



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

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CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 12/03/2025

GME(2025)AR4

AD HOC MULTIDISCIPLINARY GROUP ON THE ENVIRONMENT (GME)

4th meeting
10–12 March 2025

LIST OF ITEMS DISCUSSED AND DECISIONS TAKEN

ABRIDGED REPORT

1. The Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment (GME) held its 4th meeting in Strasbourg on 10-12 March 2025. The meeting was chaired by Ms Maria DIAMANTOPOULOU.
2. The GME adopted the report of the 3rd GME meeting and the agenda of the 4th meeting as it appears in Appendix I. The list of participants appears in Appendix II.
3. The GME took note of the statement of Mr Rafael BENITEZ, Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment, regarding developments in the Council of Europe of interest for the GME, in particular the state of preparation of the environment related decisions for the Committee of Ministers ministerial session in Luxembourg on 14 May 2025.
4. The GME examined and adopted the draft Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment as it appears in Appendix III, and agreed to submit it to the Committee of Ministers in pursuance of its Terms of Reference.
5. The GME examined a preliminary draft of the Action Plan, took note of the fact that the text is a living document, and instructed the Secretariat to update it following comments made at the meeting and received by email by Thursday 13 March 2025. It agreed to transmit the draft Action Plan as it appears in Appendix IV to the Committee of Ministers in pursuance of its Terms of Reference.
6. The GME decided to hold its 5th meeting in hybrid format, online and in Strasbourg, on 2-4 December 2025, and adopted the preliminary draft agenda as set out in Appendix V. The GME instructed the Bureau to make a proposal on the length of the meeting.
7. The GME adopted the present abridged report.

Appendix I – Agenda

Appendix II – List of Participants

Appendix III – Draft Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment

Appendix IV – Draft Action Plan

Appendix V – Preliminary Draft agenda of the 5th meeting of the GME

APPENDIX I

AGENDA of the 4th meeting of the GME

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)

1. Opening of the meeting by the Chair of the GME
2. Adoption of the report of the 3rd GME meeting, and of the agenda of the 4th meeting
[GME(2025)R3prov, GME(2025)OJ4prov]
3. Developments concerning the Council of Europe
4. Adoption of the draft Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment
[GME(2025)4]
5. Consideration of the draft Action Plan related to the draft Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment
[GME(2025)5]
6. Any other business
7. Preliminary draft agenda, date and place of the 5th GME meeting
[GME(2025)OJ5prov]
8. Adoption of the abridged report
[GME(2025)AR4prov]

APPENDIX II
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

MEMBERS / MEMBRES

ALBANIA / ALBANIE	
ANDORRA / ANDORRE	Mr Carlos PUENTE GALINDO (online/en ligne) Legal Adviser - Third Secretary
ARMENIA / ARMENIE	Ms Ruzanna GRIGORYAN (online/en ligne) Head of International Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Armenia
AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE	Mr Matthias KRESINGER (online/en ligne) Department for International Climate, Energy and Environmental Affairs Ministry for Climate Action Austria
AZERBAIJAN / AZERBAIDJAN	Ms Rugiyya MALIKOVA Second Secretary, Department for Cooperation with International Human Rights Institutions, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan
BELGIUM / BELGIQUE	Ms Leen CHANET (online/en ligne) Legal and policy adviser
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA / BOSNIE & HERZEGOVINE	
BULGARIA / BULGARIE	Mr Kalin ILIEV Head of Department
CROATIA / CROATIE	
CYPRUS / CHYPRE	
CZECH REPUBLIC / RÉPUBLIQUE TCHÈQUE	Dr Pavel HLAVACEK Officer Department of International Relations, Ministry of Environment
DENMARK / DANEMARK	
ESTONIA / ESTONIE	Ms Merike LINNAMÄGI (online/en ligne) Advisor Biodiversity Conservation Department Ministry of the Climate

FINLAND / FINLANDE	Ms Charlotta VON TROIL (online/en ligne) Senior Ministerial Adviser, Legislative Affairs Ministry of the Environment Unit for International and EU Affairs
FRANCE	Ms Charlotte BLONDEL Legal Adviser at the Human Rights Sub-Directorate, Directorate of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
GEORGIA / GÉORGIE	Ms Lasha INAURI (online/en ligne) Head of the International Relations and European Integration Department
GERMANY / ALLEMAGNE	Mr Ralph WOLLMAN Presidential offices International Academy Transformation for Environment and Sustainability at UBA (TES Academy) German Environment Agency
GREECE / GRÈCE	Ms Maria DIAMANTOPOULOU Ambassador, Head of Directorate for the Protection of Environment, Climate Change and World Politics, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ms Alikì GKANA Rapporteur Legal Department Public International Law Section Ministry of Foreign Affairs
HUNGARY / HONGRIE	Dr Ágnes Anna GÁBOR-HOSSZÚ Head of Unit Department of Environmental Development and Strategy Ministry of Energy
ICELAND / ISLANDE	Ms Brynhildur SÖRENSEN (online/en ligne) Specialist
IRELAND / IRLANDE	Mr Andrew MALONE (online/en ligne) Department of Environment, Climate and Communications
ITALY / ITALIE	Ms Laura MESSINA (online/en ligne) Official Ms Laura IACIFANO (online/en ligne) Officer Ms Valeria GALANTI (online/en ligne) Officer
LATVIA / LETTONIE	Ms Anita TOCA Climate Change Counsellor, Permanent Representation of Latvia to the European Union

