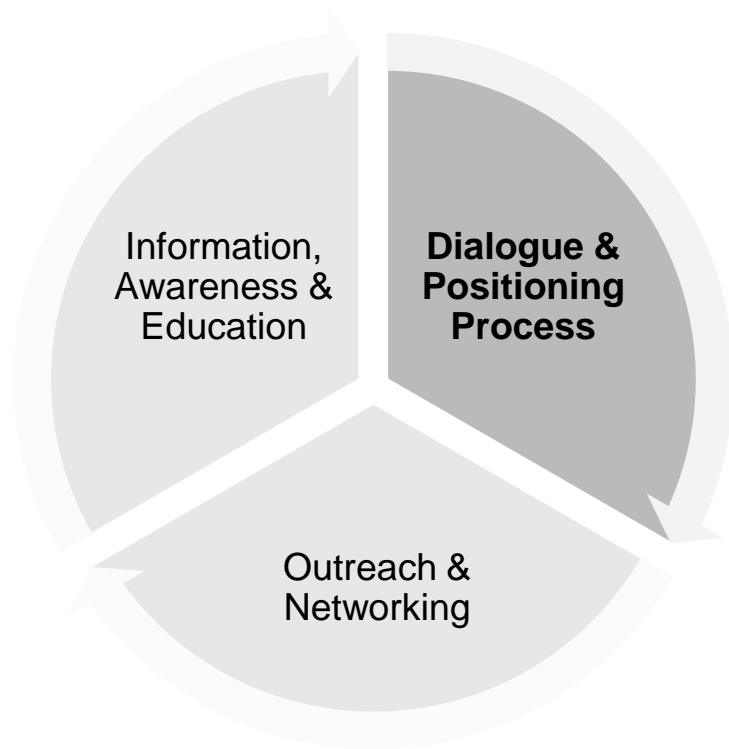
# Welcome Remarks

**Dr Michael Zschiesche**, Managing Director and Chairman of the Board,  
Head of the Department Environmental Law & Participation of the  
Independent Institute for Environmental Issues – UfU e.V.

# Agenda

11.15	Insights Portuguese Presidency of the EU Council
11.20	Presentation 1 <b>Updates on the Amendment to the Aarhus Regulation</b>
11.50	<i>Break</i>
12.00	Presentation 2 <b>How can citizens &amp; NGOs participate in European Environmental Decision-making?</b>
12.30	Panel Discussion <b>How Can Electronic Public Participation in European Environmental Decision-making Be Strengthened?</b>
13.25	<i>Break</i>
13.30 to 13.55	Open Discussion <b>Strengthened E-Participation in European Environmental Decision-making – Where &amp; How to Complain?</b>
13.55	The Way Forward
14.00	<i>Time for Additional Questions &amp; Answers &amp; Informal Exchange</i>

# European Implementation of the Aarhus Convention in the Digital Age (EU-AarKo)



- Duration: 4/2020 - 12/2021
- Further information:
- <https://www.ufu.de/en/projekt/eu-aarko/>

# Portuguese Presidency of the EU Council

**Dr Catarina Grilo**, Director of Conservation and Policy at  
ANP, Portugal in association with WWF

# Updates on the Amendment to the Aarhus Regulation

**Sebastian Bechtel, LLM**, Environmental Democracy Lawyer  
at ClientEarth Brussels



A person wearing a red jacket and a patterned hat is seen from behind, raising their right fist in a crowd at night. The background is blurred with city lights and other people.

# Aarhus Regulation amendment

## State of play & public participation

**ClientEarth**

**ClientEarth**

# What is internal review?

General idea (Art. 10):

- EU institution or body adopts an administrative act or should have adopted such an act
- Within 6 weeks, NGO can allege that act/omission contravenes environmental law + request internal review

=>

1. Positive decision: Act is changed / altered / omission remedied
2. Negative decision: NGO is addressee, can challenge the decision before the EU General Court (Art 263 TFEU)

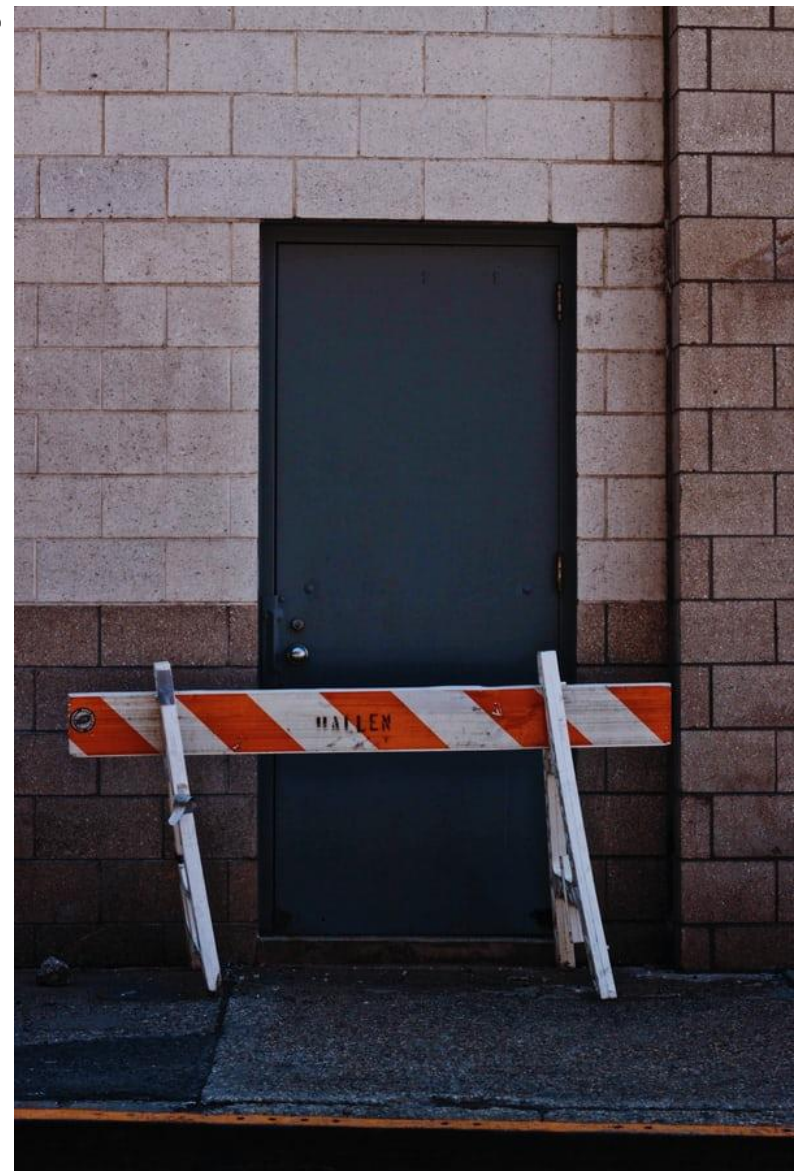
# Why is the amendment important?

Only route to challenge acts / omissions of EU institutions that violate EU environmental law

- No direct CJEU access for NGOs (Art. 263 TFEU)
- Preliminary rulings hard to obtain, practical challenges (Art. 267 TFEU)

BUT restrictive definition of what is an “administrative act / omission”

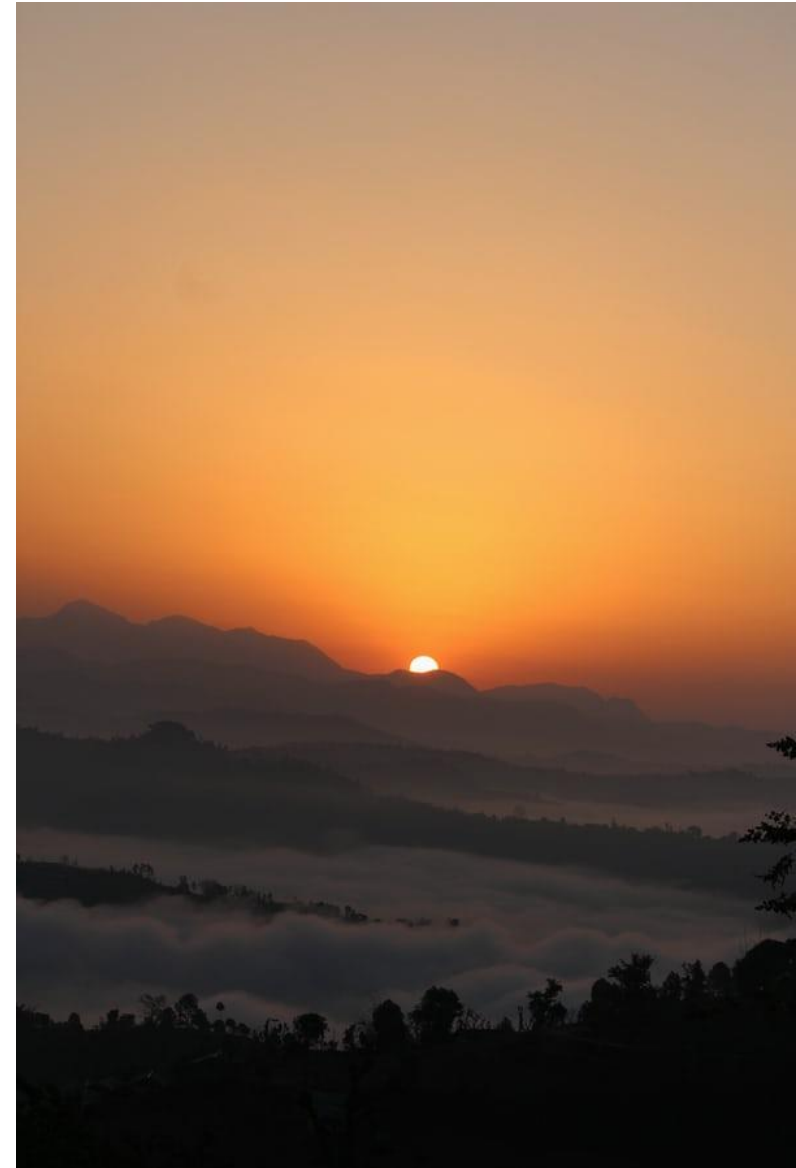
- Almost only applies to authorization of certain substances



# 14 Oct 20: Commission Proposal

Positive aspects:

- Deletion: “individual scope”;
- Deletion: “under environmental law”
- Extended time limits



**ClientEarth**

# 12 Feb 21: ACCC Advice

- Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee found in 2017 that Aarhus Regulation is insufficient to ensure access to justice as required by the Convention
- EU blocked adoption of findings at Meeting of the Parties but Council still requested Commission to act
- EU requested advice on the adequacy of the legislative proposal



# Our demands vs the advice



In the ACCC advice:

1. Remove exclusion: national implementing measures
2. Remove exclusion: Commission state aid decisions
3. Clarify: “binding effects”
4. Expand standing to individuals

Our additional points:

- Remove exclusion: EU implementing measures
- Clarify: “external effects” & “because of their effects”
- Introduce: Cost regulation
- Introduce: Expand scope of review
- Recitals..

