

PROGRAMME



Strasbourg, 8–10 November 2021

Programme Overview

Monday 8 November

- 09.30 [Welcome Words from President of the PACE](#)
- 09.35-10.30 [Time for Facts](#)
- 10.30-10.40 [Musical Interlude](#)
- 10.40-11.15 [Opening Session](#)
- 11.15-12.30 [Plenary Session 1](#)
National governments, international organisations or the citizen: who is setting the pace?
- 12.30-14.00 [Lunch Break](#)
- 14.00-16.00 [Plenary Session 2](#)
What governing style is best placed to tackle the environmental challenge?
- 16.00-16.30 [Break](#)
- 16.30-18.30 [Plenary Session 3](#)
Public or private: what role for which sector?
- 18.30 [Inauguration of Cartooning for Peace's selected from the campaign "12 Months, 1 Question" Followed by a reception at the Blue Restaurant](#)

Tuesday 9 November

- 09.00-11.00 **FIRST SERIES OF LABS**
- [Lab 1](#) More heads are better than one: Citizens' Assemblies on climate
- [Lab 2](#) Save the planet, make a living: Green entrepreneurship
- [Lab 3](#) The law as an agent of nature: Access to environmental justice and protection
- [Lab 4](#) Sustainable cities: When the problem becomes part of the solution
- [Lab 5](#) Act Local, inspire global: Local initiatives making change
- 11.00-11.30 [Break](#)
- 11.30-13.00 **FORUM TALKS**
- [Forum Talk 1](#) Deliberative democracy for climate
- [Forum Talk 2](#) Human rights for the environment
- [Forum Talk 3](#) Threats to environmental defenders
- [Forum Talk 4](#) Youth climate activism
- [Forum Talk 5](#) Linking Biodiversity, Climate Change and a Healthy Environment
- [Forum Talk 6](#) #EnvironmentRightNow
- 13.00-14.30 [Lunch Break](#)
- 14.30-16.30 **SECOND SERIES OF LABS**
- [Lab 6](#) Joining forces: Public-private collaborations for the environment
- [Lab 7](#) Better together: Engaging communities for nature conservation and protection
- [Lab 8](#) Scarcity and sources of conflict: Managing natural resources to prevent conflict
- [Lab 9](#) Knowledge is power: Environmental education and training
- [Lab 10](#) Women's power to act for the climate transition

Wednesday 10 November

- 09.00-10.30 [Plenary Session 4](#)
Multilateral organisations tackling global problems with global solutions
- 10.30-12.00 [Plenary Session 5](#)
Reporting from the Forum and Agenda for the Future
- 12.00-13.00 [Closing Session and ceremony for the Democracy Innovation Award](#)
- 13.00 [Closing Performance by Dubioza Kolektiv](#)

Can Democracy Save the Environment?

More than ever we see the interdependence of our physical and our political worlds. On a planet in crisis, does democracy have what it takes to save the environment? Our societies have been tested by an extreme and unexpected global challenge, but while an essential battle is fought against the Covid-19 pandemic and its consequences, humanity's greatest existential threat looms ever larger. Environmental damage and climate change have not gone away. The poisoning of our land and pollution in our air and water is still killing plants, animals and humans alike. Rising temperatures and sea levels are on course to render lands uninhabitable and force people to leave their homes and seek new lives. The time to act is now!

Yet recent polling indicates the highest ever recorded levels of dissatisfaction and mistrust with democracy as a system of government. Its response to a whole series of recent challenges – economic, pandemic, and indeed environmental – have disappointed millions of people. Many are questioning the capacity, competence and even legitimacy of democratic governance to address their greatest needs. So, when it comes to stopping and reversing the devastating damage done to our environment, we must ask ourselves what it really takes to get the job done. How to ensure that democratic leadership be capable of the swift and decisive action required? If our current way of life is incompatible with our long-term health and survival, how can we mobilise ourselves to make fundamental changes? Has the Covid-19 pandemic demonstrated that we are in fact capable of great shifts in our habits at times of need? Could new restrictions and behavioural change also “flatten the curve” of environmental damage? Do our governments enjoy sufficient trust to enable them to take the necessary action in time?

GOALS AND FORMAT

The World Forum for Democracy is a *unique platform* for political decision-makers and activists to debate solutions to key challenges for democracies worldwide. Identifying and analysing experimental initiatives and practices allows the Forum to highlight and encourage democratic innovations at grassroots level and their transfer onto a systemic level. The Forum thus contributes to strengthening the foundations of democratic societies and the evolution of democracy through the development of more participatory and inclusive structures and institutions.

The Forum is divided into *Plenary Sessions*, bringing the perspective of policy-makers to the main questions of the Forum's theme, smaller format *Forum Talks*, consisting of lively debates between the audience and personalities from politics and public life, and *Labs*, which are the heart of the Forum. Carefully selected following an open call, several Initiatives in each Lab will share evidence about their effort, best practices and new approaches - towards enhancing democratic responses to environmental challenges. They aim to offer sustainable and ethical solutions. On the final day of the Forum, the **Democracy Innovation Award** will be given to the most popular Initiative featured in the Labs.

THE 12 MONTHS – 1 QUESTION CAMPAIGN

Following the 9th Edition's launch event on 18 November 2020, and up until the Forum's main event in Strasbourg in November 2021, the [Campaign “12 months, 1 question”](#) has focussed on one topic each month, around which the different elements of the campaign have been arrayed and presented, with the objective of keeping the campaign as interactive and inclusive as possible. The campaign included online events and activities organised by the Council of Europe and its partners, including the Schools of Political Studies, the Region Grand Est, European Collectivity of Alsace, City of Strasbourg inter alia.

SATELLITE EVENTS

To reach a wider range of contributors and enrich the debate, the Forum welcomes the organisation of "satellite events" by universities, non-governmental organisations, municipalities or other institutions. The organising institutions are free to decide independently about the dates and format of the event, the speakers and the specific topic(s). Possible formats include seminars or a seminar series, lectures in schools, surveys, social media campaigns, hackathons, local implementation of innovation initiatives presented in previous Forums, Radio/TV debates, or lightening talks with the public at large.

PARTNERS AND PATRONAGE

The Forum is organised in the context of the partnership between the Council of Europe, the City of Strasbourg, the Region Grand Est, the European Collectivity of Alsace, and the French Government. The World Forum for Democracy is placed under the high patronage of **Emmanuel MACRON**, President of the French Republic.

Detailed Programme

Monday, 8 November 2021

- 09.30 **Welcome Words from President of the PACE**
Video Message:
Mr Rik DAEMS, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, PACE
- 09.35-10.30 **Time for Facts**
Council of Europe Hemicycle - Interpretation FR/EN/RU
- Moderator:
Ms Claudia LUCIANI, Director of Human Dignity, Equality and Governance, Council of Europe
- Panel:
Mr Xavier ROMERO-VIDAL, Research Associate, Centre for the Future of Democracy, University of Cambridge, UK
Mr Richard WIKE, Pew Research Center
- 10.30-10.40 **Musical Interlude**
- 10.40-11.15 **Opening Session**
Council of Europe Hemicycle - Interpretation FR/EN/RU
- Moderator:
Ms Annette GERLACH, Journalist and TV Host, ARTE
Mr Alex TAYLOR, European journalist, France
- Panel:
Ms Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ, Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Ms Marie FONTANEL, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of France to the Council of Europe
Mr Christian DEBÈVE, Regional Councillor, President of the Commission for International, European and Cross-border Affairs of the Grand-Est Region
Ms Catherine GRAEF-ECKERT, Vice-President of the European Collectivity of Alsace in charge of economic dynamics, tourism, agriculture, employment and the energy and climate transition
Ms Jeanne BARSEGHIAN, Mayor of Strasbourg
- 11.15-12.30 **Plenary Session 1 - National governments, international Organisations or the citizen: who is setting the pace?**
Council of Europe Hemicycle - Interpretation FR/EN/RU
- Moderator:
Mr Alex TAYLOR, European journalist, France
- Video message:
Mr António GUTERRES, Secretary General of the United Nations
- Panel:
Ms Virag KAUFER, Greenpeace European Campaigns Coordinator
Ms Natalia KOMAROVA, Governor of the Khanti-Mansiysk - Ugra autonomous region, Russian Federation
Ms Ligia NORONHA, Assistant Secretary- General and Head of UNEP's New York Office
- 12.30-14.00 **Lunch Break**
- 14.00-16.00 **Plenary Session 2 - What governing style is best placed to tackle the environmental challenge?**
Council of Europe Hemicycle - Interpretation: FR/EN/RU
- Moderators:
Ms Annette GERLACH, Journalist and TV Host, ARTE
- Video message:
Mr Abdulla SHAHID, President of the UNGA, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Maldives
- Panel:
Mr George KATROUGALOS, former Foreign Minister of Greece, Professor of Public Law at Democritus University of Thrace and Member of PACE (Greece, UEL)
Ms Mariia MEZENTSEVA, Head of the Ukrainian parliamentary delegation to PACE
Ms Judit VARGA, Minister of Justice, Hungary
- 16.00-16.30 **Break**