LIECHTENSTEIN	<p>Mr Fabian RITTER (online/<i>en ligne</i>) Diplomatic Officer</p> <p>Mr Moritz RHEINBERGER (online/<i>en ligne</i>) Legal Officer</p>
LITHUANIA / LITUANIE	Ms Inga AKSAMITAUSKAITĖ Advisor of the Group of the Environment protection policy coordination at the Ministry of Environment of Lithuania
LUXEMBOURG	Mr Tom SCHRAM Head of the Directorate for European and International Affairs Ministry of Environment, Climate and Biodiversity
MALTA / MALTE	
REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA / REPUBLIQUE DE MOLDOVA	Ms Mariana COVIC Head of Financial and administrative Direction, Ministry of Environment
MONACO	<p>Ms Céline IMPAGLIAZZO (online/<i>en ligne</i>) Chargé de Mission</p> <p>Ms Margaux GIRARDIN Deputy to the Permanent Representative</p> <p>Mr Gabriel CHABERT First Secretary to the Permanent Representative</p>
MONTENEGRO	Mr Milos NIKOLIC Director for the OSCE and Council of Europe
NETHERLANDS / PAYS-BAS	Ms Michelle DUIN Legal Officer at the International Law Division Legal Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
NORTH MACEDONIA / MACEDOINE DU NORD	
NORWAY / NORVÈGE	Mr Terje Birkrem HOVLAND Research Coordinator Norwegian Ministry of Climate and Environment
POLAND / POLOGNE	
PORTUGAL / PORTUGAL	<p>Ms Ana CASTELA RODRIGUES Senior Advisor</p> <p>Maria João TEIXEIRA (online/<i>en ligne</i>) Senior Officer Ministry of Environment and Energy</p> <p>Ms Diana BRAS (online/<i>en ligne</i>) Intern</p>

ROMANIA / ROUMANIE	Ms Caterina NEAGU Adviser
SAN MARINO / SAINT MARIN	
SERBIA / SERBIE	Ms Anja KRUŠKA ŠARAC Deputy to the Permanent Representative
SLOVAK REPUBLIC / RÉPUBLIQUE SLOVAQUE	Ms Andrea POLASEKOVA Director of Legislative Affairs and Infringements
SLOVENIA / SLOVÉNIE	Ms Ana NOVAK (online/en ligne) Head of Global Challenges Department
SPAIN / ESPAGNE	Ms Patricia MOLINA Collaboratrice
SWEDEN / SUÈDE	Ms Gabriella MODIN (online/en ligne) Legal advisor, Ministry of Climate and Enterprise
SWITZERLAND / SUISSE	Mr Norbert BÄRLOCHER Head of the Rio Conventions Section, Federal Office for the Environment (OFEV)
TÜRKIYE	
UKRAINE / UKRAINE	<p>Mr Pavlo IVANOV (online/en ligne) Director of the Department of Nature Reserve Fund and Biodiversity</p> <p>Mr Yuri RASIUK (online/en ligne) Head of the Division of Biosafety and Protection, Reproduction of Flora and Fauna of the Department of Nature Reserve Fund and Biodiversity</p> <p>Ms Maryna KROBAN (online/en ligne) Chief Specialist of the International Cooperation and International Technical Assistance Division of the Department of European Integration, International Cooperation and Circular Economy</p>
UNITED KINGDOM / ROYAUME-UNI	<p>Ms Isobel COOK (online/en ligne) Human Rights and Environment Policy Lead, Human Rights Department FCDO, United Kingdom</p> <p>Ms Claire HORTON (online/en ligne) Environmental rights team leader</p>

PARTICIPANTS /
PARTICIPANTS

COUNCIL OF EUROPE ENTITIES /
ENTITES DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe	<p>Ms Aurora FLORIDIA Italy Member of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development</p> <p>Mr Jacopo DOLBAN Parliamentary Assistant</p> <p>Ms Claire DUBOIS-HAMDI Ms Aiste RAMANAUSKAITE Committee of Social Affairs, Public Health and Sustainable Development</p>
Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe	<p>Mr Euan RODDIN Head of the Statutory Activities Division</p>
European Court of Human Rights	
Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe	
Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe	<p>Ms Ann HARRISON Climate Justice Researcher and Policy Advisor Amnesty International on behalf of the INGO Conference</p>
Council of Europe Development Bank	