Photo credit: Glenn Carstens-Peters at unspash

# State of Play - Parliament

- JURI Committee Opinion: Voted on 17/18 March – outcome close to Commission proposal
- ENVI Committee Report:
  - Draft report (Doleschal, EPP) – does not respect advice
  - Amendments on the core issues from EPP, RENEW, S&D, Greens, GUE
  - Vote on 15 April 2021 – will probably be moved
- European Parliament plenary vote planned for week of 17 May - will probably be moved

# State of Play - Council

- General Approach adopted at December ENVI Council (before advice / consideration of PP)
- Progressive alliance in favour of incorporating advice but nothing sure
- MS await Legal Service Opinion (week of 22 Mar) – delayed
- Working Group Party meeting (31 Mar) moved



# Public participation

3 periods:

- Feb 19 = Milieu Study (+ meeting)
- Apr 20 = Inception IA
- Dec 20 = 2<sup>nd</sup> PP after proposal



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# Impact?

3 periods:

- Feb 19 = Milieu Study (+ meeting)
- Apr 20 = Inception IA
- Dec 20 = 2<sup>nd</sup> PP after proposal



**ClientEarth**

# Questions

Updates on the Amendment to the Aarhus Regulation

# **How can citizens and NGOs participate in European environmental decision-making?**

**Dr Maria Alexandra de Sousa Aragão,**  
Professor at University of Coimbra

# How can citizens & NGOs participate in European environmental decision-making?

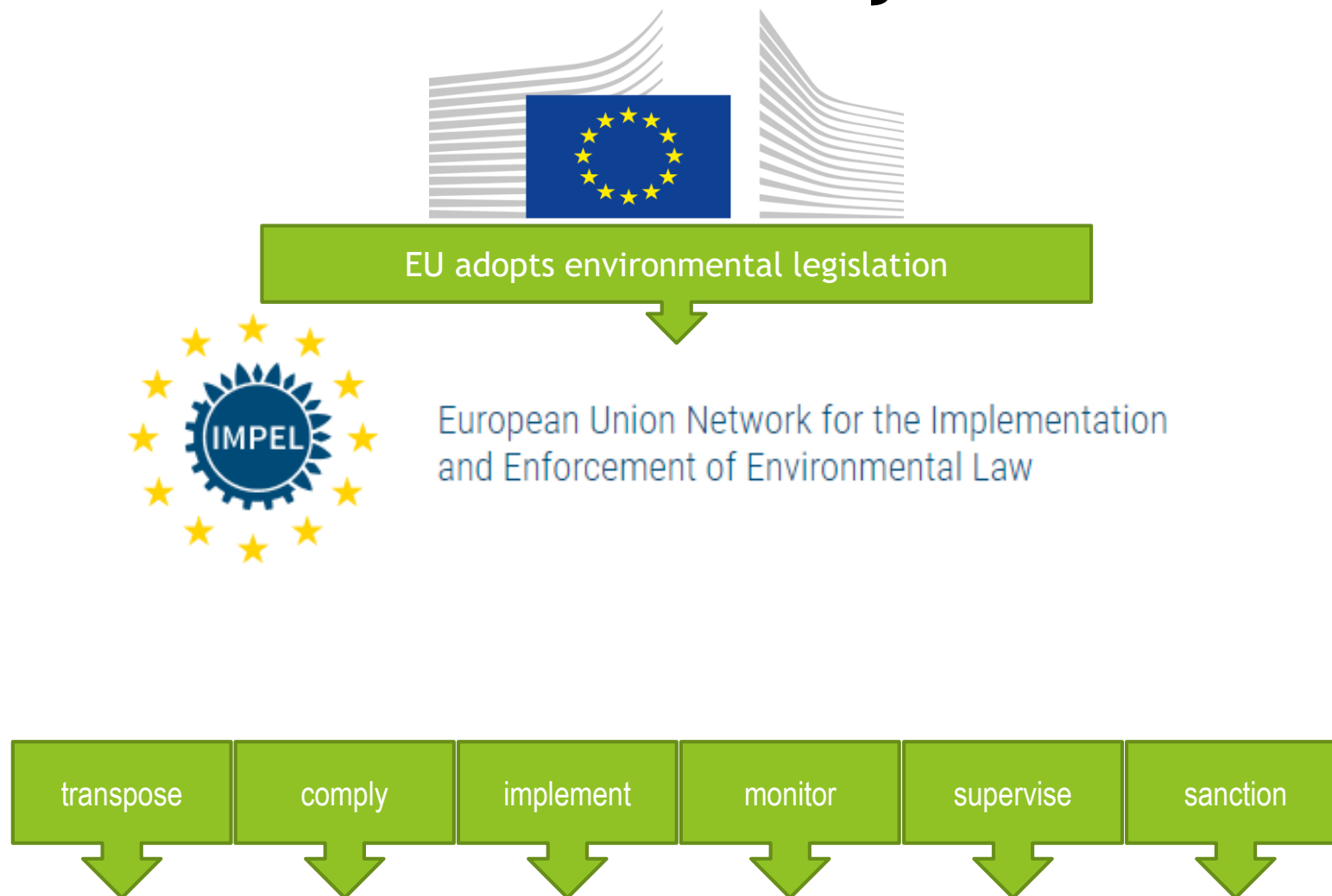


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UNIVERSIDADE DE  
**COIMBRA**

## In many ways!

- Alexandra Aragão -

# EU environmental law is a 'joint venture'



**Who?**

**Where?**

**What for?**

**Start**

**Level**

**Purpose**

# Who triggers participation?

Starting participation



► Reactive participation

# Invited



 Log in  EN English

Law

Have your say

## Welcome to Have your say

Citizens and businesses can share their views on new EU policies and existing laws.

### Log in / Register to contribute

In order to contribute you'll need to register or login using your existing social media account.

Log in

Register

► Pro active participation

# Own initiative



European Union

## EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE

Home

How it works ▾

Spread the word ▾

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Get a greater say in the policies that affect your lives. The European Citizens' Initiative is a unique way for you to help shape the EU by calling on the European Commission to propose new laws. Once an initiative has reached 1 million signatures, the Commission will decide on what action to take.

[See how it works step by step](#)

# Where to participate?

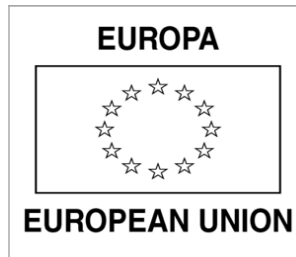
Level of participation



in the EU system



in the national system



in the international system

  
**PROVEDOR DE JUSTIÇA**  
*Na defesa dos cidadãos*

1 - Dados do(a) Reclamante

Nome Completo:

Endereço de Correio Eletrónico:  +

Número de Identificação Fiscal:   
Não é obrigatório. Todavia, se a queixa se refere a assuntos

Endereço:

Cidade/Localidade:


Código Postal:

País:

Telefone:  +

Telemóvel:  +

Fax:  +

 **European Ombudsman**

Your complaint login • Contact | [EN](#) [English](#)

Search...

About ▾ What we do ▾ How to make a complaint ▾ Newsroom ▾

You have a complaint against an EU institution or body? [MAKE A COMPLAINT](#)

[Home](#) > Make a complaint

### HOW TO MAKE A COMPLAINT

How can the Ombudsman help?

Checklist for a complaint

How do we deal with complaints?

[Make a complaint](#)

Who else can help you?

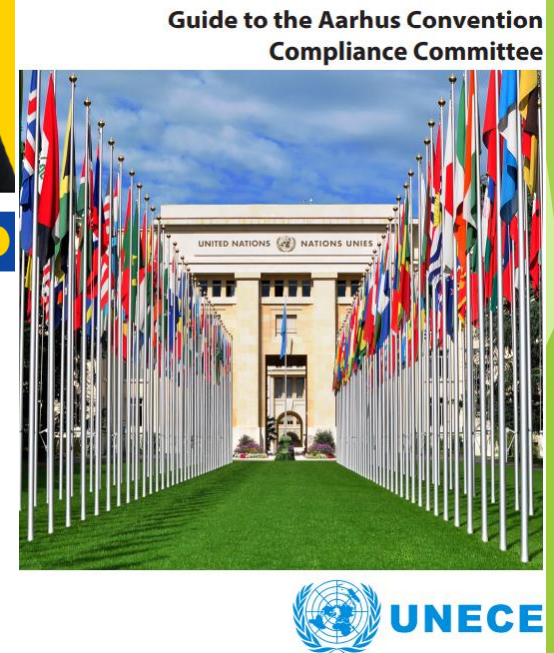
### Guide to complaints

You can submit a complaint to the European Ombudsman **online**, by **post** or by **fax**.

