

Strasbourg, 24/03/2026

CDENV(2026)OJ1

STEERING COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT (CDENV)

1st meeting

24-25 March 2026

Council of Europe - Agora G02

(opening at 9.30 CET on Tuesday 24 March and closing at 17.30 CET on Wednesday 25 March 2026)

AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting by the Secretariat
2. Adoption of the agenda
[CDENV(2026)OJ1prov]
3. Round table of presentation of participants
4. Election of the Chair, Vice-Chair and Bureau members of the CDENV
[[CM/Res\(2021\)3](#)]
5. Nomination of a Gender Equality Rapporteur
[[CDENV\(2026\)2](#)]
6. Contribution of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention to the implementation of the Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment (Strategic Objective 5)
 - a. Nomination of a representative of the CDENV in the international Jury of the Landscape Award [[CDENV\(2026\)8](#)]
7. Requests for observer status to the CDENV
[CDENV(2026)3, CDENV(2026)3add, [CM/Res\(2021\)3](#)]
8. Terms of reference of the CDENV
[[CDENV\(2026\)1](#), [CM/Res\(2021\)3](#), [Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment](#)]
9. Developments concerning the Council of Europe
10. Integration of Human Rights considerations in environmental matters and instruments (Strategic Objective 1)
 - a. European Court of Human Rights cases [[Thematic factsheet](#), [Manual](#)]
 - b. European Committee on Social Rights decisions [[CDENV\(2026\)10](#)]
 - c. International Court of Justice (ICJ) 2025 Advisory Opinion on climate change obligations [[Press release](#)]
 - d. National Climate Litigation [[Study](#)]
11. Review of disinformation, misinformation and access to information on environment-related matters (Strategic Objective 2)
[CDENV(2026)4]

12. Comments on Congress Recommendation 536 (2025) “An additional protocol to the European Charter of Local Self-Government on the environment” (Strategic Objective 2)
[CDENV(2026)6prov]
13. First European Forum on Environmental Human Rights Defenders (Strasbourg, 3-4 June 2026) (Strategic Objective 3)
[\[CDENV\(2026\)7, CINGO Study on recent adverse developments for non-governmental organisations in Europe\]](#)
14. Convention on the Protection of Environment through Criminal Law: Round table on signature and ratification prospects (CETS No. 228) (Strategic Objective 4)
[\[CDENV\(2026\)9\]](#)
15. Policy guidance and advice on capacity building measures for the adoption of Nature-based Solutions and ecosystem-based approaches embedded in the broader governance structures (Strategic Objective 5)
[CDENV(2026)5]
16. Contribution of the Bern Convention to the implementation of the Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment (Strategic Objective 5)
17. Participation of the Council of Europe in International Conferences:
 - a. UN Biodiversity Conference – COP 17 (Yerevan, Armenia, 19-30 October 2026)
 - b. UN Climate Change Conference – COP31 (Antalya, Türkiye, 9-20 November 2026)
18. Any other business
19. Preliminary draft agenda, date and place of the next meeting (13-14 October 2026)
[\[CDENV\(2026\)OJ2prov\]](#)
20. Adoption of the abridged report
[CDENV(2026)AR1prov]

Tentative order of business:

24/03		25/03	
9.30-12.30	1 2 3 <i>Coffee break (30')</i> 7 8 9	9.30-12.30	11 10 <i>Coffee break (30')</i> 16 17 14
Lunch break		Lunch break	
14.00-17.30	4 5 6 12 <i>Coffee break (30')</i> 13 11	14.00 – 17.30	15 <i>Coffee break (30')</i> 18 19 20

List of documents

CDENV(2026)1	Terms of Reference of the Steering Committee on the Environment (CDENV)
GME(2024)2rev	Compendium of the Council of Europe activities on the environment
Strategy	Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment
GME(2025)07	Progress report on the implementation of the Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment as adopted by the GME at its 5th meeting, 2-4 December 2025
GME(2025)08	Updated Action Plan related to the Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment, as taken note of by the GME at its 5th meeting, 2-4 December 2025
Secretary General's 2025 Report	Towards A New Democratic Pact for Europe
CM/Res(2021)3-consolidated	Resolution CM/Res(2021)3 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods
Manual	Manual on human rights and the environment (3rd edition)
Climate change - ECtHR and CJEU Case-Law	Thematic factsheet on climate change within the context of EU law and the European Convention on Human Rights issued jointly in November 2025 by the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) and the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR)
Thematic factsheet on environment and climate change	Updated factsheet on environment and climate change published in December 2025 by the Council of Europe's Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights
Treaty No. 228	Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Environment through Criminal Law
Study on national climate litigation	Study on national climate litigation, prepared by Dr Joana Setzer and Ms Catherine Higham, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment (London School of Economics and Political Science - LSE), under the supervision of the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ), published in February 2026
Press release of the Special Procedures of the UN Human Rights Council,	Call by UN Special procedures Rapporteurs to support General Assembly resolution operationalising ICJ Advisory Opinion on climate obligations (12 March 2026)
CINGO study on recent adverse developments for non-governmental organisations in Europe	Study on recent adverse developments for non-governmental organisations in Europe, prepared by the Expert Council on NGO Law of the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe, published on 10 February 2026
CDENV(2026)OJ1	Agenda of the 1 st meeting of the CDENV (24-25 March 2026)
CDENV(2026)2	Gender equality rapporteurs: a vital asset to the Council of Europe transversal programme on gender equality
CDENV(2026)3	Requests for observer status to the CDENV
CDENV(2026)3add	Addendum to CDENV(2026)3
CDENV(2026)4	Review of disinformation, misinformation and access to information on environment-related matters
CDENV(2026)5	Policy guidance and advice on capacity building measures for the adoption of Nature-based Solutions and ecosystem-based approaches embedded in the broader governance structures

CDENV(2026)6prov	Draft CDENV comments on Congress Recommendation 536 (2025) “An additional protocol to the European Charter of Local Self-Government on the environment” further to the request by the Committee of Ministers (CM/Del/Dec(2025)1544/12.1)
CDENV(2026)7	Concept Note on the 1 st European Forum on Environmental Human Rights Defenders (3-4 June 2026)
CDENV(2026)8	Council of Europe Landscape Award
CDENV(2026)9	Note on the Convention on the Protection of Environment through Criminal Law
CDENV(2026)10	Statement of interpretation on Article 3 of the European Social Charter (Conclusions 2025)
CDENV(2026)OJ2prov	Preliminary draft agenda of the 2 nd meeting of the CDENV
CDENV(2026)AR1prov	Draft abridged report of the 1 st meeting of the CDENV (24-25 March 2026)