



EUROPEAN CONVENTION  
ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
CONVENTION EUROPÉENNE  
DES DROITS DE L'HOMME  
1950 - 2025

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CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 13/02/2025

GME(2025)AR3

## AD HOC MULTIDISCIPLINARY GROUP ON THE ENVIRONMENT (GME)

3<sup>rd</sup> meeting  
11–13 February 2025

### LIST OF ITEMS DISCUSSED AND DECISIONS TAKEN

#### ABRIDGED REPORT

1. The Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment (GME) held its 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting in Strasbourg on 11-13 February 2025. The meeting was chaired by Ms Maria DIAMANTOPOULOU.
2. The GME adopted the report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> GME meeting and the agenda of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting as it appears in Appendix I. The list of participants appears in Appendix II.
3. The GME took note of the statement of the Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment regarding developments in the Council of Europe of interest for Committee in particular the preparation of the Committee of Ministers ministerial session “environmental package” (draft Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment and Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law), texts adopted by Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe and a recent decision of the European Court of Human Rights *CANNAVACCIUOLO AND OTHERS v. ITALY*. The GME was also updated on the Meeting of the Network of Parliamentarians for a healthy environment, which took place in Strasbourg on 29 January.
4. The GME held an exchange of views with Mr Lorenzo SALAZAR, Vice-Chair of the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC), who presented the Draft Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law expected to be adopted at the above-mentioned Ministerial Session.
5. The GME pursued consideration of the draft Strategy on the Environment. The Committee welcomed the draft (document GME(2025)2) which was amended following its comments and suggestions. The GME also held a preliminary discussion on the structure of the Action Plan to accompany the Strategy. It requested the Secretariat to circulate the draft Strategy as revised by the GME and to prepare an Action Plan reflecting the agreed goals and objectives. Member States, participants and observers to the GME are invited to present further proposals regarding the new Draft and preferably limiting them to issues of major importance. They are invited to send their proposals to the Secretariat (at [GME@coe.int](mailto:GME@coe.int)) as soon as possible, and no later than 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2025.
6. The GME held a preliminary discussion on the possibility of establishing a dedicated intergovernmental committee on the environment, as referred to in the Appendix V of the Reykjavík Declaration, and the members presented their initial thoughts on its structure, mandate and scope. It decided to resume consideration of this item at its next meeting.

7. The GME decided to hold its 4<sup>th</sup> meeting in Strasbourg, on 10-12 March 2025, and adopted the preliminary draft agenda as set out in Appendix III.
8. The GME adopted the present abridged report.

Appendix I – Agenda

Appendix II – List of Participants

Appendix III – Preliminary Draft agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the GME

## APPENDIX I

### AGENDA of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the GME

11–13 February 2025

Council of Europe – Agora - Room G03

(opening at 9.30 on 11 February and closing at 12.30 on 13 February 2025)

1. Opening of the meeting by the Chair of the GME
2. Adoption of the report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> GME meeting, and of the agenda of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting  
[GME(2025)OJ3prov, GME(2025)OJan3prov, GME(2024)R2prov]
3. Developments concerning the Council of Europe  
[Congress/Recommendation 510 (2024), PACE/Recommendation 2277(2024),  
Congress/CG(2024)47-14, ECHR 028 (2025)]
4. Preparation of a Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment and its Action Plan  
[GME(2025)1, GME(2025)2]
5. Any other business
6. Preliminary draft agenda, date and place of the 4<sup>th</sup> GME meeting  
[GME(2025)OJ4prov]
7. Adoption of the abridged report  
[GME(2025)AR3prov]