#### Submit your complaint online

Online complaints can be submitted in two easy steps:

- 1 Check the criteria**  
Go through our [checklist for making a complaint](#) and make sure that the European Ombudsman can investigate your complaint
- 2 Create an account**  
Creating an account will allow you to submit a complaint, to continue drafting a complaint you have not already submitted or to check the status of your complaint



# Participate. What for?

The purpose of participation

# The desired effect:

## Push

## Block



European Union

### EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE

[Home](#) [How it works](#) [Spread the word](#) [News](#)

Get a greater say in the policies that affect your lives. The European Citizens' Initiative is a unique way for you to help shape the EU by calling on the European Commission to propose new laws. Once an initiative has reached 1 million signatures, the Commission will decide on what action to take.

[See how it works step by step](#)

#### JUDGMENT OF THE COURT (Grand Chamber)

19 December 2019 ( <sup>\*1</sup> )

(Appeal — Institutional law — Citizens' initiative 'One of us' — Communication from the European Commission setting out its conclusions and the reasons for not taking the action requested in the citizens' initiative)

In Case C-418/18 P,

APPEAL under Article 56 of the Statute of the Court of Justice of the European Union, brought on 22 June 2018,

**Patrick Grégor Puppinck**, residing in Strasbourg (France),

**Filippo Vari**, residing in Rome (Italy),

**Josephine Quintavalle**, residing in London (United Kingdom),

**Edith Frivaldszky**, residing in Tata (Hungary),

**Jakub Baltroszewicz**, residing in Cracow (Poland),

**Alicia Latorre Canizares**, residing in Cuenca (Spain),

**Manfred Liebner**, residing in Zeitlofs (Germany),

represented by R. Kiska, Solicitor, and P. Diamond, Barrister,

appellants,

the other parties to the proceedings being:

**European Citizens' Initiative One of Us**,

applicant at first instance,

**European Commission**, represented by H. Krämer, acting as Agent,

# Participation opportunities for citizens and NGOs

# From passive to pro-active



1.

Eurobarometer

2.

Public  
consultation

3.

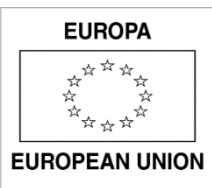
Legislative  
Initiative

4.

Lobby

5.

Citizen  
science



# 1. Answering EU wide surveys



# EUROBAROMETER Public Opinion

European Commission > DGs > Communication > Public Opinion

Home What's New? Public Opinion and... Eurobarometer Interactive Twitter Archives

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1974 1976 1978 1980 1982 1984 1986 1988 1990 1992 1994 1996 1998 2000 2002 2004 2006 2008 2010 2012 2014 2016 2018 2020

Standard EB

Special EB

Flash EB

Qualitative EB

The Standard Eurobarometer was established in 1974. Each survey consists of approximately 1000 face-to-face interviews per country. Reports are published twice yearly. Reproduction is authorised, except for commercial purposes, provided the source is acknowledged.

Special Eurobarometer reports are based on in-depth thematic studies carried out for various services of the European Commission or other EU Institutions and integrated in the Standard Eurobarometer's polling waves. Reproduction is authorised, except for commercial purposes, provided the source is acknowledged.

Flash Eurobarometers are ad hoc thematic telephone interviews conducted at the request of any service of the European Commission. Flash surveys enable the Commission to obtain results relatively quickly and to focus on specific target groups, as and when required. Reproduction is authorised, except for commercial purposes, provided the source is acknowledged.

The qualitative studies investigate in-depth the motivations, feelings and reactions of selected social groups towards a

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## Special Eurobarometer 501

<https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/SPECIAL/surveyKy/2257>

Report

### Attitudes of European citizens towards the Environment

Fieldwork  
December 2019  
Publication  
March 2020

Survey requested by the European Commission,  
Directorate-General for Environment



## Attitudes of European citizens towards the environment

**94%**

OF THE EUROPEANS SAY THAT  
PROTECTING THE  
ENVIRONMENT IS  
**IMPORTANT TO  
THEM PERSONALLY**



**53%**

SAY IT IS  
**VERY  
IMPORTANT**

41% SAY IT IS  
FAIRLY IMPORTANT

**78%**

agree that environmental issues  
**have a direct effect on their  
daily life and their health**





CLIMATE CHANGE IS PERCEIVED BY EUROPEANS AS A  
**VERY SERIOUS PROBLEM IN  
THEIR COUNTRY (76%) AND IN THE EU (77%)**

Respondents consider  
the **most important  
environmental  
issues** to be



**53%**  
Climate  
change



**46%**  
Air  
pollution



**46%**  
Growing amount  
of waste



**SEVEN IN TEN EUROPEANS THINK THAT  
ENVIRONMENTAL DECISIONS SHOULD BE  
TAKEN JOINTLY WITHIN THE EU**

## WHAT ARE THE **MOST EFFECTIVE WAYS OF TACKLING ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS** ACCORDING TO EUROPEANS?

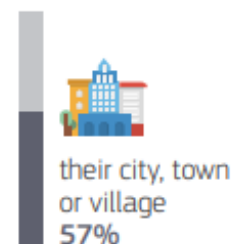


Just over a fifth of the respondents (**21%**) say they **have taken seven or more environmentally friendly actions** in the past six months



## EUROPEANS WANT **MORE TO BE DONE** TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

The majority think that **not enough is being done** by:




## 2. Feedback during online public consultation





<https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say>

 An official website of the European Union How do you know? ▾



 Log in  EN English

Search

Law

## Have your say

### Welcome to Have your say

Citizens and businesses can share their views on new EU policies and existing laws.

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In order to contribute you'll need to register or login using your existing social media account.

Log in

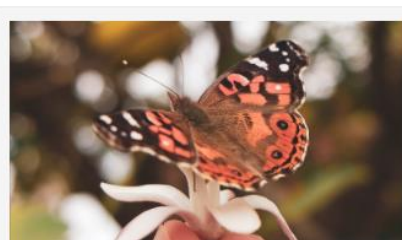
Register

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### Highlights




ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say



**Demographic change in Europe - green paper on ageing**

85


[Have your say >](#)



**Protecting biodiversity: nature restoration targets under EU biodiversity strategy**

274

[Have your say >](#)



**Security & border management – new Schengen strategy**

142

[Have your say >](#)

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## Closing soon

[Reducing disparities in the EU – 8th report on economic, social and territorial cohesion](#) In a day

[Trans-European energy infrastructure – revision of guidelines](#) In a day

[Vehicle safety – technical rules & test procedures for advanced safety features](#) In a day

[Europe's digital decade – 2030 digital targets](#) In 2 days

[EU farm and food products – review of policy on promotion inside and outside the EU](#) In 2 days



# Protecting biodiversity: nature restoration targets under EU biodiversity strategy

[Have your say](#) > [Published initiatives](#) > Protecting biodiversity: nature restoration targets under EU biodiversity strategy

## In preparation

### Roadmap

Feedback period

04 November 2020 - 02

December 2020

FEEDBACK: CLOSED

### Public consultation

Feedback period

11 January 2021 - 05 April 2021

FEEDBACK: OPEN

UPCOMING

## Commission adoption

## About this initiative

### Summary

Biodiversity, on which we all depend, is disappearing at an unprecedented rate. This initiative is one of the key measures announced in the EU's 2030 Biodiversity Strategy. It will propose legally binding nature restoration targets, subject to an impact assessment. The initiative will contribute to the goal of the 2030 Biodiversity Strategy: to put Europe's biodiversity on the path to recovery.

### Topic

Environment

### Type of act

Proposal for a regulation

### Category

Commission Work Programme

## Roadmap

FEEDBACK: CLOSED

### Type

Inception impact assessment

[More about roadmaps](#)

ALL FEEDBACK (132)

## Public consultation

---

FEEDBACK: OPEN

### Feedback period

11 January 2021 - 05 April 2021 (midnight Brussels time)

### The Commission would like to hear your views.

Through public consultations you can express your views on aspects of EU laws and policies before the Commission finalises its proposals.

[Go to consultation >](#)

## Commission adoption

---

FEEDBACK: UPCOMING

### Type

Proposal for a regulation

[More about adopted acts](#)

### Planned for

Fourth quarter 2021

## Subscribe to receive notifications

## Feedback (132)

---

02 December 2020 | Non-governmental organisation (NGO)

### **FOTA4Climate (Poland)**

We appreciate and support the ambitious goals of the Strategy, particularly: 1) Protection of natural and old growth forests. Designation of old and natural forest criteria, should be implemented according to scientific definitions, in consultations with scientists and NGOs; 2) Effective protection of European wetlands. Restoration should be understood as a abandoning the drainage of the marshes and peatland sites. Additional goals should be...

---

02 December 2020 | EU citizen

### **Hermann Edelmann (Germany)**

Nature restoration is - as well as nature destruction - not only a physical act, but reflects a societies state of mind and relation to life in general. Successful restoration would have to consider that almost all spheres of life and ecosystems - unfortunately nowadays - are man made or destroyed/degraded by human activities ... and that restoration is fixing earlier human missbehaving and ought to heal wrong mindsets as well. means: with...

---

02 December 2020 | Academic/research Institution

### **The University of Sheffield (Romania)**

The recently published State of the Environment Report 2020 shows that there was limited progress from the 2010 baseline towards the 2020 targets. The EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 failed to deliver on the target to restore 15 % of degraded ecosystems. Continued deterioration for some habitats and species outweighs the improvements. That being said, attempting to make restoration targets binding for Member States would probably be a project...