16.30-18.30 **Plenary Session 3 - Public or private: what role for which sector?**

Council of Europe Hemicycle – Interpretation FR/EN/RU

Moderator:

Ms Valerie HOPKINS, Moscow Correspondent, The New York Times

Video message:

H.S.H. Prince Albert II of MONACO

Panel:

Mr Michael BERKOWITZ, Founding principal of Resilient Cities Catalyst, USA

Mr Mikhail GALPERIN, Deputy General Director Inter RAO, Russian Federation

Ms Sheri MEYERHOFFER, The Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise, Canada

Ms Liliana PALIHOVICI, Special Representative on Gender Issues of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and president of the "Institutum Virtutes Civilis" Association, Chisinau, Moldova **TBC**

18.30

Inauguration of Cartooning for Peace's selected from the campaign "12 Months, 1 Question" followed by a reception at the Blue Restaurant

Tuesday, 9 November 2021

09.00-11.00 **FIRST SERIES OF LABS**

Interpretation FR/EN

Lab 1 - More heads are better than one: Citizens' assemblies on climate

Lab 2 - Save the planet, make a living: Green entrepreneurship

Lab 3 - The law as an agent of nature: Access to environmental justice and protection

Lab 4 - Sustainable cities: When the problem becomes part of the solution

Lab 5 - Act Local, inspire global: Local initiatives making change

11.00-11.30 **Break**

11.30-13.00 **FORUM TALKS**

Interpretation FR/EN

Forum Talk 1 - Deliberative democracy for climate

Forum Talk 2 - Human rights for the environment

Forum Talk 3 - Threats to environmental defenders

Forum Talk 4 - Youth climate activism

Forum Talk 5 - Linking Biodiversity, Climate Change and a Healthy Environment

Forum Talk 6 - #EnvironmentRightNow

13.00-14.30 **Lunch Break**

14.30-16.30 **SECOND SERIES OF LABS**

Interpretation FR/EN

Lab 6 - Joining forces: Public-private collaborations for the environment

Lab 7 - Better together: Engaging communities for nature conservation and protection

Lab 8 - Scarcity and sources of conflict: Managing natural resources to prevent conflict

Lab 9 - Knowledge is power: Environmental education and training

Lab 10 - Women's power to act for the climate transition

Wednesday, 10 November 2021

09.00-10.30 **Plenary Session 4 - Multilateral Organisations tackling global problems with global solutions**

Council of Europe Hemicycle – Interpretation FR/EN

Moderator:

Ms Annette GERLACH, Journalist and TV Host, ARTE

Mr Alex TAYLOR, European journalist, France

Panel:

Mr Tomáš BOČEK, Vice-Governor for Target Group Countries, Council of Europe Development Bank

Mr Kevin CASAS-ZAMORA, Secretary-General of International IDEA

Mr Andrea LIVERANI, Program Leader for Infrastructure and Sustainable Development for EU Member States, World Bank

Ms Elsa PILICHOWSKI, Director for Public Governance (OECD)

Mr Alexandre STUTZMANN, Special Advisor, Office of UNGA President

10.30-12.00 **Plenary Session 5 - Reporting from the Forum and Agenda for the Future**

Council of Europe Hemicycle – Interpretation FR/EN

Moderators:

Ms Snežana SAMARDŽIĆ MARKOVIĆ, Director General of Democracy, Council of Europe

Ms Alice BERGHOLTZ, Representative of the National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations to the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe

Discussant:

Ms Sarah EL HAÏRY, Minister of State for Youth and Engagement, attached to the Minister of National Education, Youth and Sport

General Rapporteurs:

Ms Sarah DIEDRO JORDÃO, Communications Strategist

Mr Timothy KARR, Senior Director of Strategy and Communications, Free Press

12.00-13.00 **Closing Session and ceremony for the Democracy Innovation Award**

Council of Europe Hemicycle – Interpretation FR/EN

Moderator:

Ms Annette GERLACH, Journalist and TV Host, ARTE

Mr Alex TAYLOR, European journalist, France

The Council of Europe's Democracy Innovation Award is given each year to the most popular democracy innovation presented in the Labs, as voted by the Forum participants.

Presentation of the Democracy Innovation Award and Closing Address by **Ms Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ**, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

13.00 **Closing Performance by Dubioza Kolektiv**

DETAILED PROGRAMME OF FORUM TALKS – Tuesday 9 November

11.30-13.00 – SERIES OF FORUM TALKS

Forum Talk 1 - Deliberative democracy for climate

Room 3 – Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation: FR/EN

Across the globe, more and more people are taking to the streets to call on governments to pursue more ambitious action on climate-related issues. Climate demonstrations display frustration over political inaction, but they also indicate that citizens of many countries desire, but often lack, opportunities to participate more meaningfully in decision-making processes that promise to transform their lives. This sense of urgency has sparked off a new wave of deliberative democracy – in which innovative forms of citizen participation contribute to policy and decision-making. This talk will explore current trends in deliberative processes and their potential to make democratic governance more representative and resilient to economic, environmental or social shocks.

Moderator:

Mr David FARRELL, Professor of Politics, School of Politics and International Relations, University College Dublin, Ireland

Panel:

Ms Claudia CHWALISZ, Expert on citizen engagement, OECD, France

Mr Marcin GERWIN, specialist in deliberative democracy, Poland

Ms Agny KPATA, president of the association "Les 150", France

Ms Marijn VAN DE GEER, Internal Coordinator for the Citizens' Assembly Working Group (CAWG), Extinction rebellion, United Kingdom

Discussants:

Ms Lodovica CATTANI, WFD Youth Delegate, Italy

Mr Vladimir PREBILIČ, (L, SOC/G/PD), Congress Spokesperson on Climate Change and the Environment, Mayor of Kočevje, Slovenia

Rapporteur:

Ms Emma JOSSO, Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg

Forum Talk 2 - Human Rights for the environment

Room 8 – Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation: FR/EN

The well-being of ecosystems is profoundly connected to human well-being: degraded quality of air, soil and water endanger human health and threaten livelihoods. In this regard, interlinkages between the environment and human rights become obvious – deterioration of the natural world endangers the human right to life, to family life, to protection of health and so on. A "human rights" approach could ensure stronger guarantees for legislative measures to protect the environment and, consequently, to enable citizens to demand and exercise their rights in relation to the environment. However, in the absence of an explicit human right to a safe, clean, healthy, or sustainable environment, it might be difficult to make any significant progress. The discussion will focus on current legislative and judicial practices and explore ways forward for advancing environmental protection and human rights.

Moderator:

Ms Nina NORDSTRÖM, Ambassador, Permanent representative of Finland to the Council of Europe

Video message:

Ms Yukari TAKAMURA, Professor, Institute for Future Initiatives, University of Tokyo, Japan

Panel:

Ms Monica FERIA-TINTA, Barrister (Specialist advocate), Twenty Essex Chambers, London, United Kingdom

Ms Irmina KOTIUK, Senior Lawyer, Fundamental Rights Specialist, Client Earth, Belgium

Ms Lucy MAXWELL, Senior Legal Associate, Climate Litigation Network, The Netherlands

Mr Luca SALTALAMACCHIA, Lawyer, Human rights and Environment defender, Italy

Discussants:

Mr Costa BAKARI, WFD Youth Delegate, Tanzania

Mr Niranjan Dev BHARADWAJ, WFD Youth Delegate, India

Rapporteur:

Ms Manon DANGER, Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg

Forum Talk 3 - Threats to environmental defenders

Room 1 – Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation: FR/EN

Civil society actors have always had a role in holding governments accountable for their national and international commitments. This role is also essential with regard to the environment, not least when protecting the rights of people affected by climate change or environmental threats resulting from unsustainable economic projects. As a consequence, many civil society activists have been labelled "extremists", accused of choosing environmental protection over social and economic development and subjected to various reprisals. Frequently, these activists face not only danger to themselves, but also an absence of adequate domestic legal mechanisms to protect them, even leading to impunity for violent acts. The talk will allow for an in-depth reflection on the situation faced by environmental activists and a discussion of measures to defend their rights in the context of the "shrinking space for civil society".