## APPENDIX II

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**MEMBERS / MEMBRES**

<b>ALBANIA / ALBANIE</b>	
<b>ANDORRA / ANDORRE</b>	<b>Mr Carlos PUENTE GALINDO</b> Legal Adviser - Third Secretary  <b>Ms Charlène VIGNAIS</b> Third Secretary
<b>ARMENIA / ARMENIE</b>	<b>Ms Ruzanna GRIGORYAN</b> Head of International Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Armenia
<b>AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE</b>	<b>Mr Matthias KRESINGER</b> Department for International Climate, Energy and Environmental Affairs Ministry for Climate Action Austria
<b>AZERBAIJAN / AZERBAIDJAN</b>	<b>Ms Rugiyya MALIKOVA</b> Second Secretary, Department for Cooperation with International Human Rights Institutions, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan
<b>BELGIUM / BELGIQUE</b>	<b>Ms Sophie THYS</b> Legal policy advisor International and European policy for the Flemish Department of Environmental and Spatial Development
<b>BOSNIA &amp; HERZEGOVINA / BOSNIE &amp; HERZEGOVINE</b>	
<b>BULGARIA / BULGARIE</b>	<b>Mr Kalin ILIEV</b> Head of Department

<b>CROATIA / CROATIE</b>	
<b>CYPRUS / CHYPRE</b>	
<b>CZECH REPUBLIC / RÉPUBLIQUE TCHÈQUE</b>	<b>Dr Pavel HLAVACEK</b> Officer Department of International Relations, Ministry of Environment
<b>DENMARK / DANEMARK</b>	
<b>ESTONIA / ESTONIE</b>	<b>Ms Merike LINNAMÄGI</b> Advisor Biodiversity Conservation Department Ministry of the Climate
<b>FINLAND / FINLANDE</b>	<b>Ms Charlotta VON TROIL</b> Senior Ministerial Adviser, Legislative Affairs Ministry of the Environment Unit for International and EU Affairs
<b>FRANCE</b>	<b>Ms Charlotte BLONDEL</b> Legal Adviser at the Human Rights Sub-Directorate, Directorate of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
<b>GEORGIA / GÉORGIE</b>	<b>Ms Natia GOGRITCHIANI</b> Senior Specialist
<b>GERMANY / ALLEMAGNE</b>	<b>Mr Ralph WOLLMAN</b> Presidential offices International Academy Transformation for Environment and Sustainability at UBA (TES Academy) German Environment Agency
<b>GREECE / GRÈCE</b>	<b>Ms Maria DIAMANTOPOULOU</b> Ambassador, Head of Directorate for the Protection of Environment, Climate Change and World Politics, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  <b>Ms Aliko GKANA,</b> Rapporteur Legal Department Public International Law Section Ministry of Foreign Affairs
<b>HUNGARY / HONGRIE</b>	<b>Dr Ágnes Anna GÁBOR-HOSSZÚ</b> Head of Unit Department of Environmental Development and Strategy Ministry of Energy
<b>ICELAND / ISLANDE</b>	<b>Ms Brynhildur SÖRENSEN</b> Specialist

<b>IRELAND / IRLANDE</b>	<b>Mr Andrew MALONE</b> Department of Environment, Climate and Communications
<b>ITALY / ITALIE</b>	<b>Ms Laura MESSINA</b> Official
<b>LATVIA / LETTONIE</b>	<b>Ms Anita TOCA</b> Climate Change Counsellor, Permanent Representation of Latvia to the European Union
<b>LIECHTENSTEIN</b>	<b>Mr Fabian RITTER</b> Diplomatic Officer  <b>Mr Moritz RHEINBERGER</b> Legal Officer
<b>LITHUANIA / LITUANIE</b>	<b>Ms Inga AKSAMITAUSKAITĖ,</b> Advisor of the Group of the Environment protection policy coordination at the Ministry of Environment of Lithuania
<b>LUXEMBOURG</b>	<b>Mr Tom SCHRAM</b> Head of the Directorate for European and International Affairs Ministry of Environment, Climate and Biodiversity
<b>MALTA / MALTE</b>	
<b>REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA / REPUBLIQUE DE MOLDOVA</b>	<b>Ms Mariana COVIC</b> Head of Financial and administrative Direction, Ministry of Environment
<b>MONACO</b>	<b>Ms Margaux GIRARDIN</b> Deputy to the Permanent Representative  <b>Mr Gabriel CHABERT</b> First Secretary to the Permanent Representative
<b>MONTENEGRO</b>	<b>Ms Violeta BERISAJ</b> Deputy Permanent Representative
<b>NETHERLANDS / PAYS-BAS</b>	<b>Ms Michelle DUIN</b> Legal Officer at the International Law Division Legal Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
<b>NORTH MACEDONIA / MACEDOINE DU NORD</b>	
<b>NORWAY / NORVÈGE</b>	<b>Mr Terje Birkrem HOVLAND</b> Research Coordinator Norwegian Ministry of Climate and Environment  <b>Mr Helge SELAND</b> Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Permanent Representative
<b>POLAND / POLOGNE</b>	
<b>PORTUGAL / PORTUGAL</b>	<b>Ms Maria João TEIXEIRA</b> Senior Officer Ministry of Environment and Energy

