



ENVIRONMENTAL RULE OF LAW AND THE ROLE OF ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN DELIVERING ON SDGS 16 AND 13 | RFSD 2024

14 MARCH 2024 | 8:30 - 9:45 CET | ONLINE

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INVITATION

You are cordially invited to this **2024 Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE Region** side event 'Environmental Rule of Law and the Role of Access to Justice in Delivering on SDGs 16 and 13'.

The world is facing the triple existential threats of climate change, catastrophic loss of biodiversity, and pollution. This is compounded by structural injustices, inequalities and emerging human rights challenges. Efforts to attain SDGs, in particular Goals 13 and 16, and efforts to address environmental degradation can mutually reinforce and complement each other.

In the face of this challenge, environmental rule of law has never been more important or relevant. Environmental rule of law provides an essential toolbox of approaches for strengthening the implementation and enforcement of and compliance with environmental law. It empowers us to fortify the application, strengthen enforcement, and ensure better environmental actions for the planet for both present and future generations.

The event will address the key trends, gaps, and opportunities related to environmental rule of law, including those identified in the UNEP's second environmental rule of law report, **Environmental Rule of Law: Tracking Progress and Charting Future Directions**, and the work undertaken under auspices of the UNECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (**Aarhus Convention**) and UNDP on Environmental Justice.

The event will bring together environmental law experts and senior judiciary from the region to discuss access to justice as one of the cornerstones of environmental rule of law contributing to the region's efforts in achieving SDGs 13 and 16 through addressing environmental and climate change challenges, reducing inequality, building trust and strengthening accountability of institutions.

More information: tiny.cc/GEN14Mar24RFSD

REGISTRATION

The event will take place online. Participants can register via the **Webex** platform.

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SPEAKERS

By order of intervention.



Arnold KREILHUBER 

Director, Europe Office, UN Environment Programme



Soo-Young HWANG 

Legal Officer, UN Environment Programme



Luc LAVRYSSSEN   

President, Constitutional Court of Belgium; Chair, Aarhus Convention Task Force on Access to Justice & President, European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment



Christina VOIGT  

Chair, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law; Professor of Law, University of Oslo & Co-chair of the Paris Agreement's Compliance and Implementation Committee



Fatima MRDOVIC 

Judge of the Supreme Court of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina



Emma PAGLIARUSCO  

Advocacy and Policy Coordinator, Youth and Environment Europe and the European ECO Forum



Sean O'CONNELL 

Rule of Law, Security, and Human Rights Policy Specialist, UN Development Programme | Moderator

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