Moderator:

Ms Valerie HOPKINS, Moscow Correspondent, The New York Times

Panel:

Mr Andrew ANDERSON, Executive Director, Front Line Defenders, Ireland

Mr Antoine BERNARD, Director of Advocacy and Litigation, Reporters without borders, France

Ms Susanna ISRAELSSON, Arctic and Environmental Unit, Saami Council, Norway

Ms Dunja MIJATOVIĆ, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights

Discussants:

Ms Alice BERGHOLTZ, Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth

Ms Carmen JURADO, WFD Youth Delegate, Spain

Rapporteurs:

Ms Léa CORNU, Project Manager Assistant, ALDA

Ms Nisrine LAAMACH, Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg

Forum Talk 4 – Youth climate activism

Room 6 – Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation: FR/EN

"Nothing about us without us" has become a powerful motto for youth movements, and in the context of climate crisis this message speaks volumes. One of the recent global surveys showed that 60% of young people feel worried about climate change, but only 31% believe that governments can be trusted to deal with its emergency. It is therefore not surprising that children and young people on every continent are taking leadership of climate activism. Contrary to popular belief, youth climate activism happens not only in the streets. Many young people also engage in political decision-making on local, national and international levels, proving their competence and capacity to foster change. During the discussion, young climate action leaders will share their perspectives on the challenges and obstacles they still face when fighting for a more sustainable and just future for all.

Moderator:

Ms Pegah MOULANA, Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth

Video message:

Ms Simone BORG, Ambassador for Climate Action, Malta

Panel:

Mr Linus DOLDER, Climate Activist, Switzerland

Ms Chiziterem Precious ONYENEKWE, World Forum for Democracy Youth Delegate, Nigeria

Ms Tinna RÓS STEINSDÓTTIR, International expert on child participation and safeguarding, Iceland

Ms Ivy-Fleur, Climate Activist, Youth for Climate, France

Discussant:

Ms Brankica JANKOVIĆ, Commissioner for the Protection of Equality, Serbia

Congress Youth Delegates:

Mr Adel RAMDANI, Youth delegate, The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, Belgium

Ms Viviane OGOU CORBI, Youth delegate, The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, Spain

Ms Susanna VEEVO, Youth delegate, The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, Estonia

Rapporteur:

Ms Emma LEFEVRE, Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg

Forum Talk 5 – Linking Biodiversity, Climate Change and a Healthy Environment

Room 9 – Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation: FR/EN

While the terms biodiversity, climate change and the environment seem to most people to be linked to some degree, often the underlying elements of those connections remain unclear. These concepts are, in fact, inextricably linked: improving the state of one will improve the state of the other; while the inverse is also regrettably true, as we see today with an ongoing, sixth, mass extinction of biodiversity. A crucial element in this anthropogenic battle which we are all facing, is to accept the important circular ecosystem effect. Species of flora and fauna help regulate habitats which help in carbon storage thus reducing climate change, and thus ensuring a liveable and healthy environment for humans as well as other species. Our expert speakers will aim to boil down these different forms of connectivity into concepts accessible to all.

Sponsored by the Bern convention of the Council of Europe

Moderator:

Mr Guzmán SANCHEZ, Strategic communications expert, Spain

Panel:

Ms Yuliia OVCHYNNYKOVA, Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe - PACE (Ukraine, ALDE)

Mr Adam WEISS, Head of Programme: Ocean, Plastics, and Chemicals, Client Earth, Belgium

Mr Friedrich WULF, Head, International Biodiversity Policy, Pro Natura - Friends of the Earth, Switzerland

Discussants:

Ms Vicky HRISTOVA, WFD Youth Delegate, Bulgaria

Ms Maja PRAVULJAC, Legal Expert, Client Earth, Belgium

Rapporteur:

Ms Tebelelo LENTSOANE, WFD Youth Delegate, South Africa

Forum Talk 6 - #EnvironmentRightNow

Room 2 - Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation FR/EN

In this Talk, members of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) discuss a host of far-reaching proposals to “anchor” a new right to “a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment” in law, policy, practice and the public consciousness. According to PACE President Rik Daems, who has made this issue the priority of his Presidency: “As global leaders gather in November in Glasgow, it is clear the world is facing a growing climate emergency, with dramatic effects on human health and wellbeing,” “A healthy environment is essential for all of us – but it must become a legally-enforceable right if we are to make the huge changes our planet needs in the years ahead.” #EnvironmentRightNow

Moderator

Mr Luís LEITE RAMOS, Chairperson of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development of the PACE, EPP/CD, Portugal

Panelists:

Mr Ziya ALTUNYALDIZ, Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights of the PACE, NR, Turkey

Ms Edite ESTRELA, Second Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development of the PACE, SOC, Portugal

Mr Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Chairperson of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons of the PACE, SOC, Switzerland

Mr George KATROUGALOS, Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe-PACE (UEL)

Ms Selin SAYEK BÖKE, Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter of the PACE, SOC, Turkey

Discussant:

Ms Cara DUNLOP, WFD Youth Delegate, UK

Mr Fale Andrew LESA JP., WFD Youth Delegate, New Zealand

Rapporteur:

Mr Nicolás E. NOYOLA, WFD Youth Delegate, El Salvador

DETAILED PROGRAMME OF LABS – Tuesday 9 November

09.00–11.00 FIRST SERIES OF LABS

Lab 1 – More heads are better than one: Citizens' Assemblies on climate

Room 1 – Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation: FR/E

Amidst growing public scepticism of the capacity of democratic institutions to quickly and effectively respond to the climate emergency, Citizen's Assemblies offer a different, more deliberative approach to environmental decision-making; one that can potentially restore trust between the people and their governments. How exactly do the Citizen's Assemblies allow for reconciliation between citizens and politicians and help them to find joint solutions to environmental issues? In the context of climate change, how do we make sure that the outcomes of such participatory processes are swiftly taken into account and also implemented over the long term given the limited time that sitting politicians have at their disposal?

Sponsored by the Région Grand Est

Moderator:

Mr Stefan SCHENNACH, Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe-PACE (Austria, SPÖ)

Discussants:

Ms Mathilde BOUYÉ, Lead, Democracy Index Initiative, France

Mr Ashok KRISHNAN, WFD Youth Delegate, India

Rapporteur:

Mr Simon GUERIN-SANZ, Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg

InspiredBY - how can democracy deliver on environmental justice, Belarus

InspiredBY project aims to empower Belarusian democracy activists from different fields to engage in sound collaborative dialogue during annual InspiredBY and regional [#InspiredByRegion](#) events focused on local issues. The project is based on horizontal democratic principles the agenda of the events is driven by the participants. There are no predefined topics by the organizers and all content and themes are brought and presented by the participants themselves. Such methods eliminate the hierarchical elements that might be found at traditional meetings and conferences. Thus, the activists from different fields are enabled to raise various topics and present different aspects of their own field of activism (e.g. ecology, human rights, culture, urbanization, politics etc).

This session will focus on success stories from Belarus regions – how active citizens have achieved significant results in shaping long lasting tradition of releasing helium balloons to Belarus sky during schools' farewell parties.

Swedish International Liberal Centre (SILC) is a liberal foundation working with democracy assistance in support of democratic development and human rights in undemocratic countries. SILC is part of the European Network of Political Foundations (ENoP), that serves as a platform for dialogue and exchange between the European political foundations and civil society organisations.