**ALL FEEDBACK (132)**

# Public consultation on EU biodiversity policy initiatives

## Evaluation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, review of the application of the EU Regulation on Invasive Alien Species, and development of binding EU nature restoration targets for 2030

Fields marked with \* are mandatory.

### Introduction

---

The Commission is carrying out a public consultation to inform several key biodiversity initiatives:

1. The evaluation of the [EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020](#) (2011-2020),
2. The review of the application of the [EU Regulation on Invasive Alien Species](#),
3. The development of legally binding EU nature restoration targets: a key commitment of the [EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030](#).

This consultation covers three distinct surveys: one under each of these headings.

**1. The 2020 Biodiversity Strategy set six targets, which together should have enabled the EU to halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. How familiar are you with these targets?**

	Very familiar	Moderately familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
Target 1. <a href="#">Fully implement the EU Birds and Habitats Directives</a>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Target 2. <a href="#">Maintain and restore ecosystems and their services</a>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Target 3. <a href="#">Increase the contribution of agriculture and forestry to maintaining and enhancing biodiversity</a>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

10

Target 4. <a href="#">Ensure the sustainable use of fisheries resources and marine ecosystems</a>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Target 5. <a href="#">Combat invasive alien species</a>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Target 6. <a href="#">Help avert global biodiversity loss</a>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**2. To what extent has the EU met the objective of halting biodiversity loss and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, and restoring them as far as feasible?**

- ☐ Fully
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ Poorly
- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ I don't know / no opinion

**3. To what extent has the EU achieved the following targets?**

	Fully	Partially	Poorly	Not at all	I don't know / no opinion
Target 1. <a href="#">Fully implement the EU Birds and Habitats Directives</a>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Target 2. <a href="#">Maintain and restore ecosystems and their services</a>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Target 3. <a href="#">Increase the contribution of agriculture and forestry to maintaining and enhancing biodiversity</a>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Target 4. <a href="#">Ensure the sustainable use of fisheries resources and marine ecosystems</a>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Target 5. <a href="#">Combat invasive alien species</a>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Target 6. <a href="#">Help avert global biodiversity loss</a>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**3a. Please highlight significant achievements of the strategy and related success factors :**

*250 character(s) maximum*

**3b. Please highlight significant gaps in the implementation of the strategy and reasons for failure:**

*250 character(s) maximum*

**4. Have you identified, since 2011, significant impacts on your sector, field of activity or living area that have resulted from the implementation of the strategy?**

- ☐ Yes – positive
- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes – negative
- ☐ I don't know / no opinion

Please elaborate

**7.3. Designate certain restored ecosystems as protected areas**

- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Somewhat important
- ☐ Not at all important
- ☐ I don't know / no opinion

**7.4. Other - *please specify***

*300 character(s) maximum*

---

**8. Is there anything else you would like to add?**

*1000 character(s) maximum*

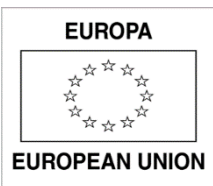
You may attach relevant supporting documents to this questionnaire.

The maximum file size is 10 MB

Only files of the type pdf,txt,doc,docx,odt,rtf are allowed

**THANK YOU FOR RESPONDING TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE**





# 3. Legislative initiatives

# How it works

[Home](#)[How it works](#) ▾[Spread the word](#) ▾[News](#)

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## PAGE CONTENTS

**Step 1: Get started**

**Step 2: Get your initiative registered**

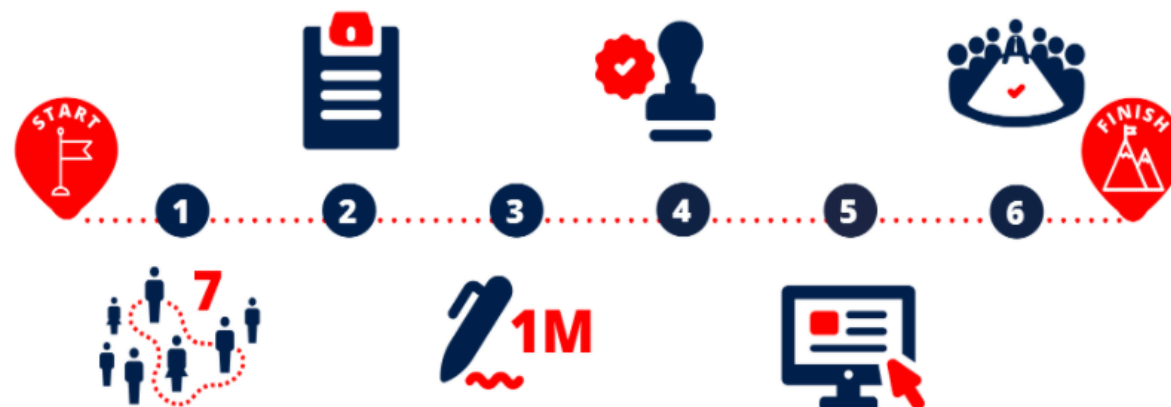
**Step 3: Get support**

**Step 4: Get statements of support verified**

**Step 5: Submit your initiative**

**Step 6: Get an answer**

**What next?**



<https://europa.eu/citizens-initiative/>

europa.eu/citizens-initiative/\_en



Collection ongoing

Right to Cure

96,046 supporters

Support this initiative



Collection ongoing

Save bees and farmers ! Towards a bee-friendly agriculture for a healthy environment

526,279 supporters

Support this initiative



Collection ongoing

Start Unconditional Basic Incomes (UBI) throughout the EU

107,353 supporters

Support this initiative



Collection ongoing

VOTERS WITHOUT BORDERS, Full Political Rights for EU Citizens.

5,246 supporters



Collection ongoing

Stop Finning – Stop the trade

167,917 supporters



Collection ongoing

GLOBAL WARMING SERIOUSLY HARMS YOUR LIFE.

A price for carbon to fight climate change

51,516 supporters

PHASE OUT PESTICIDES!

# SAVE BEES AND FARMERS !

Our biodiversity is at risk as never before. That is why the European Commission set a target in the "Green Deal" to reduce the use of pesticides by 50%.

The pesticide industry, their allies in the European Parliament and national governments are attacking this historic target.

Never before has it been so important for EU citizens to raise their voices against the use of pesticides.

**Demand the phase-out of pesticides now!**

Sign the European Citizens' Initiative "Save bees and farmers"!



Why do I have to share all this information?

Sign here

Language



Save bees and farmers ! Towards a bee-friendly agriculture for a healthy environment



Please select country

Portugal



Document/Number type

Bilhete de identidade



Number

Full first names

eg. Leonardo

Family names

eg. da Vinci

Date of birth

dd

/ mm

/ yyyy

Nationality

Portuguese



Iniciativa examinada



**MINORITY  
SAFEPAK  
INITIATIVE**

YOU ARE NOT ALONE. ONE MILLION  
SIGNATURES FOR DIVERSITY IN EUROPE

**Minority SafePack – Um milhão de  
assinaturas pela diversidade na Europa**

1.123.422 apoiantes

✕ A recolha de assinaturas está encerrada

Iniciativa examinada



**Proibição do glifosato e proteção das  
pessoas e do ambiente contra pesticidas  
tóxicos**

1.070.865 apoiantes

✕ A recolha de assinaturas está encerrada

Iniciativa examinada



**Stop Vivisection**

1.173.130 apoiantes

✕ A recolha de assinaturas está encerrada

Iniciativa examinada



**Um de Nós**

1.721.626 apoiantes

✕ A recolha de assinaturas está encerrada

Iniciativa examinada



**A água e o saneamento são um direito  
humano! A água é um bem público, não  
uma mercadoria!**

1.659.543 apoiantes



**Como lançar uma iniciativa**



## 4. Environmental lobbying



# Transparency Register



EUROPA > Transparency Register > Homepage



Home

About

Consult the register

Register or update

Alerts & complaints

EP accreditation

Contact us



## Transparency and the EU



Citizens can, and indeed should, expect the EU decision-making process to be as transparent and open as possible. The more open the process is, the easier it is to ensure balanced representation and avoid undue pressure and illegitimate or privileged access to information or to decision-makers. Transparency is also a key part of encouraging European citizens to participate more actively in the democratic life of the EU.

The transparency register has been set up to answer core questions such as what interests are being pursued, by whom and with what budgets. The system is operated jointly by the European Parliament and the European Commission.



Search the register



Register your organisation



Update your registration

<https://ec.europa.eu/transparencyregister/public/homePage.do?locale=en#en>

### In the spotlight

#### Latest registrants:

Name:	Registration date:
Nicolas Thondjee	06/03/2021
MyGatekeeper gemeinnützige UG	06/03/2021
ASOCIACION INRouTe RED INTERNACIO...	06/03/2021
Texas Instruments	06/03/2021
Cambi Group	05/03/2021

More

### Statistics

On 07/03/2021, there are 12354 registrants in the register.