<b>ROMANIA / ROUMANIE</b>	<b>Ms Caterina NEAGU</b> Adviser
<b>SAN MARINO / Saint-Marin</b>	
<b>SERBIA / SERBIE</b>	<b>Mr Darko NINKOV</b> Counsellor
<b>SLOVAK REPUBLIC / RÉPUBLIQUE SLOVAQUE</b>	
<b>SLOVENIA / SLOVÉNIE</b>	<b>Ms Dragica ISKRENOVIČ</b> Secretary
<b>SPAIN / ESPAGNE</b>	<b>Mr Daniel JUSDADO</b> Adjoint au Représentant Permanent de l’Espagne  <b>Ms Patricia MOLINA</b> Collaboratrice
<b>SWEDEN / SUÈDE</b>	<b>Ms Gabriella MODIN</b> Legal advisor, Ministry of Climate and Enterprise
<b>SWITZERLAND / SUISSE</b>	<b>Mr Norbert BÄRLOCHER</b> Head of the Rio Conventions Section, Federal Office for the Environment (OFEV)
<b>TÜRKIYE</b>	
<b>UKRAINE / UKRAINE</b>	
<b>UNITED KINGDOM / ROYAUME-UNI</b>	<b>Ms Isobel COOK</b> Human Rights and Environment Policy Lead, Human Rights Department FCDO, United Kingdom  <b>Ms Claire HORTON</b> Environmental rights team leader  <b>Ms Rachel GAUGHAN</b> Lawyer

## **PARTICIPANTS / PARTICIPANTS**

## **COUNCIL OF EUROPE ENTITIES / ENTITES DU CONSEIL DE L’EUROPE**

Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe	<b>Ms Aurora FLORIDIA</b> Italy Member of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development
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	<b>Ms Aiste RAMANAUSKAITE</b> Committee of Social Affairs, Public Health and Sustainable Development  <b>Ms Antonia DIAKOSTAMATIOU</b> Trainee
Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe	<b>Mr Guillaume LOISEAU</b> Co-Secretary of the Committee on the Monitoring of the implementation of the European Charter of Local Self-Government and on the respect of Human Rights and the Rule of Law  <b>Mr Euan RODDIN</b> Head of the Statutory Activities Division
European Court of Human Rights	<b>Ms Zoë BRYANSTON-CROSS</b> Deputy Head, Office of the President of the Court
Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe	<b>Ms Tara BEATTI</b> Adviser to the Commissioner
Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe	<b>Ms Małgorzata Kwiędacz-Palosz</b> Senior Lawyer ClientEarth, on behalf of the INGO Conference
Council of Europe Development Bank	

### COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE ENTITIES / COMITES DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Bern Convention	<b>Ms Merike LINNAMÄGI (also representative of Estonia)</b> Advisor Biodiversity Conservation Department Ministry of the Climate Outgoing Chair of the Bern Convention Standing Committee
CDPC	<b>Mr Lorenzo SALAZAR</b> Italy, CDPC Vice-Chair  <b>Ms Eva PASTRANA</b> Head of Division
CPT	<b>Mr Patrice WEBER</b> Head of Communication and Information Unit
ECSR	<b>Ms Diana BALANESCU</b> Collective Complaints Division  <b>Ms Kamilé MICHAILOVSKYTĖ</b> Lawyer
GEC	<b>Ms Flurina FREI</b> Gender Equality Policies



EUR-OPA	<p><b>Mr Anthony Stephen MICALLEF</b> Permanent Correspondent of Malta (governmental committee representative) to EUR-OPA</p> <p><b>Mr Krzysztof ZYMAN</b> Executive Secretary</p>
Advisory Council on Youth	<p><b>Mr Sean Currie</b> Federation of Young European Greens – FYEG on CCJ</p> <p><b>Ms Krystina JELINKOVA</b> Youth Policy</p> <p><b>Ms Anna-Sophie DIEDRICH</b> Trainee</p>