Presenters:

Ms Vilija NAVICKAITE, Programme Officer, SILC

Mr Denis SCHREY, Network Coordinator, ENoP

Citizens' Climate Convention, France

The Citizens' Climate Convention is an unprecedented democratic initiative born after the Yellow Vests crisis. Spurred on by the "Gilets citoyens" collective and mandated by the President of the Republic, the citizens' convention brought together 150 citizens chosen by lot and constituted as a citizens' assembly, to formulate proposals to combat climate change. Its mandate is to define measures to achieve a reduction of at least 40% of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 in a spirit of social justice.

Presenter:

Mr Quentin SAUZAY, Co-president, Democratie Ouverte, France

We are Suffocating (Gavigudet), Georgia (Hors Concours)

Is a local civic movement that started in the spring of 2018 with the goal of improving the air quality in Rustavi, Georgia.

Rustavi is an industrial city where we have to breath bad or terrible quality air 280 days out of the year on average, because the vast majority of manufacturing sites don't abide by the air protection requirements. We believe that it is all thanks to social engagement, backing from our donors, and our own drive that we have accomplished the following three milestones so far:

A large proportion of the population has come to understand this major problem in our city, which is that the air is so polluted. Their activism has led to the issue being added to the government's agenda;

Gavigudet was part of the development of the "2020-2022 Action Plan for Improving Atmospheric Air Quality in Rustavi", which the government ratified in October of 2020 (and we remain active in monitoring its implementation);

The Gavigudet movement had demanded legal changes for air quality, becoming part of the legal discussions on that topic, and those changes were implemented by parliament on March 2, 2021 (coming into effect on June 1, 2021).

Presenter:

Ms Tinatin MAGHEDANI, Leader, Gavigudet, Georgia

XR GS Participative Democracy, Germany

XR GS PartDem is contributing to Extinction Rebellion's Third Demand on Citizens' Assemblies by supporting the creation of a worldwide network of XR and non-XR groups in order to efficiently share experiences and best practices on Citizens' & Peoples' Assemblies: With this we aim to nurture the growth of deliberative participatory democracy globally. About 70 people from 25 countries in all continents are members of XR GS PartDem, with a small but active coordination crew of 5 people. We are facilitating events at all levels by providing impartial training, facilitation, materials, and assistance for everyone to run their own assemblies while also contributing to other local, national and global assemblies in various forms. Through co-creative collaboration, we strive to evolve these democratic concepts for ensuring transparency and the independence of processes & outcomes to amplify the voices of citizens

Presenter:

Mr Sven-Marten SCHULTE, External Coordinator Extinction Rebellion, Global Support Participative Democracy (XR GS PartDem), Germany

Lab 2 - Save the planet, make a living: Green entrepreneurship

Room 3 – Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation: FR/EN

For a long time, the primary mission of any entrepreneur was to make a profit. However, in light of ever-growing environmental challenges, some entrepreneurs are attempting to shift from this traditional economic model and place environmental and social responsibility at the core of their initiatives. This is not just an ethical choice: as more consumers start making environmentally conscious decisions, greener initiatives tend to achieve greater financial sustainability. But what does it take to create a thriving business model that generates benefits both for people and for the planet? What are the risks and challenges that green entrepreneurs still face? What can governments and the corporate sector learn from the green entrepreneurship approach?

Moderator:

Mr Mårten EHNBERG, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Sweden to the Council of Europe

Discussants:

Mr Fikret ADAMAN, Professor, Department of Economics at Boğaziçi University, Turkey

Mr Jesús Gael NOVILLO VÁZQUEZ, WFD Youth Delegate, Spain

Rapporteur:

Ms Anna HERTKORN, University Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas

SaveEcoBot, Ukraine

Save Dnipro is a non-profit organization which runs a social startup SaveEcoBot. Their mission is to improve air quality in the developing world through raising environmental awareness of the citizens by providing them with free and easy access to air quality index and other public environmental data. They provide people with free service and affordable air pollution sensor—SaveEcoSensor. Chat-bot is also a unique feature of their product that helps people subscribe to certain locations and timely receive notifications on air quality hazards.

Presenter:

Mr Artem ROMANIUKOV, Co-founder, Save Dnipro, Ukraine

Mr Pavlo TKACHENKO, Co-founder, Save Dnipro, Ukraine

ReShoes: From Awareness to Action, Italy

"ReShoes: From Awareness to Action" is a Retake initiative in which we collect surplus gym shoes for recycling and reuse. Shoes in good shape go to the poor to wear; shoes too worn out to wear become playground pavements. This circular-economy project entails: educating the public about the value of recycling and reusing superfluous, apparently worthless and potentially environmental-damaging materials; collecting sneakers through a number of partner institutions, both private and public; and repurposing the sneakers to build eco-friendly playground pavements, through our partner company ESO Società Benefit arl's project "Esosport." Schools, universities, and businesses serve as drop-off/pick-up points for the old sneakers. Retake volunteers sort them and deliver them to charities for distribution to the needy and to the partner company that converts them into playground pavement.

Presenter:

Ms Alejandra ALFARO ALFIERI, Communication Officer, Retake's Roma, Italy

Wise Greece, Greece

Wise Greece is one of Europe's most awarded non-profit organizations in its field. On the one hand they work with the Greek small farmers and food producers, to help them grow and export their products in a sustainable way, while at the same time they use our profit from the sales of the products to buy food supplies and donate them to the 3 million people in Greece who live below the poverty line. In this way, they actively help the backbone of the Greek economy (the small family owned businesses) and offer the most essential commodity -food- to people in need. So far, Wise Greece works with 100 small food producers, with more than 2.500 products, has a presence in 8 European countries and has managed to donate more than 50 tons of food to people in need.

Presenter:

Ms Melina TAPRANTZI, Founder, Wise Greece, Greece

Lab 3 - The law as an agent of nature: Access to environmental justice and protection

Room 6 – Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation: FR/EN

It is recognised that a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment is an essential prerequisite for the safeguarding of fundamental human rights, such as the right to life. Human rights, for their part, often serve as a means of taking legal action to protect the environment and people's livelihoods in courts. Yet, while the number of environmental disputes has increased over the years, a lack of both domestic and international legal instruments that would directly and explicitly address a wider range of environmental issues is becoming evident. What legal mechanisms should be in place to preserve the environment more effectively? Could the modern legal system integrate intergenerational justice and the rights of nature into such mechanisms? How do we achieve equal access to environmental justice for all?

Sponsored by Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)

Moderator:

Mr George KATROUGALOS, Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe-PACE (Greece, UEL)

Discussants:

Mr Ziya ALTUNYALDIZ, Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights of the PACE (Turkey, NR)

Mr Luís LEITE RAMOS, Chairperson of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development of the PACE (Portugal EPP/CD)

Rapporteurs:

Ms Paula ENRÍQUEZ LAYOS, Project Developer Assistant, ALDA

Ms Clara SIKORSKY, Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg

PachaGaïa, France

PachaGaïa is an association with objective to gather information on the damage done to nature, to list it in order to allow access to legal and scientific data, and finally to make this information freely and openly available. The access to data will enable individuals to take legal action, fight environmental racism, disseminate the concept of ecological damage and unite as many people as possible in the fight against attacks on nature. The added value of the project is the creation of an interactive cartography bringing together environmental, legal and health information. The next step is to set up a proof of concept on the French island of "La Réunion".

Presenters:

Ms Julia MIALLET, Co-founder and Co-president, PachaGaïa, France

Ms Morgane HORELLOU, Volunteer and Technical Advisor, PachaGaïa, France

Democratising the law for environmental justice, Kenya

The initiative supports a group of community paralegals to train community members affected by industrial expansion and massive infrastructure developments to document evidence of legal violations, write formal complaints (citing relevant national and international laws) and file them with the relevant administrative institutions. These communities of fishers, farmers and pastoralists and completely dependent on their environments for their livelihoods, culture and often health needs. Thus, the impacts caused by these projects are often extremely severe. The initiative assists these communities stop the ongoing impacts caused by project violations and offers them increased resilience to the pressures caused by climate change and biodiversity loss.

The program is designed to utilise systems that were set up in many African countries post-independence as part of their democratisation process yet are often completely underutilised by the citizenry. To program is designed so that each community member receiving training is able to carry on these actions themselves and also share the lessons learnt with other community members.

The program is currently being trialled in Kenya with 4 community-based organizations. Each are affected by various projects, including mining and a large port development.