#### They are from the following (sub)sections:

I - Professional consultancies/law firms/self-employed consultants	859
II - In-house lobbyists and trade/business/professional associations	6,601
III - Non-governmental organisations	3,351
IV - Think tanks, research and academic	933

EUROPA



EUROPEAN UNION

Identification number:	▲ (Organisation) name	◆ Section	Registration date:	Office country
832642915261-54	Movimento Italiano in Europa (MIE)	III - Non-governmental organisations	15/12/2014	United Kingdom
26535516539-45	Compassion in World Farming (CIWF)	III - Non-governmental organisations	01/09/2011	United Kingdom
403948218367-36	Bayerischer Jugendring (BJR)	III - Non-governmental organisations	29/07/2015	Germany
688867827027-92	Conselho de Reitores das universidades portuguesas (CRUP)	III - Non-governmental organisations	03/05/2017	Portugal
355642016161-08	CARE France	III - Non-governmental organisations	23/02/2015	France
724424937110-94	Jane Goodall Institute Belgium (JGI Be)	III - Non-governmental organisations	27/01/2020	United Kingdom
22644632329-52	IFAW Internationaler Tierschutz-Fonds gGmbH (IFAW)	III - Non-governmental organisations	25/09/2009	Germany
6809935493-49	Eurogroup for Animals	III - Non-governmental organisations	10/10/2008	Belgium
213754916822-68	ASSOCIATION FEDERATION HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL (HI)	III - Non-governmental organisations	21/04/2015	France
40186682726-13	Gesellschaft zur Rettung der Delphine e.V. (GRDeV)	III - Non-governmental organisations	08/12/2009	Germany



## Statistics

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III - Non-governmental organisations	3,351
IV - Think tanks, research and academic institutions	933
V - Organisations representing churches and religious communities	52
VI - Organisations representing local, regional and municipal authorities, other public or mixed entities, etc.	558

[« Return to results list](#)

## Profile of registrant



### Climate Disclosure Standards Board

Identification number in the register: **922386710536-51**

Registration date: **29/01/2013 15:56:13**

The registrant performed the last (partial or annual) update on: **12/01/2021 14:37:05**

The date of the last annual update was: **31/03/2020 11:32:07**

Next annual update due latest on: **31/03/2021**



## Registrant : Organisation or self-employed individual



**(Organisation) name:** Climate Disclosure Standards Board

**Acronym:** CDSB

**Legal status:** A project of CDP Worldwide

**Website:** <http://www.cdsb.net>

<a href="#">Home</a> <a href="#">About</a> <a href="#">Consult the register</a> <a href="#">Register or update</a> <a href="#">Alerts &amp; complaints</a> <a href="#">EP accreditation</a> <a href="#">Contact us</a>					
Financial data					
<b>Financial year:</b>	04/2019 - 03/2020				
<b>Estimate of the annual costs related to activities covered by the register:</b>	50,000 € - 99,999 €				
<b>Total budget:</b>	1,764,809 €				
<b>of which public financing:</b>	485,673 €				
<b>Most recent financial information about funding received from the EU institutions:</b>	<table> <tr> <td><b>Procurement:</b> €</td><td><b>Source:</b></td></tr> <tr> <td><b>Grants:</b> 485,673 €</td><td><b>Source:</b> LIFE (European Commission)</td></tr> </table>	<b>Procurement:</b> €	<b>Source:</b>	<b>Grants:</b> 485,673 €	<b>Source:</b> LIFE (European Commission)
<b>Procurement:</b> €	<b>Source:</b>				
<b>Grants:</b> 485,673 €	<b>Source:</b> LIFE (European Commission)				
<b>- from national sources:</b>	€				
<b>- from local/regional sources:</b>	€				
<b>from other sources:</b>	1,279,136 €				
<b>- donations:</b>	1,279,136 €				
<b>- contributions from members:</b>	€				
<b>Other (financial) information provided by the organisation:</b>	Apart from philanthropic funding, CDSB receives funding from its parent organisation, CDP to cover any further costs.				



# 5. Citizen science

# Best Practices in Citizen Science for Environmental Monitoring

- #CitizenSData
- Home
- About
- Activity Reports
- Events
- Blog
- Community resources
- Useful links



## Best Practices in Citizen Science for Environmental Monitoring

by Kim De Rijck (DG Environment), Sven Schade (Joint Research Centre), Jose-Miguel Rubio (European Environment Agency) and Marjan Van Meerloo (DG Research and Innovation)



A growing number of citizens worldwide are getting involved in collecting and reporting scientific information and observations about their surroundings through citizen science initiatives. Many of these projects are producing valuable data about environmental phenomena. There is significant potential for public authorities to make more use of this valuable source of knowledge, and for citizen science to have a greater impact on policy, such as the European Green Deal and other EU and global priorities, such as, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). However, and while there are examples of uptake in some environmental areas (biodiversity, air pollution, waste/litter), obstacles related to data quality and complexity of data

Login Into ECAS

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Welcome to EUNIS, the European Nature Information System  
Find species, habitat types and protected sites across Europe

Species

Search

Information about species in Europe, particularly species mentioned in legal texts

Search tools

Habitat types

Search

Information about the EUNIS habitat classification and the EU Habitats Directive Annex I habitat types

Search tools



Topics Countries Data and maps Indicators Publications Media About us



## Citizen science projects on air quality produce useful information and raise public awareness

Air pollution is the biggest environmental health threat in Europe and more and more people are taking action to claim their right to clean air. A new European Environment Agency (EEA) report provides an overview of low-cost devices that citizens and NGOs can use to measure local air quality.

Published 12 Mar 2020 — Last modified 08 Jun 2020 — 2 min read — Photo: © Norwegian Institute for Air Research

How can citizens & NGOs participate in European environmental decision-making?

## Multifaceted Public Participation

1.

Eurobarometer |

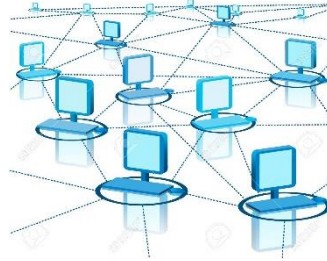
2.

Public  
consultation



3.

Legislative  
Initiative



4.

Lobby



5.

Citizen  
science



# Questions

**How can citizens and NGOs participate in European Environmental Decision-making?**

# **Panel Discussion**

**How Can Public Participation in European Environmental Decision-making Be Strengthened?**



# Electronic Public Participation on EU Level



**Dr Maria Alexandra de  
Sousa Aragão**

Professor at University  
of Coimbra, Portugal



**Rebecca Humphries**

Senior Public Affairs  
Officer at WWF  
European Policy  
Office (EPO), Belgium



**Dr Raphael Weyland**

Head of Brussels Office  
at NABU, in association  
with BirdLife Europe,  
Belgium



**Anna Renkamp**

Senior Project Manager  
at Bertelsmann Stiftung,  
Germany



**Dr Maria Alexandra de Sousa Aragão**

Professor at University of Coimbra

1. **Citizen participation in the EU** – different opportunities, more or less time and resource consuming, more or less confrontational, more or less transformative.
2. **Effective participation in EU environmental policy** – choosing the right trigger, the right level and purpose of participation.
3. **Responsible participation in the EU** – many different ways, one single purpose: ensuring that *no futile, short term, economic interests overrule* the major goal of effective environmental protection

1. The **EU's Better Regulation rules**, including for public consultations are **due to be updated**, but the communication announcing the changes has been repeatedly delayed over the past year.
2. The way public consultations are formulated should **not give the impression the Commission has already decided** a course of action and is simply using the consultation to validate it.
3. It is important to improve the **transparency** around which stakeholder views expressed through consultations have been followed and taken into account when developing policy proposals (→ increase citizen confidence in the process and encourage continued engagement)



**Rebecca Humphries**

Senior Public Affairs  
Officer at WWF European  
Policy Office (EPO)



**Dr Raphael Weyland**

Head of Brussels Office at NABU, in  
association with BirdLife Europe

1. **European Commission:** we have to acknowledge that quite some participation is already now granted. The Commission should still improve on how they consult, and for sure should **avoid ignoring the responses**.
2. **European Council** is a big blackbox. Letting citizens know what is happening is a crucial first step. The European Council hence should improve **transparency**, also for trilogos!
3. **Citizens:** For citizens participation can be painful and time-consuming. But if we ask for participation we should engage, and communicate about positive outcome from EU decision making. European Green Deal is a good example!



**Anna Renkamp**

Senior Project Manager  
Bertelsmann Stiftung

1. **Good to have for openness and transparency.** The instrument Public Consultation works fairly well for the stakeholders, but not for the citizens. There is still a lot of work to be done on the instrument.
2. **Visibility is low and accessibility is limited.** Citizens generally do not know the tool exists. The instrument isn't ready for the greater public yet. Normal citizens are not considered. Participation is selective. This results in a biased outcome.
3. **No follow-up transparency.** There is no timely feedback on the consultation results and a lack of information when it comes to the decision-making process.

# Relevant Online Public Consultations by the European Commission

- ["2030 Climate Target Plan"](#) consultation – Feedback period 31 March 2020 - 23 June 2020;
- ["Proposal for a\[n amended Aarhus\] regulation - COM\(2020\)642"](#) consultation – Feedback period 15 October till 10 December 2020;
- ["Modernising and simplifying the Common Agricultural Policy \[CAP\]"](#) consultation – Feedback period 2 February 2017 till 2 May 2017;
- ["Amendment of the EU Emissions Trading System \(Directive 2003/87/EC\)"](#) consultation – Feedback period 29 October 2020 till 26 November 2020; and
- ["Amendment of the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry Regulation \(EU\) 2018/841"](#) consultation – Feedback period 29 October 2020 till 26 November 2020.
- **No Public Consultation:**
- Overarching policies of EU's post-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

# Open Discussion

**Strengthened E-Participation in European Environmental Decision-making – Where and how to complain?**

# Where and how to complain?

**Dr Maria Alexandra de Sousa Aragão,**  
Professor at University of Coimbra, Portugal



# Strengthened E-Participation in European environmental decision- making: where & how to complain? Alexandra Aragão



FACULDADE DE DIREITO  
UNIVERSIDADE D  
COIMBRA



# Participation opportunities for citizens and ENGOs

- Complaining,
- Bringing charges against, and
- Challenging in court...

... is also ‘participating’

# From softer to harder From internal to external



1.

2.

3a).

4.

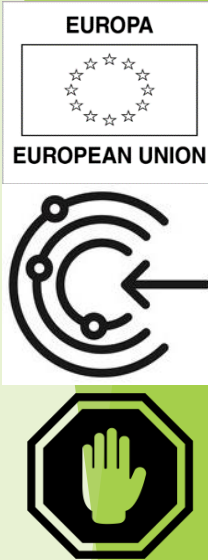
5.

