

## **Regional conference**

### ***Human Rights and the Environment in Southeast Europe***

## **PROGRAMME**

[Link for online participants](#)

Meeting ID: 827 8679 5935

Passcode: 527646

17 and 18 October 2024

Venue: Hotel Avala (Staklena sala/Glass Hall)

Budva, Montenegro

## **Wednesday, 16 October 2024**

Arrival of the participants in the afternoon

**20:00** Welcoming cocktail

## **Thursday, 17 October 2024**

**9:00 – 9:40** Registration of participants

**9:40 – 10:00** Opening remarks

- **Snežana Armenko**, President of the Constitutional Court of Montenegro
- **Lilja Gretarsdottir**, Head of Co-operation Programmes Division, Department for the Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Co-operation Standards, Council of Europe

Moderator: **Biljana Sladojević Milatović**, Project Coordinator, Co-operation Programmes Division, Department for the Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Co-operation Standards, Council of Europe

**10:00 – 10:15** **Keynote Speech: Human Rights and the Environment-current trends and emerging issues** (online)

- **David Boyd**, Former UN Special Rapporteur for Human Rights and the Environment

**10:15 – 11:00** **Interconnecting Human Rights and Environmental Protection: Mechanisms and Approaches**

**European Court of Human Rights and Inter-American Court of Human Rights**

- **Natalia Kobylarz**, Senior Lawyer, European Court of Human Rights

**United Nations Mechanisms**

- **Igor Gryshko**, Human Rights Officer, Environment and Climate Change Team, Development, Economic and Social Rights Branch, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

**Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters-Aarhus Convention**

- **Fiona Marshall**, Legal Officer, Secretary to the Compliance Committee and Assistant to the Special Rapporteur on Environmental Defenders, Aarhus Convention secretariat, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Moderator: **Mirjana Drenovak Ivanović**, Professor of the Law Faculty, Belgrade University/Consultant, Council of Europe

**11:00 – 11:15 Coffee break**

**11:15 – 12:45 Substantive Environmental Human Rights (focusing on, *inter alia*, urban development, protected areas, pollution: mining and heavy industry, hydropower)**

- **Natalia Kobylarz**, Senior Lawyer, European Court of Human Rights
- **Igor Gryshko**, Human Rights Officer, Environment and Climate Change Team, Development, Economic and Social Rights Branch, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- **Jędrzej Klatka**, Attorney at Law, Poland
- **Fatima Mrdović**, Judge at the Supreme Court of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Discussion**

Moderator: **Gita Parihar**, Environmental and Human Rights Lawyer/Consultant, Council of Europe

**12:45 – 14:30 Lunch and family photo**

**14:30 – 16:00 Environmental Procedural Law and Practice (access to information participation, access to justice and protection)**

- **Natalia Kobylarz**, Senior Lawyer, European Court of Human Rights
- **Fiona Marshall**, Legal Officer, Secretary to the Compliance Committee and Assistant to the Special Rapporteur on Environmental Defenders, Aarhus Convention secretariat, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
- **Konrad Vossen**, Judge at the Administrative Court of Aachen
- **Sokol Ngresi**, Judge of the Administrative Chamber at the Supreme Court of Albania

**Discussion**

Moderator: **Elena Jovanovska Brezoska**, Head of Unit, Southeast Europe, Co-operation Programmes Division, Department for the Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Co-operation Standards, Council of Europe

**16:00 – 16:15 Promotion of Council of Europe tools in advancing environmental protection**

**Sergey Dikman**, Adviser on Strategic Co-operation Development, Department for the Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Co-operation Standards, Council of Europe

## **Friday, 18 October 2024**

### **10:00 – 10:45 Group discussion - Application of international and European environmental standards in the civil context: Challenges and ways forward**

Moderator: **Sergey Dikman**, Adviser on Strategic Co-operation Development, Department for the Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Co-operation Standards, Council of Europe

Rapporteur: **Venera Kabashi**, Human Rights Lawyer/Consultant, Council of Europe

### **10:45 – 11:30 Group discussion - Application of international and European environmental standards in the criminal context: Challenges and ways forward**

Moderator: **Elena Jovanovska Brezoska**, Head of Southeast Europe Unit, Co-operation Programmes Division, Department for the Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Co-operation Standards, Council of Europe

Rapporteur: **Sanja Ramić**, Human Rights Lawyer and Environmental Justice Specialist/Consultant, Council of Europe

### **11:30 – 11:45 Coffee Break**

### **11:45 – 12:30 Group discussion - Access to Justice in Environmental Matters: Challenges and ways forward**

Moderator: **Biljana Sladojević Milatović**, Project Coordinator, Co-operation Programmes Division, Department for the Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Co-operation Standards, Council of Europe

Rapporteur: **Erjon Muharremaj**, Vice Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Tirana/Consultant, Council of Europe

### **12:30 – 12:45 Closing remarks**

**Lilja Gretarsdottir**, Head of Co-operation Programmes Division, Department for the Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Co-operation Standards, Council of Europe

### **12:45 Lunch**