**OBSERVER STATES TO THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE /**  
**OBSERVATEURS PERMANENTS DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE**

<b>CANADA</b>	
<b>HOLY SEE / SAINT-SIÈGE</b>	<b>Mr Nicolas BAUER</b> Représentant
<b>JAPAN / JAPON</b>	
<b>MEXICO / MEXIQUE</b>	<b>Ms Eva PIZANO CEJKA</b> Deputy to the Permanent Observer
<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA / ETATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE</b>	

**NON-MEMBER STATES PARTIES TO THE BERN CONVENTION /**  
**ETATS NON-MEMBRES MAIS PARTIES A LA CONVENTION DE BERNE**

<b>BURKINA FASO</b>	
<b>MOROCCO / MAROC</b>	
<b>SENEGAL / SÉNÉGAL</b>	
<b>TUNISIA / TUNISIE</b>	<b>Ms Sabria BNOUNI</b> Directrice Générale de la Coopération Internationale Ministère de l'Environnement

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS /**  
**ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES**

The United Nations and its agencies	OHCHR	
	UNFCCC	
IUCN		<b>Ms Agnes MICHELOT</b> Professeure des universités, membre du Steering Committee WCEL IUCN

**OBSERVERS /  
OBSERVATEURS**

Organisation	Nominated representative
World Wide Fund for Nature	
Youth and Environment Europe	<b>Ms Emma PAGLIARUSCO</b> Advocacy Coordinator at Youth and Environment Europe.
International Young Nature Friends	
ClientEarth	
Greenpeace	<b>Mr Andrea CARTA</b> Senior Legal Strategist
Wild Legal	<b>Mr Vincent DELBOS</b> Membre Wild Legal, expert et magistrat honoraire
Global Initiative to End Wildlife Crime	
Wildlife Justice Commission	
European network of national human rights institutions	
Amnesty International	<b>Ms Ann HARRISON</b> Climate Justice Researcher and Policy Advisor
International Commission of Jurists	
International Federation of Human Rights	
Center for International Environmental Law	<b>Mr Sebastien DUYCK</b> Senior Attorney
Global Network for Human Rights and the Environment	<b>Ms Corina HERI</b> Deputy Director for Europe
Green Rights Coalition	

**SECRETARIAT /  
SECRÉTARIAT**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
<b>Mr Rafael BENITEZ</b>	Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment
<b>Mr Gianluca SILVESTRINI</b>	Secretary of the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment
<b>Mr Mikaël POUTIERS</b>	Co-Secretary of the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment
<b>Ms Elda MORENO</b>	Special Advisor on Environment
<b>Ms Nino LATSABIDZE</b>	Policy Advisor
<b>Ms Jenny MITCALF</b>	Administrative Support Assistant, Department on the Reykjavík process and the Environment
<b>Ms Irina SPOIALA</b>	Administrative Assistant, Department on the Reykjavík process and the Environment
<b>Ms Ines CARTER</b>	Trainee, Department on the Reykjavík process and the Environment
<b>Ms Kristin SELAND</b>	Study Visitor, Department on the Reykjavík process and the Environment

APPENDIX III

4<sup>th</sup> meeting  
10–12 March 2025  
Council of Europe – Agora - Room G03  
(opening at 9.30 on 10 March and closing at 12.30 on 12 March 2025)

DRAFT AGENDA

9. Opening of the meeting by the Chair of the GME
10. Adoption of the report of the 3<sup>rd</sup> GME meeting, and of the agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting  
[GME(2024)R3prov, GME(2025)OJ4prov]
11. Developments concerning the Council of Europe
12. Adoption of the draft Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment and its Action Plan  
[GME(2025)2rev]
13. Any other business
14. Preliminary draft agenda, date and place of the 5<sup>th</sup> GME meeting  
[GME(2025)OJ5prov]
15. Adoption of the abridged report  
[GME(2025)AR4prov]