Ombuds(wo)man | Parliament | Commission | Court of Justice | International organisations

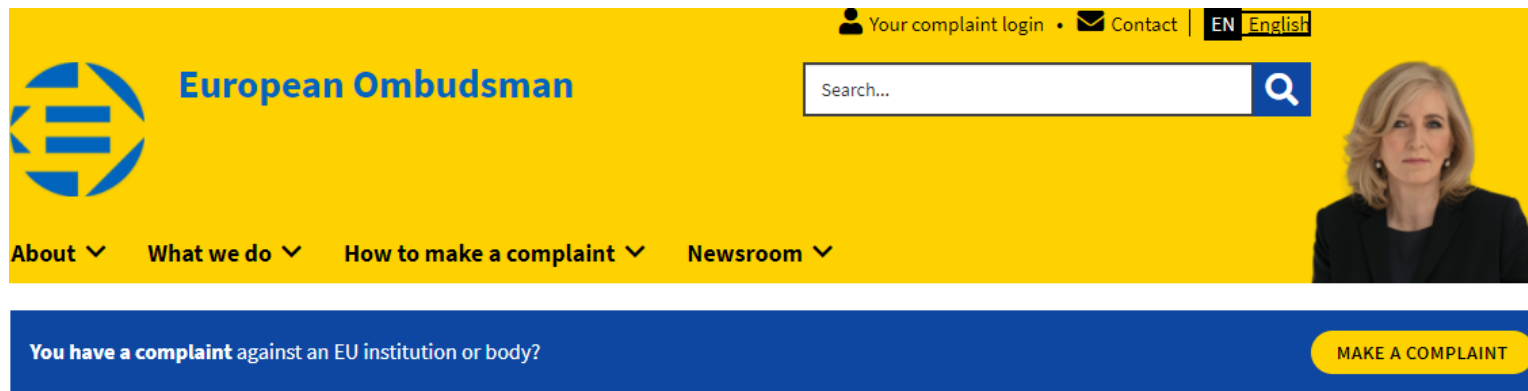
3b).

Member State

# 1. Complaining to Ombuds(wo)man



# 1 At EU level, reacting against EU institutions



[Home](#) > Make a complaint

## HOW TO MAKE A COMPLAINT

How can the Ombudsman help?

Checklist for a complaint

How do we deal with complaints?

**Make a complaint**

Who else can help you?

## Guide to complaints

You can submit a complaint to the European Ombudsman **online**, by **post** or by **fax**.

### Submit your complaint online

Online complaints can be submitted in two easy steps:

#### 1 Check the criteria

Go through our [checklist for making a complaint](#) and make sure that the European Ombudsman can investigate your complaint

#### 2 Create an account

Creating an account will allow you to submit a complaint, to continue drafting a complaint you have not already submitted or to check the status of your complaint



European Ombudsman

## Complaint about maladministration

Please read the section entitled 'How to complain' before filling out this complaint form.

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary and enclose all the documents necessary to support your complaint.

1

First name: .....

Surname: .....

On behalf of (if applicable): .....

Address line 1: .....

Address line 2: .....

Town/City: .....

Postcode: .....

Country: .....

Nationality: .....

Tel.: .....

E-mail: .....

2

Against which European Union (EU) institution or body do you wish to complain?

- European Parliament
- Council of the European Union
- European Commission
- Court of Justice of the European Union (\*)
- European Court of Auditors
- European Economic and Social Committee
- Committee of the Regions of the European Union
- European Investment Bank
- European Central Bank
- European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO)
- European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)
- European Police Office (Europol)
- Other Union body (please specify)

3

What is the decision or matter about which you complain? When did you become aware of it?

4

What do you consider that the EU institution or body has done wrong?

5

What, in your view, should the institution or body do to put things right?

6

Have you already contacted the EU institution or body concerned in order to obtain redress?

This is a mandatory condition for a complaint to be admissible. Evidence that you have contacted the relevant institution or body to seek redress must be annexed to the complaint form. Otherwise, you will be informed that we cannot deal with your complaint.

☐ Yes (please specify)

☐ No

7

If the complaint concerns work relationships with the EU institutions and bodies: have you used all the possibilities for internal administrative requests and complaints provided for in the Staff Regulations? If so, have the time limits for replies by the institutions already expired?

- ☐ Yes (please specify) ☐ No

8

Has the object of your complaint already been settled by a court or is it pending before a court?

- ☐ Yes (please specify) ☐ No

9

Do you agree that your complaint may be passed on to another institution or body (European or national), if the European Ombudsman decides that he is not entitled to deal with it?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Date:

### Information note on data processing and confidentiality

#### Data processing

Complaints to the Ombudsman and related correspondence often contain personal data, such as names, contact details and other information relating to identifiable individuals.

There are rights and obligations under European law (Regulation 2018/1725) as to how personal data is handled by EU institutions, including the European Ombudsman. These include an individual's right to obtain access to his or her own information held by this Office. To exercise these rights or to find out more, please contact our Office or our Data Protection Officer.

If a person considers that the Ombudsman has not handled his or her personal data properly, he or she may contact the European Data Protection Supervisor.

#### Confidentiality of your complaint and information

Complainants are requested to identify clearly any document or information that they consider to be confidential immediately on sending it to the Ombudsman.


Confidentiality can only apply if there would be some adverse effect if the information were to be disclosed. It might, for example, apply to financial information, commercially sensitive information or personal information about a private individual. Confidentiality cannot always be guaranteed. In particular, if you submit to the Ombudsman documents that contain the personal data of someone other than yourself, that person will most likely




## 2. Petition the European Parliament

## 2 At EU level, petition to the EP







**Petitions**  
European Parliament


Quick search on "petitions" 

HomeFind a petitionStart a petitionFAQRegisterLog in

# Welcome to the Petitions Web Portal



**START A PETITION**  
If your issue is not currently represented by an active petition, start a new petition.

**SUPPORT A PETITION**  
Browse open petitions to find a petition related to your issue and add your support.

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/petitions/en/show-petitions>

Search results 12

Results per page 10 | 20 | 50 | 100

---

Petition No 0229/2020 by Kristina T'felt (Danish), on behalf of 'Collectif des citoyens européens du narbonnais', on the right of every citizen living near to the Orano Malvési site to live in a healthy **environment**

AVAILABLE TO SUPPORTERS

... and foreign customers. A stockpile of contaminated waste (400 000 m3) is classified as a Basic Nuclear Facility (BNF). The site discharges chemical and climate pollutants into the **environment**, including into the Canal de la Robine (UNESCO heritage site), which flows into the lagoon at the Étang de Bages-Sigean, a Natura 2000 protected area. When in 2004, a dyke broke releasing ...

---

Petition No 0779/2020 by P.O.S. (Spanish), on behalf of Ecologistas en Acción, on management of health waste and the COVID-19 crisis in the EU

AVAILABLE TO SUPPORTERS

The petitioner complains that, as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, homes are now overrun with single-use healthcare products used as safeguards against infection. Some **environment** specialists are warning of the risks posed by the huge increase in, and poor management of, healthcare waste. The petitioner points out that thousands of used masks and gloves are ...

---

Petition No 1155/2020 by J.B. (Polish), on behalf of Municipal Office of Wiązowna, on constructing noise barriers on the motorway

AVAILABLE TO SUPPORTERS

... European Commission to check if the EU funds allocated to the construction of motorway S17 at the section of Wiązowna municipality are spent in line with EU legislation concerning **environment** protection in the area of noise

https://www.europarl.europa.eu/petitions/en/registration/register

europarl.europa.eu/petitions/en/registration/register

EN - English

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 **Petitions**  
European Parliament

Quick search on "petitions"

Home Find a petition Start a petition FAQ Register Log in

*You must create a user account before you can start or support a petition.*

Already have an account?

Username

Password

Log in

[Register here](#)

[Forgot password?](#)

## 3<sup>a</sup>). Complaining to European Commission

# 3 At EU level, complaining against Member States



EN English



Home > ... > Contact > Problems and complaints > Complaints about breaches of EU law > How to make a complaint at EU level

## How to make a complaint at EU level

### PAGE CONTENTS

#### Resources at EU level

**Administrative steps to submit a complaint to the European Commission**

**Submitting a complaint online**

**Acknowledgements of receipt of multiple complaints**

### Resources at EU level

Although you will usually be able to enforce your rights better in the country where you live, the European Union offers resources that may also be able to help you.

#### The Committee on Petitions of the European Parliament

You have the right ([Article 227 TFEU](#)) to submit a petition to the European Parliament about the application of Union law. You may submit your petition by post or online via the [European Parliament's website](#). You can find out more about petitions to the European Parliament on the [EU citizenship and free movement website](#).

#### The European Commission

You can contact the European Commission about any measure (law, regulation or administrative action), absence of measure or practice by a country of the European Union that you think is against Union law.

## 2. Information about the complainant

I'm submitting this complaint on behalf of... \*

☒ myself ☐ somebody else

### Your details

Businesses or organisation:

Language: \*

English ▼

Title: \*

Street and number: \*

First name: \*

Postcode: \*

Postcode

Last name: \*

Town: \*

Town

E-mail: \*

e-Mail

Country: \*

Please select... ▼

Confirm e-mail: \*

Telephone:

Telephone

« Back

Next »

## Complaint form for breach of EU law

3 / 10

### 3. Details of the authority or body you are complaining about

Name of the authority: \*

Street and number:

Contact person:

Postcode:

E-mail:

Town:

Telephone:

Country: \*

« Back

Next »



# Complaint form for breach of EU law

4 / 10

## 4. National measures suspected to infringe Union law

Please list the specific national measures (national law or other regulatory or administrative measures) you think are in breach of EU law and specify how they breach the EU law.