The aim of the program is not only to legally empower local communities, who rarely have knowledge of laws that protect their environments and livelihoods, but to also apply pressure to the democratic systems of governance in Kenya mandated to protect the environment, and therein communities dependent upon them, but are all too often susceptible to capture by elites and private enterprise.

Presenter:

Mr Gino COCCHIARO, Director of Programmes and Development, Natural Justice, Kenya

Notre affaire à Tous, France (Hors concours)

NOTRE AFFAIRE À TOUS is an association formed in the summer of 2015. It is the offspring of the End Ecocide on Earth movement, which seeks to have the most serious environmental crimes recognised at the international criminal level. Anchored in the fight for the preservation of nature, Our Common Cause works to establish climate justice through legal tools. We are fighting on several fronts:

With the case of the century, a lawsuit against the state for climate inaction in partnership with the Fondation Nicolas Hulot, Greenpeace and Oxfam. With the legal action against Total and the report "Total, the strategy of climate chaos" released recently. With the conceptualisation and advocacy work to recognise the rights of nature.

With the organisation of conferences and interventions for students and teenagers on the subject of climate justice. And many other initiatives ...

Presenter:

Ms Mathilde MANTEAUX, volunteer, Notre Affaire à tous, France

Ms Gloria TAOUSSI, Local group coordinator, Notre affaire à Tous, France

Lab 4 - Sustainable cities: When the problem becomes part of the solution

Room 8 – Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation: FR/EN

To date, urban areas remain a primary source of greenhouse gas emissions — the drivers of climate change. At the same time, climate change poses a serious threat to the built environment, which makes the urban population the most exposed to the adverse effects of this global crisis. Added to this is the persistence of other urban risks, such as poverty, inequality and social fragmentation. So, how do we make cities more resilient to the cumulative impacts of the economic, social and environmental pressures? It is evident that we need to change the way we plan, develop and manage our cities. But what is the right way to do so? How can sustainable urbanisation address these challenges? Is sustainable urbanisation able to truly “leave no one behind” and guarantee social justice for all city dwellers?

Sponsored by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, Council of Europe

Moderator:

Mr Vladimir PREBILIČ, (L, SOC/G/PD), Congress Spokesperson on Climate Change and the Environment, Mayor of Kočevje, Slovenia

Discussants:

Mr Jean-Pierre LIOUVILLE, member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities (Council of Europe), Grand Est Region (France)

Mr Adel RAMDANI, Student in Political Science, International Relations and Human Rights, Belgium

Rapporteur:

Ms Lucine BOURQUE, Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg

Urban Arenas for Sustainable and Just Cities, Germany

Urban Arenas for Sustainable and Just Cities (“UrbanA”) seeks to advance the transformation of cities across Europe into inclusive, sustainable, and thriving environments. By launching an Urban Arena – a trans-local, co-creative space designed to generate actionable solutions – we aim to foster deep forms of democracy and citizen empowerment. The Urban Arena brings together policymakers, researchers, engaged citizens and others – collectively known as city-makers – from across Europe, including a group of 25 dedicated UrbanA Fellows and a much broader community of practice, which convenes both virtually and in person.

Presenters:

Mr Matthew BACH, Coordinator, ICLEI, Germany

Democratic Climate Model, Innovation for climate action at a local level, Belgium

The Model takes a systems approach to pathways towards climate resilience, making explicit the relationship between design, power and social justice, and where inequity and citizen disempowerment weaken governance and climate resilience. The Model aims to foster higher quality of democracies and more participatory approaches by sparking conversations with public sector leaders, civil society and communities on more just, inclusive, community-led approaches. It seeks to shift ‘climate innovation’ away from a tech focus, influence governance and policy, and help cities think about what ‘scaling up’ for more durable, longer term change takes. It is positively framed around four categories of ‘conditions’ we see for climate resilience: (1) diversity of actors, (2) participatory culture, (3) resourcing and (4) subject-matter expertise.

The Model is developed through our partnership in EIT Climate-KIC for achieving carbon neutrality, across 10+ EU cities.

This showcase session will demonstrate the Democratic Climate Model use to date by city partners, including Vienna and Madrid.

Presenters:

Ms Laura HOHOFF, Climate and Democracy Specialist, Democratic Society, Belgium

Ms Nadja NICKEL, Programme Director, Climate, Democratic Society, Belgium

Sustainable Cities Program: Strengthening democracy through the municipalization of SDG's, Brazil

The Sustainable Cities Program assists public managers with urban planning methodologies and the elaboration of structural public policies, which include a systemic and integrated approach to the municipality, making possible to consider issues such as health, education, social assistance, housing, governance, urban mobility, climatic changes, social participation etc. Between 2013 and 2016, 287 Brazilian cities joined the Program, including 22 capitals and the Federal District. The Sustainable Cities Program was one of the responsible organizations for the creation of the SDG National Commission, a structure of governance that involves federal government and civil society representatives to articulate the SDG agenda nation-wide.

Presenter:

Mr Jorge ABRAHÃO, Director, Cidades Sustentáveis, Brazil

Urban agriculture as a new asset after Covid, France

Reconciling nature and the city: how new allotment gardens can contribute in times of restrictions and confinement
It is obvious that reconciling nature and the city has become urgent in most of the countries that have been forced to limit social interactions to hold back the COVID19 pandemic.

New social, economic and environmental fractures have risen sharply, linked to new health, economic and food dependencies. This loss of autonomy is felt even more acutely by the poorest. The situation is worsening everywhere under the impact of climate change.

It is the responsibility of governments, local authorities but also organized civil society to prepare an effective local response, based on humanist and democratic values, and the support and participation of everyone in taking charge of their vital needs.

This is the vocation of NGOs such as the "Office international du Coin de Terre et des jardins familiaux", and the FIHUAT, founded by the father of the "Cité-Jardins". They depend above all on the political will of local elected officials. From Bristol and Copenhagen to Singapore or Seoul, the planning of spaces, their hierarchy, their links and their uses, creating places of exchange, leisure and food production can and must be enlarged.

Presenter:

Ms Anne-Marie CHAVANON, Chair of the Committee on Environmental and Sanitary Crisis, Conference of INGOS, France

Lab 5 - Act Local, inspire global: Local initiatives making change

Room 9 – Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation: FR/EN

There is no doubt that ongoing environmental degradation affects all people on the planet. However, everyone experiences it differently. For that reason, local initiatives are at the forefront of the search for practical solutions to overcome environmental threats directly impacting their communities. Often these local solutions can be adapted to work in other places of the world, making it possible to effectively mitigate environmental risks on a global scale. What are the powerful examples of such local actions? What are the best practices to engage people in efforts to protect the environment? What is the role of local governments with regard to environmental protection? How can we strengthen the capacity for environmental action in all local stakeholders?

Sponsored by the European Collectivity of Alsace

Moderator:

Mr Christian MEUWLY, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Council of Europe

Discussants:

Mr Rhys NUGENT, WFD Youth Delegate, UK

Mr Halim PRATAMA, WFD Youth Delegate, Indonesia

Rapporteur:

Ms Manon ELIAYAN, Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg

World Clean Up Day, Estonia

Let's Do It World is an international NGO which tackles the environmental challenges related to the global mismanaged solid waste problem, by mobilising millions of positive-minded people to participate in coordinated local and global actions. World Cleanup Day is the largest single peacetime civic action in human history, aimed at raising awareness of the scale of the global mismanaged waste crisis threatening the environment and the lives of millions of people.

On 15 September 2018, World Cleanup Day united 17,6 million people across 157 countries, on 21 September 2019, World Cleanup Day united 21.2 million people already across 180 countries and territories for the biggest waste collection day in human history. An epic 36-hour green wave of clean-ups stretched across the globe – beginning in Fiji and travelling around the world before ending in Hawaii.

Presenter:

Ms Heidi SOLBA, President and Head of the Global Network, Let's Do It World, Estonia

#UnÁrbolPorEuropa (#ATreeForEurope)

#UnÁrbolPorEuropa (#ATreeForEurope) is a campaign that aims to convince every Mayor in Spain to plant at least one tree in their municipality and commit to involve young people in decision-making processes about sustainable development in Europe. It was launched in October 2019 with the support of the European Parliament Liaison Office in Spain. Ever since, almost 650 Mayors have joined the campaign and over 27,000 trees have been planted all over Spain. Besides planting trees, the campaign provides involved municipalities with proposals for a more sustainable town and, during this year, it also offers them support to organize citizens' dialogues to discuss how local sustainability can be promoted in their towns and in Europe in the context of the Conference on the Future of Europe.