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

Bern Convention	Ms Merike LINNAMÄGI (also representative of Estonia) (online/en ligne) Advisor Biodiversity Conservation Department Ministry of the Climate Outgoing Chair of the Bern Convention Standing Committee
CDEDU	Ms Helena KRUDER Higher and further Education
CDENF	Ms Katrin UERPMANN Secretary of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child Ms Magdalena BOCHIŃSKA (online/en ligne) Children's Rights Policies
CDPC	Ms Eva PASTRANA Head of Division Ms Vanessa LAUKANNEN Project officer Ms Victorine LOZACH Study visitor
CPT	Mr Patrice WEBER Head of Communication and Information Unit
ECSR	Ms Diana BALANESCU Collective Complaints Division Ms Kamilė MICHAILOVSKYTĖ Lawyer Ms Gioia SCAPPUCCI Head of the Collective Complaints Division
GEC	Ms Flurina FREI Gender Equality Policy Advisor
EUR-OPA	Mr Krzysztof ZYMAN Executive Secretary
Advisory Council on Youth / CCJ	Ms Agni GKOUTZIAMANI (online/en ligne) Member of the CCJ Ms Krystina JELINKOVA Youth Policy

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

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

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

BURKINA FASO	
MOROCCO / MAROC	Dr Mostafa MADBOUHI (online/en ligne) Chef de la Division de la Diversité Biologique
SENEGAL / SÉNÉGAL	
TUNISIA / TUNISIE	Ms Sabria BNOUNI (online/en ligne) Directrice Générale de la Coopération Internationale Ministère de l'Environnement Mr Heidi CHEBILI Directeur Général

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS /
ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES

The United Nations and its agencies	OHCHR	Ms Nela CERNOTA (online/en ligne) Associate Human Rights Officer
	UNFCCC	
IUCN		Ms Agnes MICHELOT (online/en ligne) Professeure des universités, membre du Steering Committee WCEL IUCN

**OBSERVERS /
OBSERVATEURS**

Organisation	Nominated representative
World Wide Fund for Nature	
Youth and Environment Europe	Ms Emma PAGLIARUSCO (online/ <i>en ligne</i>) Advocacy Coordinator at Youth and Environment Europe.
International Young Nature Friends	
ClientEarth	Ms Małgorzata KWIĘDACZ-PALOSZ (online/ <i>en ligne</i>) Senior Lawyer
Greenpeace	Ms Maria Alejandra SERRA (online/ <i>en ligne</i>) Legal Counsel Campaigns Mr Richard HARVEY (online/ <i>en ligne</i>) Legal Counsel Campaigns Mr Mattia BOSIO (online/ <i>en ligne</i>) EU Legal Counsel
Wild Legal	Mr Vincent DELBOS Membre Wild Legal, expert et magistrat honoraire Ms Marine CALMET President
Global Initiative to End Wildlife Crime	Ms Ana MOTAMAYOR (online/ <i>en ligne</i>) Policy Advisor
Wildlife Justice Commission	
European network of national human rights institutions	
Amnesty International	Ms Ann HARRISON Climate Justice Researcher and Policy Advisor
International Commission of Jurists	
International Federation of Human Rights	Ms Lucia POSTERARO (online/ <i>en ligne</i>) Business, Human Rights & Environment Desk
Center for International Environmental Law	Mr Sebastien DUYCK Senior Attorney
Global Network for Human Rights and the Environment	Ms Corina HERI (online/ <i>en ligne</i>) Deputy Director for Europe

Green Rights Coalition	Ms Victoria LICHET (online/ <i>en ligne</i>) Executive Director Ms Andréa PAULUS (online/ <i>en ligne</i>) European Advocacy Associate
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SECRETARIAT /
SECRÉTARIAT

Name	Position
Mr Rafael BENITEZ	Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment
Ms Elda MORENO	Special Advisor on Environment
Mr Gianluca SILVESTRINI	Secretary of the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment
Mr Mikaël POUTIERS	Co-Secretary of the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment
Ms Nino LATSABIDZE	Policy Advisor
Ms Jenny MITCALF	Administrative Support Assistant
Ms Irina SPOIALA	Administrative Assistant
Ms Lilas HEULLANT	Trainee

APPENDIX III

DRAFT COUNCIL OF EUROPE STRATEGY ON THE ENVIRONMENT

APPENDIX IV

DRAFT ACTION PLAN

APPENDIX V

PRELIMINARY DRAFT AGENDA OF THE 5TH MEETING OF THE GME

2-4 December 2025

Council of Europe – Agora – G03

(opening at 9.30 on Tuesday 2 December, closing at 12.30 on Thursday 4 December 2025)

1. Opening of the meeting by the Chair of the GME
2. Adoption of the report of the 4th GME meeting, and of the agenda of the 5th meeting
[GME(2025)R4prov, GME(2025)OJ5prov]
3. Developments concerning the Council of Europe
 - Follow-up to the decisions taken by the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers further to the ministerial session in Luxembourg, 14 May 2025
4. Implementation of the Council Europe Strategy on the Environment – draft Progress Report
5. Any other business
6. Adoption of the abridged report
[GME(2025)AR5prov]