National measures suspected to infringe Union law: ★

## EU law you think has been breached

EU laws (e.g. Treaties, regulations, directives, decisions) or principles underpinning EU law.

If you're not sure which EU law is involved, you can contact [Your Europe Advice](#).

If you know it, please specify which EU law is concerned:

## 5. Problem description

Please describe the problem (Describe the problem max of 7000 characters): \*

Does the Member State concerned receive (or could it receive in future) EU funding relating to the subject of your complaint? \*

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know

Does your complaint relate to a breach of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights? \*

The Commission can only investigate fundamental rights breaches that occur when the Member States are **implementing EU law**.

If the Member States are acting on the basis of **national law** only, the Commission cannot intervene.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know

« Back

Next »

# Complaint form for breach of EU law

6 / 10

## 6. Supporting documents



Please list any supporting documents / evidence, which you could send to the Commission if requested.

Note that you can't attach any documents at this stage, but we may contact you to send us the documents if required.

List of documents:

« Back

Next »

Have you already taken action in the Member State concerned to try to solve this problem? ★

☐ Yes ☒ No ⚠ Please select an option.

Why didn't you take any action to tackle your problem in the Member State concerned? ★



**Please note**

Please consider taking action in the Member State concerned. You will be able to assert your rights directly and personally by using the available national channels for complaining.

- ☐ Another case on the same issue is pending before a national or EU court
- ☐ No remedy is available for the problem
- ☐ The remedy exists, but is too costly
- ☐ Time limit for action has expired
- ☐ No legal standing (you have no legal grounds to bring an action before the court)
- ☐ No legal aid / no lawyer
- ☐ I do not know which remedies are available for the problem
- ☐ Other (please specify)

## 7. Previous attempts to solve the problem



### Please note

The only way you can directly resolve your personal situation, or be awarded compensation, is to take action in the Member State concerned. The formal infringement procedure initiated by the Commission will not do this.

Have you already taken action in the Member State concerned to try to solve this problem? ★

☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you already contacted any of the following EU institutions or services dealing with problems of this nature?

☐ Petition to the **European Parliament** ([more information](#))

☐ **European Ombudsman** ([more information](#))

☐ **European Commission** ([more information](#))

☐ **SOLVIT** ([more information](#))

☐ **Other** (please specify)

Are you aware of any action in the Member State concerned covering the issue you raise in this complaint?

☐ Yes ☐ No

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Next »

## 3b). Complaining at Member State level

# EU Whistleblower Directive

26.11.2019

EN

Official Journal of the European Union

L 305/17

**DIRECTIVE (EU) 2019/1937 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL  
of 23 October 2019  
on the protection of persons who report breaches of Union law**

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 16, Article 43(2), Article 50, Article 53(1), Articles 91, 100, and 114, Article 168(4), Article 169, Article 192(1) and Article 325(4) thereof and to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, and in particular Article 31 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the Court of Auditors <sup>(1)</sup>,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee <sup>(2)</sup>,

After consulting the Committee of the Regions,

## Protection of persons who report breaches of environmental law (Transposition: 17 December 2021)

- Protection of persons against retaliation
- Internal reporting channels (17 December 2023)





## 4. Access to justice

# 4 Access to justice at the EU level



[https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/upload/docs/application/pdf/2018-11/tra-doc-en-div-t-0000-2018-201809528-05\\_00.pdf](https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/upload/docs/application/pdf/2018-11/tra-doc-en-div-t-0000-2018-201809528-05_00.pdf)



ОБЩ СЪД НА ЕВРОПЕЙСКИЯ СЪЮЗ  
TRIBUNAL GENERAL DE LA UNIÓN EUROPEA  
TRIBUNÁL EVROPSKÉ UNIE  
DEN EUROPÆISKE UNIONS RET  
GERICHT DER EUROPÄISCHEN UNION  
EUROOPA LIIDU ÜLDKOHUS  
ΓΕΝΙΚΟ ΔΙΚΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΤΗΣ ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗΣ ΕΝΩΣΗΣ  
GENERAL COURT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION  
TRIBUNAL DE L'UNION EUROPÉENNE  
CÚIRT GHINEARÁLTA AN AONTAIS EORPAIGH  
OPĆI SUD EUROPSKE UNIJE  
TRIBUNALE DELL'UNIONE EUROPEA

EIROPAS SAVIENĪBAS VISPĀRĒJĀ TIESA  
EUROPOS SAJUNGOS BENDRASIS TEISMAS  
AZ EURÓPAI UNIÓ TÖRVÉNYSZÉKE  
IL-QORTI ĠENERALI TAL-UNJONI EWROPEA  
GERECHT VAN DE EUROPESE UNIE  
SĄD UNII EUROPEJSKIEJ  
TRIBUNAL GERAL DA UNIÃO EUROPEIA  
TRIBUNALUL UNIUNII EUROPENE  
VŠEOBECNÝ SÚD EURÓPSKEJ ÚNIE  
SPLOŠNO SODIŠČE EVROPSKE UNIJE  
EUROOPAN UNIONIN YLEINEN TUOMIOISTUIN  
EUROPEISKA UNIONENS TRIBUNAL

## AIDE-MÉMOIRE – APPLICATION <sup>1</sup>

### *GENERAL INFORMATION*

- **Address of the e-Curia application:** <https://curia.europa.eu/e-Curia>
- **Preparation of the application:** the text of the application, including the schedule of annexes, can be saved in PDF format directly from word-processing software, without the need for scanning.

Address of the e-Curia application: <https://curia.europa.eu/e-Curia>

## *PRESENTATION OF THE APPLICATION*

- ☐ **Presentation of pages:** A4 format
- ☐ **Text:** in a commonly-used font (such as Times New Roman, Courier or Arial) in at least 12 point, with single line spacing, and upper, lower, left and right margins of at least 2.5 cm
- Footnotes:** in a commonly-used font (such as Times New Roman, Courier or Arial) in at least 10 point, with single line spacing. The main purpose of a footnote is to include references to documents cited in the application. It is not the purpose of a footnote to develop the pleas in law or arguments put forward by the applicant in the application.
- ☐ **Page numbering:** the pages of the application must be numbered consecutively in ascending order
- ☐ **Paragraph numbering:** paragraphs must be numbered consecutively in ascending order
- ☐ **Maximum number of pages:** 50 pages for the application in a direct action other than an action brought pursuant to Article 270 TFEU; 30 pages for the application in an action brought pursuant to Article 270 TFEU; 20 pages for the application in an intellectual property case

### *CONTENT OF THE APPLICATION*

- ☐ **Title** of the pleading
- ☐ **Identity of the applicant(s):** name(s) and address(es) of the applicant(s)
- ☐ **Identity of the representative(s):** name(s) – status – address
- ☐ **Identity of the defendant:**

*For direct actions:* specify the defendant institution, body, office or agency or, if the action is based on an arbitration clause, the natural or legal person, as the case may be

### *STRUCTURE OF THE APPLICATION*

- ☐ **Subject matter of the dispute:** type of action, basis, brief account of the facts and legal context
- ☐ **Legal arguments** set out and grouped by reference to the pleas in law to which they relate (admissibility and substance) **with a heading for each plea in law put forward**
- ☐ **Form of order sought:** precise wording thereof (at the beginning or at the end of the application)

## MANDATORY ANNEXES

- ☐ **Any lawyer representing a party or assisting an agent** must produce a certificate that he is authorised to practise before a court of a Member State or of another State which is a party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area (reference may be made to a document previously lodged in a case before the Court)
  
- ☐ **If the applicant is a legal person governed by private law, the lawyer must in addition produce:**
  - recent proof of the existence in law of that legal person (extract from the register of companies, firms or associations or any other official document)and
  - an authority to act

**The representative must produce one of the following, as appropriate:**

- **the measure annulment of which is sought** (action for annulment), including where that measure has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*
- or
- **documentary evidence of the date on which the institution was requested to act** (action for failure to act)
- or
- **the complaint within the meaning of Article 90(2) of the Staff Regulations** and the **decision responding** to that complaint (action brought pursuant to Article 270 TFEU)
- or
- **the contract** containing the arbitration clause establishing the Court's jurisdiction (action brought under an arbitration clause)

## SUMMARY OF THE PLEAS IN LAW AND MAIN ARGUMENTS

- For all cases, except for intellectual property cases, the representative must lodge a **summary of the pleas in law and main arguments** to facilitate the drafting of the notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It is requested that the summary:

- be produced separately from the body of the application and the annexes mentioned in the application;
- not exceed two pages;
- be prepared in the language of the case;
- accord with the model available online on the internet site of the Court of Justice of the European Union under ‘General Court/Procedure’;
- be transmitted by email, as an ordinary electronic file produced using word-processing software, to [GC.Registry@curia.europa.eu](mailto:GC.Registry@curia.europa.eu), with an indication of the case concerned.



## 5. International organisations



## Guide to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee



- ▶ Format for communications to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee
- ▶ Important note:
- ▶ The communication should be no more than 6,000 words (ten A4 pages). If in an exceptionally complex case more than ten pages are required, in no circumstances should the communication be longer than 12,000 words (twenty A4 pages). The paragraphs of the communication should be numbered and a list of annexes provided at the end.
- ▶ I. Information on correspondent submitting the communication
- ▶ [Full name of organization or person(s) submitting the communication
- ▶ Permanent address | Address for correspondence on this matter, if different from permanent address | Telephone | Email
- ▶ If the communication is made by a group of persons, provide the above information for each person and indicate one contact person.
- ▶ If the communication is submitted by an organization, provide the following information for the contact person authorized to represent the organization in connection with this communication:

- ▶ Name
- ▶ Title/Position  
Telephone
- ▶ Email]
- ▶ **\_II. Party concerned**
- ▶ [Name of the Party concerned by the communication]
- ▶ **III. Facts of the communication**
- ▶ [Detail the facts and circumstances of the alleged non-compliance. Include all matters of relevance to the assessment and consideration of your communication. Explain how you consider that the facts and circumstances described represent a lack of compliance with the provisions the Convention.]
- ▶ **IV. Provisions of the Convention with which non-compliance is alleged**
- ▶ [List as precisely as possible the provisions (articles, paragraphs, subparagraphs) of the Convention that you allege the Party concerned has not complied with.]