Presenter:

Ms Ana Isabel ÁLVAREZ NIEVES, Project Coordinator, #UnÁrbolPorEuropa, Spain

ORSP - Defend the Rivers of Stara Planina - form defending the justice (of the laws and basic human rights) to the progressiveness and reactivity in imagining justice, Serbia

ORSP primarily advocates a ban on the construction of MDHP on Stara Planina, as well as on the entire territory of Serbia due to the extremely harmful effect on nature and life-quality of locals who are not informed and do not agree with the construction of MDHP.

ORSP is unique democratic organisation without boards in which members organise through social networks. In its actions ORSP includes locals, local communities, people who are experts in legal issues, lawyers who perform legal correspondence (writing lawsuits, complaints and objections), university professors and experts in the fields of civil engineering, forestry, hydrology and ecology who are working on technical documentations, and people who join as activists.

ORSP's main goal is to make the right to make water resources a public good and to make free access to water, as a basic civil right, a constitutional category. Serbian constitution now does not recognise access to fresh water as basic human right.

To stop construction ORSP is taking actions through institutions, but also on the ground. On the ground ORSP alerts locals who are not consulted as this kind of projects is built with caricatured public insight where MDHP are presented as watermills. At the same time ORSP's legal team is trying to get an insight in legal documentation and permits for building that kind of infrastructure in natural parks, use of public infrastructure and trespassing through private property.

Presenter:

Mr Dragan M. JONIĆ, activist, ORSP (Defend the Rivers of the Stara Planina), Serbia

Resilience and Recovery in Greece and S.E Europe; A two-year program to build a hub for climate transformation and resilience in Greece (Hors Concours)

Led by an international collaboration of ELIAMEP, the Democracy & Culture Foundation (DCF) and Resilient Cities Catalyst (RCC), Resilience and Recovery in Greece is a 24-month program that will create a Hub for Climate Change at ELIAMEP and accelerate the design and delivery of transformative climate initiatives that drive local impact while advancing progress toward Greece's national resilience & recovery goals and SDG targets.

Resilience and Recovery in Greece is a collaborative, cross-sectoral program that will build on local and regional bottom-up/demand-driven approaches, while bringing in international lessons and partnerships. Triggering a bottom-up and community-based approach, where tailor made solutions will be provided by the communities for the communities, capitalizing on their own capabilities and answering on their respective specific needs is the methodology we are introducing with the Climate Change Hub.

Presenter:

Ms Maria LOGOTHETI, Senior Policy Advisor, ELIAMEP, Greece

Mr Achilles TSALTAS, President, The Democracy & Culture Foundation, UK

14.30 – 16.30 SECOND SERIES OF LABS

Lab 6 –Joining forces: Public-private collaborations for the environment

Room 6 – Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation: FR/EN

The urgent threat of climate change is spurring governments at all levels to increase the ambition of their adaptation and mitigation measures. These measures require substantial investments in environmentally sound technologies and resilient infrastructure, and this is where public actors may often find themselves constrained by limited budgets or procedural delays. In such cases, public-private partnerships can play an important role. Cross-sectoral cooperation can allow for improved access to experimentation and ingenuity, to funding and economies of scale, as well as better-informed decision-making in project management. But is it possible to genuinely promote the interests of both public and private stakeholders when planning and implementing these projects? What are the most important questions to consider when leveraging private investments into public projects? And what about the interests and well-being of affected communities?

Moderator:

Ms Mila LUKIĆ, Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth

Discussant:

Ms Clara BOTTO, WFD Youth Delegate, Brazil

Ms Cybèle SCHNEIDER, Legal Intern in Climate Justice, Bread for all, Switzerland

Rapporteurs:

Ms Chiara ADDEO, Project Manager Assistant, ALDA

Mr Rachad YOUNES, Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg

Green Deal Business and Biodiversity, Belgium

The Green Deal Business and biodiversity is a partnership between governments, companies, NGO's and universities to increase biodiversity in business parks. The deals' aim is to raise awareness and support for ecological (re)design and management of company grounds. All organizations that signed up for Green Deal made a commitment to either re-design a piece of land that they own or lease; or to help another organization to do just that. The goals of this Green Deal are: Raising the ecological value in business parks by creating permanent and temporary nature, Raising the support base for nature in different target groups like, local and regional governments, businesses, project developers, industry organizations, higher education, landscapers, etc.; Improving the wellbeing of employees, as well as improving the image towards customers and suppliers; Knowledge building, education and training through the setup of a learning network; Participation of employees when designing buildings and company grounds; Participation of businesses in biodiversity policy.

Presenter:

Mr Arne DANEELS, Coordinator, Green Deals, Belgium

Mr Niels WILLO, policy officer, Flemish Green Deal Business and Biodiversity Project, Flemish Green Deal Natural Gardens Project, Belgium

Together is sustainable, Finland

Micropolis Ltd is a small not-for-profit development company boosting green growth in the north and specially in its home town Ii. In the town of Ii with its 10 000 inhabitants in the north of Finland they have cut down the carbon emissions by 80 %, and produce energy ten times more than they consume – all by renewable energies only. At the same time they created growth: jobs, investments and income. They have been able to cut down the city taxation because of profitable climate actions. Decision-makers created hands on the roadmap with goals and aims, and citizens and officers defined – and keep defining – what they do and how. Micropolis Ltd is flexible and everyone is welcomed to take part in the planning and realization of the climate work.

Presenters:

Mr Ari ALATOSSAVA, Mayor of Ii, Finland

Mr Johannes HELAMA, Project manager, Micropolis, Finland

ROW Negotiations in infrastructure projects for sustainable development, India

The goal of this initiative is to strengthen public consultation in large scale projects which may have an impact on environmentally sensitive areas. These may include, mining, construction of highways, power transmission, large scale construction projects, establishment of manufacturing units, hydro-electric power projects and dams etc. The initiative focuses on projects that have environmental impact or displacement of people or animals such as projects that pass-through forests, national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. The participants of this initiative are the companies that are implementing the infrastructure project, the local people of the affected areas, caretaker of these areas, persons who may claim that their culture and heritage may be affected and other persons whose stakes are involved.

Presenter:

Ms Kritika KRISHNAMURTHY, Director, Bridge Policy Think Tank, India

Mr Anuroop OMKAR, Director, Bridge Policy Think Tank, India

Lab 7 - Better together: Engaging communities for nature conservation and protection

Room 8 – Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation: FR/EN

For centuries, humans have extracted and exploited natural resources for the benefit of our social and economic development. Deforestation, land degradation and water pollution have accompanied human intervention, destroying important habitats and contributing to the decline in plant and animal species. Now, when it is recognised that biodiversity loss and climate change are mutually reinforcing, and constitute equally a threat to human existence, what can we do to reverse the damage done to nature and to ourselves? How can the experience of local communities answer this question? Should we mainstream or scale-up local knowledge into national or international conservation efforts? And what could be done to increase opportunities for citizens to participate in decision-making processes in regards to nature protection?

Sponsored by the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe

Moderator:

Mr Gerhard ERMISCHER, President of the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe

Discussants:

Ms Edite ESTRELA, Second Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development of the PACE (Portugal, SOC)

Mr Rob HOPKINS, Founder of the Transition movement, United Kingdom

Rapporteur:

Ms Céline RYELANDT, Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg

Burren Programme (BP), Ireland

The Burren Programme (BP) encourages, supports and rewards Burren farmers for delivering ecosystem services on their land. With a focus on conserving the Burren's biodiversity, water quality and cultural heritage, the BP (currently working with 320 farmers on 23,000ha of priority EU habitat) carries out annual assessments of the environmental health of each field (of 1700) in the programme and rewards farmers accordingly – land in better condition receives higher payments. Participating farmers also have access to a 'fund' for conservation works designed to improve their environmental performance and payments. The farmers are supported by a locally based office and by trained advisors. As well as clear, fair financial incentives, the BP allows farmers greater freedom to farm and to innovate, reduced bureaucratic burdens and new opportunities for economic and social engagement. .