► **V. Nature of alleged non-compliance**

- [For each of the provisions with which you allege non-compliance, clearly explain how you consider that the Party concerned has failed to comply with that provision based on the facts of your case. (Provide as attachments to your communication the key supporting documentation that will help to substantiate your allegations).]
- [Also indicate whether the communication concerns a specific case of a person's rights of access to information, public participation or access to justice being violated as a result of the alleged non-compliance of the Party concerned, or whether it relates to a general failure by the Party concerned to implement, or to implement correctly, the provisions of the Convention. If you consider that the non-compliance concerns a general failure by the Party concerned, provide as attachments to your communication any key supporting documentation that will help to substantiate that it is a general failure.]

► **VI. Use of domestic remedies**

- [Describe which, if any, domestic remedies have been invoked to address the particular matter of non-compliance which is the subject of the communication. Specify which domestic remedies were used, when they were used, what claims were made, what the results were and whether there are any other domestic remedies available.]
- [If no domestic remedies have been invoked or if there are other domestic remedies available, explain why they have not been used. This information will be important for the Compliance Committee's decision on admissibility of the case.]

► **VII. Use of other international procedures**

- [Indicate if any international procedures besides the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee have been invoked to address the issue of non-compliance which is the subject of the communication. If so, specify which procedures were used, when they were used, what claims were made and what the results were.]

► **VIII. Confidentiality**

Other international conventions  
with a possibility to file complaints



coe.int/en/web/bern-convention/case-files



COUNCIL OF EUROPE

# Bern Convention Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats

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## Case-files

### THE CASE-FILE SYSTEM



The case-file system, dating back to 1984, is a **unique monitoring tool based on complaints for possible breaches of the Convention** that can be submitted by NGOs or even private citizens. The complaints so received are processed by the Secretariat, the Bureau and, when particularly relevant, also by the Standing Committee, according to their merits and on the basis of the information submitted. When the Standing Committee or its Bureau considers that further information is needed, they can arrange for on-the-spot visits by independent experts, who report to the Standing

Committee.

The case-file system is also unusual as it is not based on any provisions within the Convention, but stems from a decision taken by the Standing Committee itself and has proven to be a very successful problem solving instrument.

[On-line complaint form](#)

[Admissibility of complaints related to species listed in Appendix III : the badger \(meles meles\) as a model - Guidance for complainants - T-PVS/Files\(2014\)38E](#)

[Register of Bern Convention Case-Files - T-PVS/Inf\(2021\)05E](#)



Calendar



Facebook



## CITES Compliance procedures



CITES is known as a Convention with effective compliance processes. 'Compliance' in the context of CITES means to act in accordance with and in fulfilment of the Convention requirements – legal as well as scientific. Compliance or 'abide by the rules' is the primary responsibility of the Parties and a core business of the Convention. Parties are bound by the Convention and must have an administrative and regulatory system in place to ensure that the Convention achieves its objectives of conservation and sustainable use. When Parties fail to effectively fulfil the Convention requirements, they may become subject to one or more compliance measures, including trade suspensions. The costs of non-compliance can be high for the survival of entire species populations.



### Provisions of the Convention

- [Convention Article XIII](#)

### Resolutions/Decisions

- [Resolution Conf. 14.3 \(Rev. CoP18\)](#)
- [Resolution Conf. 11.3 \(Rev. CoP18\)](#)
- [Decisions 18.68-18.70](#)
- [Decision 18.74](#)

### CITES approach to compliance

CITES' approach towards compliance matters is "supportive and non-adversarial" with the aim of ensuring long-term compliance. [Resolution Conf. 14.3 \(Rev. CoP18\)](#) contains, in its Annex, a Guide to CITES compliance procedures to assist CITES bodies in dealing with compliance matters. There are four steps for handling compliance matters in a diligent manner:

- a) identification of potential compliance matters;
- b) consideration of compliance matters;
- c) measures to achieve compliance; and

### Compliance Assistance Programme

At CoP18, the Parties established a new Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) aimed at providing targeted support to Parties facing persistent compliance challenges. If a Party is facing compliance challenges, it is invited to approach the [CITES Secretariat](#) for advice and guidance.

More information about the CAP available [here](#).

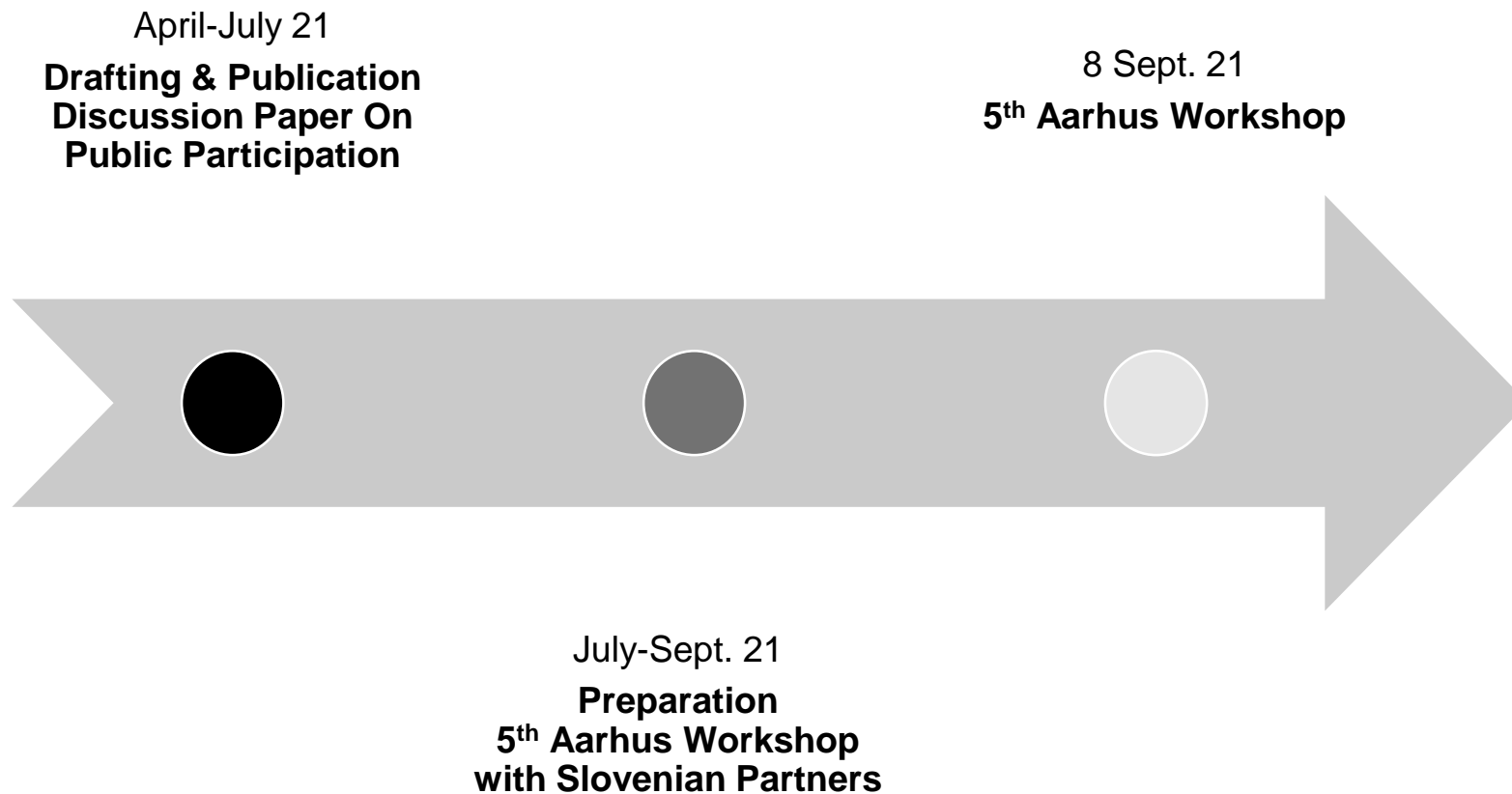




# The Way Forward

**Kathleen Pauleweit, LLM**, Research associate at the Department Environmental Law & Participation of the Independent Institute for Environmental Issues – UfU e.V.

# Next Steps



# Important Dates

EU Council Presidency	2020	Events	Location
Croatia	11 May	1 <sup>st</sup> Aarhus Workshop	virtual
	30 June	2 <sup>nd</sup> Aarhus Workshop	virtual
Germany	17 Nov.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Aarhus Workshop	virtual
	<b>2021</b>		
Portugal	24 March	4 <sup>th</sup> Aarhus Workshop	virtual
	25 March (provisional)	<b>“Declaration of legal professionals to implement the ACCC advice”</b> Contact to sign: Sebastian Bechtel; <a href="mailto:SBechtel@clientearth.org">SBechtel@clientearth.org</a>	/
	31 March	Council Working Group Discussion	virtual
	15 April (provisional)	ENVI Committee of the European Parliament (one month later Plenary vote)	virtual
	3 May 7-8 June	25 <sup>th</sup> Aarhus Working Group	virtual/ Hybrid
	21 June	EU Environment Council	Luxembourg
	Summer	Adoption of the Aarhus Regulation Proposal	/
	<b>8 Sept.</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Aarhus Workshop</b>	<b>virtual</b>
Slovenia	17-21 Oct.	7 <sup>th</sup> Aarhus Meeting of the Parties (MoP)	Geneva

# Contact

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