Presenter:

Mr Brendan DUNFORD, Manager, Burren Programme, Ireland

The Global Wildland Fire Network: A contribution of civil society to build sustainable and fire-resilient societies and landscapes, Germany

The Global Wildland Fire Network with its 14 regional networks is a voluntary network that provides a device for the development of informed fire management policies, and science and technology transfer to enable nations and international organizations to reduce the negative impacts of landscape fires on the environment and humanity; advance the knowledge and application of the ecologically and environmentally benign role of natural fire in fire-dependent ecosystems, and sustainable application of fire in land-use systems.

Presenter:

Mr Johann Georg GOLDAMMER, Director, Global Fire Monitoring Center, Germany

Participatory Establishment of Emerald Network, Georgia

Emerald Network is a pan-European ecological network with the goal to preserve the biodiversity of Europe. The Network was established as part of the implementation process of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern, 1979).

The work involves planning of the Emerald sites/Network and the gathering of scientific data needed for the planning process. For this purpose the Emerald Network group of experts was established as a group of scientific consultants at NACRES. The members of the expert group came from different scientific, academic and non-governmental institutions and comprised of best available experts within the country.

In 2017-2019, forty-six sites were officially designated as Emerald Sites on the mutual initiative of the Georgian Government and NACRES, marking the first precedent in the Caucasus region.

Presenter:

Ms Kakha ARTSIVADZE, Project coordinator, Emerald Network, Georgia

Lab 8 - Scarcity and sources of conflict: Managing natural resources to prevent conflict

Room 1 – Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation: FR/EN

Nowadays, environmental issues are frequently mentioned in the context of peace and security. In particular, the scarcity of natural resources is increasingly becoming a major source of conflict between and within communities. What role does good or bad natural resource management play in such conflicts? What are the best tools we currently have for conflict resolution when it comes to natural resources? How do we integrate conflict management into policies and strategies related to natural resources management?

Sponsored by the Région Grand Est

Moderator:

Mr Manuel MONTOBBIO, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Spain to the Council of Europe

Discussants:

Mr Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Chairperson of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons of the PACE (Switzerland, SOC)

Mr Ivo PETROV, WFD Youth Delegate, Bulgaria

Rapporteur:

Mr Jean BALME, Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg

In Search of Common Ground, Cameroon

In Search for Common Ground addressed violent conflict between Mbororo cattle herders and non-Mbororo farmers in the North West Region of Cameroon. Conflict in the area has a devastating effect on the environment caused by improper use of natural resources and limited capacity to natural resources. The initiative promoted natural resource management and thus peace building between these two groups through the use of alternative conflict management tools such as Dialogue Platforms, which are an example of deliberative democracy in action. Water management committees have initiated market gardening and bee keeping and have consequently led to cross-community solidarity that discourages poor governance and corruption because there are fewer opportunities to take advantage of fractured social ties.

Presenter:

Mr Usmanu SALI, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, MBOSCUA, Cameroon

A Green Blue Deal for the Middle East, Israel, Palestine, Jordan

EcoPeace Middle East is a unique non-profit non-governmental organization that brings together Jordanian, Palestinian, and Israeli environmentalists. EcoPeace was founded in 1994 to advance sustainable regional development and the conditions for peace by promoting collaboration around shared environmental challenges, especially the need for water. By promoting an understanding that, from an environmental perspective, we are all in the same 'boat', EcoPeace seeks to replace policies that fail to take into account the interdependencies of the shared environment with policies that acknowledge a broader perspective of self-interests, and foster leadership prepared to deepen areas of cooperation and trust even in the midst of conflict.

Presenter:

Ms Dalit WOLF GOLAN, Israeli Deputy Director, Regional Development Director, EcoPeace Middle East, Israel

Promoting consultative extractive practices and peace-orientated local advocacy in southern Kyrgyzstan, United Kingdom

Mining in Kyrgyzstan has long been accompanied by civic unrest and violence. International Alert (hereafter Alert) worked with community influencers, with a focus on young men and women, in two communities in southern Kyrgyzstan affected by the activities of extractive industries. These influencers were trained in peace-orientated advocacy and conflict analysis to be better able to identify and analyse local tensions with extractive companies and propose peaceful means to advocate for community interests. Alert also reached out to extractives and created safe spaces in which community influencers could engage with representatives of these companies. Influencers received micro-grants to convene community stakeholders in an inclusive manner to ensure all voices were heard and put their advocacy and analytical skills to the test. Designed as a pilot, the project achieved strong community-level results within a short time period, with influencers becoming more confident in analysis and advocacy, having greater knowledge of the law, and better understanding on how to act to promote the interests of their communities and what steps to take to build dialogue with companies and express grievances in a non-violent way. COVID-19 has naturally slowed momentum, but given the ongoing conflict-generating potential of and violence linked to mining activities more work is needed and this the project has valuable lessons to apply moving forward.

Presenter:

Mr Stuart MOIR, Senior Programme Design and Assessment Officer, International Alert, United Kingdom

Lab 9 – Knowledge is power: Environmental education and training

Room 9 – Palais de l'Europe – Interpretation: FR/EN

With the heightened sense of urgency over climate change, the challenge to achieve sustainable development calls for concerted action across the economic, environmental and social spheres. Re-orienting education towards sustainable development can be a good starting point to impulse transformative change. Environmental education promises to equip learners with knowledge, values, attitudes and skills that will help them to address global challenges. But how should teaching and learning change to avoid a knowledge-action gap in learners? What should be done for the formal educational system to incorporate environmental curricula? How to implement environmental education into informal learning environments?

Moderator:

Ms Marie FONTANEL, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of France to the Council of Europe

Discussants:

Mr Jean-Pierre GRIN, Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe-PACE (Switzerland, ALDE)

Ms Lidia TOTH, Advocacy Officer, Visegrad for Sustainability (V4SDG), Hungary

Rapporteur:

Mr Fedoua BOUDERDABEN, Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg

Meath Climate Academy, Ireland

Meath Climate Academy (MCA) was established as a means of delivering a variety of climate action training to citizens, communities, students and business in County Meath. The objective of MCA is to be a trusted discharger of knowledge around climate change, justice and action and to inspire and empower citizens to start their own climate conversations and drive participatory climate action within their communities. MCA works closely with the Climate Action Forum, a Councillor led forum to support the delivery of the Meath Climate Action Strategy and demonstrate leadership in climate action.

Presenter:

Ms Caroline CORRIGAN, Climate Action & SDG Co-Ordinator, Meath County Council, Ireland

10 at 10 For The Planet, Germany

What if we all got together for 10 minutes at 10am to talk about educational projects for the planet? This is exactly the idea behind the online forum 10 at 10 For The Planet, launched by Guillaume Chevallier, a teacher at the Franco-German Lycée in Freiburg.

10 at 10 For The Planet is a weekly intergenerational, interdisciplinary meeting that lasts just 10 minutes. The online audience is diverse with teachers, students and other education stakeholders from different countries.

Run in French, German or English, the meetings provide the opportunity to listen to project leaders, whether school students, teachers, university students or association managers. Once this shared moment is over, participants go back to their tasks or linger to ask questions.

Participants from Paris to Vienna, Dakar and Berlin have already taken part in this forum dedicated to school projects for the planet. Acting as melting pot of ideas, this initiative is bringing to life the Maori proverb, With your food basket and my food basket the people will thrive.

Presenter:

Mr Guillaume CHEVALLIER, Founder, 10 at 10 For The Planet, teacher of physics and chemistry, Germany

Lab 10 - Women's power to act for the climate transition

Aubette – Interpretation: FR/EN

The adverse effects of climate change have immediate and long-lasting implications for gender equality. Both men and women are vulnerable to extreme weather events and natural disasters but, due to pre-existing inequalities in different spheres of life, women suffer disproportionately from environmental damage. The effectiveness of climate-related strategies would improve greatly if women's experience and knowledge were mainstreamed in the process of policy development, but due to widespread underrepresentation of women in parliaments and other decision-making bodies at all levels, it is yet to be achieved. Despite the challenges, women around the world continue to find ways to be agents of change, preserving the local environment and strengthening the resilience of their communities. So, what do women already do to advance the climate transition? How can we support their engagement in climate-decision making? And what are the ways to integrate gender dimension into climate policies?

Sponsored by the City of Strasbourg

Moderator:

Ms Julia DUMAY, Deputy Mayor for European and International Affairs, Strasbourg

Discussants:

Ms Vandita SARIYA, WFD Youth Delegate, India

Ms Selin SAYEK BÖKE, Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter of the PACE (Turkey, SOC)

Rapporteur:

Ms Louise RABAULT, Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg

Combating land degradation through socio-economic development in the Zaghdoud region, Tunisia

The Association of Kairouan for Self-Development, operates for the self-development of families and women in rural areas of the governorate of Kairouan by involving them in all stages of the process of local development in a network of solidarity and cooperation involving various local national and international development partners. Following their experience in rural areas, AKAD aims to raise awareness, train and guide a group of women representative of the rural environment by bringing them together in an agricultural development group (GDA) and then creating income generating activities and bringing them closer to local services focusing on rural areas most affected by rural exodus due to difficult socio-economic conditions.

Presenter:

Mr Wael BOURAOUI, Project Development Coordinator, AKAD, Tunisia

Women2030: building the ecofeminist movement (Hors Concours)

Women2030 brought together a diverse network of women's rights groups and feminist organizations connected across the world and willing to support each other to engage in the transformation of their communities. Coordinated by a coalition of women-led and feminist networks, the program reached out to more than 189 women's rights and feminist partner organizations in 62 countries, building their capacities through training and sub-granting, and engaging them in Agenda2030 and climate-related policy processes. These partners engaged their own partners and communities, from the grassroots to national and international policy spaces. In doing so, they imbued their projects with their unique dreams and ideas of feminism, women's empowerment, transformative change and sustainable development. They also identified and responded to the immediate needs of their communities, creating new partnerships and opportunities to address some of those needs. What emerges is a tapestry of worldviews and localized approaches that come into dialogue with one another, creating a support network from Bolivia to Mongolia.

Presenter:

Ms Kirsten MEIJER, Director, WECF Netherlands

Rapporteurs' List

TYPE OF EVENT	RAPPORTEURS
Plenary Session 1	Ms Marie ESCALIER , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg Ms Camille GAUTIER-DELIGNY , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Plenary Session 2	Mr Louis BUZIN Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg Ms Mathilde MOREL , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Plenary Session 3	Ms Laura ABIDI , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg Ms Julie GREGORY , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Plenary Session 4	Ms Nichola LUMSDEN , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg Ms Manon PICOT , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Forum Talk 1	Ms Emma JOSSO , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Forum Talk 2	Ms Manon DANGER , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Forum Talk 3	Ms Léa CORNU , Project Manager Assistant, ALDA Ms Nisrine LAAMACH , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Forum Talk 4	Ms Emma LEFEVRE , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Forum Talk 5	Ms Tebelelo LENTSOANE , WFD Youth Delegate, South Africa
Forum Talk 6	Mr Nicolás E. NOYOLA , WFD Youth Delegate, El Salvador
Lab 1	Mr Simon GUERIN-SANZ , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Lab 2	Ms Anna HERTKORN , University Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas
Lab 3	Ms Paula ENRÍQUEZ LAYOS , Project Developer Assistant, ALDA Ms Clara SIKORSKY , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Lab 4	Ms Lucine BOURQUE , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Lab 5	Ms Manon ELIAYAN , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Lab 6	Ms Chiara ADDEO , Project Manager Assistant, ALDA Mr Rachad YOUNES , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Lab 7	Ms Céline RYELANDT , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Lab 8	Mr Jean BALME , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Lab 9	Mr Fedoua BOUDERDABEN , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Lab 10	Ms Louise RABAULT , Master's student in international relations, Sciences PO, Strasbourg
Gender Rapporteur	Ms Sachar RE'EM , Researcher, teacher, and consultant
General Rapporteurs	Ms Sarah DIEDRO JORDAO , Communications Strategist Mr Timothy KARR , Senior Director of Strategy and Communications, Free Press

Artists' List

Monday , 8 November 2021

Musical Interlude > Anaïs Yvoz (singer) and Mathilde Armengaud (harpist)

The mezzo-soprano **Anaïs Yvoz** studied musicology at the Pierre Mendès France University in Grenoble, then specialised in Opera Singing at the Haute Ecole de Musique in Lausanne, she then joined the Opéra Studio of the Opéra National du Rhin in Strasbourg in 2017. Noted by critics for her unique timbre and acting talents, she has performed the roles of Barbarina and Zerlina in Mozart's opera, Pèrizade in Offenbach's opera, Chava in the musical comedy "Un Violon sur le Toit", and Zweite Blumenmädchen in Wagner's opera.

In the summer of 2021, she made her debut in Germany as Tisbé in Rossini's "Cinderella" at the Opera Classica Europa festival. In September 2021, she performed the role of Antiope in Maria Antonia de Walpurgis' opera "Talestri, Queen of the Amazons" with the Arcal Lyrique in Paris.

Anaïs has won several international competitions: she won the melody award at the Concours Vienne en Voix, and a second prize at the Concours Bellan in Paris. Her upcoming engagements include a revival of "Talestri" with the Arcal Lyrique and the creation of the role of the Second Woman in Thierry Pécou's opera "Until the Lions", at the Opéra National du Rhin.

Mathilde Armengaud is a young soloist harpist, who performed under the direction of renowned conductors such as Christophe Talmont, Antoine Marguier or Marko Letonja.

She began her musical studies at the Conservatoire de Lyon with Christophe Truant and continued them at the Conservatoire de Dijon with Virginie Tarrête. At the same time, she obtained a degree in Biology of organisms at the University of Burgundy in 2012. Since 2013, she has followed the teaching of Pierre-Michel Vigneau at the Conservatoire de Strasbourg until she obtained her Diploma of Musical Studies, and then joined a Licence-DNSPM-DE course at the Académie Supérieure de Musique de Strasbourg-HEAR. She also studied in contemporary music at the Académie Linea and with Frédérique Cambreling.

In addition to her concert activity, Mathilde teaches in music schools and takes part in musical workshops.

10.30 – 10.40

Inauguration Cartooning for Peace

18.30 – 19.00

Tuesday, 9 November 2021

Workshop Cartooning for Peace

09.00 – 11.00

The Amicale of the Council of Europe Choir > Lobby of the Committee of Ministers

The Amicale of Council of Europe Choir has existed, in various formations, for more than 40 years now. The choir members come from most of the Council of Europe Member States and not only (some of them are from Syria, China, Mexico, etc.), that is why the choir's repertoire includes songs in various languages.

13.45 – 14.00

The Choir participates in the Council of Europe ceremonies upon the request of various departments, often upon one of the choir members' initiative, and gives charity concerts outside the Council of Europe. The choir is a symbol of the cultural diversity inside the Council of Europe.

Wednesday, 10 November 2021

Closing Session and ceremony for the Democracy Innovation Award >
The Democracy Innovation Award presented by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to the most popular initiative of the World Forum for Democracy is an original work of the artist Ilana Isehayek.

12.00 – 13.00

Ilana Isehayek began her career as an artist in Canada before settling in France twenty years ago. Her origins and journey appear in her constant attention to the questions of roots, travel and cultures of origin and adoption. One of her main concerns is to create a link between the past and the present, history and experience, defining the role of public in the work, the appearance or the physical approach of the place. In paintings, sculptures or installations, she develops a very personal language.

From 13.00

Closing Performance by Dubioza Kolektiv > This band has become the biggest band in the Balkans, since its beginnings in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2003). Besides the Balkan region, they played sold out shows in USA, Canada and all across Europe: London, Amsterdam, Berlin, Dublin, Budapest, Oslo, Prague, Vienna, Madrid, etc. Dubioza Kolektiv also performed at major European festivals, such as Glastonbury, Roskilde, Lollapalooza, Boomtown Fair and so many more. They set the attendance record at Exit Festival's Fusion Stage and played in front of half a million people at Pol'and Rock Festival, where they received the Złoty Bączek Award for the festival's best international performance in 2018. Their history has shown: these guys don't stop until they achieve their objectives. Dubioza Kolektiv take on traditional musical forms and enrich it with their unique perspective, which is delivered with a level of positivity that hits you like a blast of fresh air.