



EU FORUM OF JUDGES FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
UE FORUM DES JUGES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2021

SAVE THE DATE: EUFJE Annual Conference 17-18 September 2021



As Slovenia will preside the Council of the EU from July to December 2021, EUFJE will organize its 18th annual conference in Slovenia, Portoroz on 17 and 18 September 2021 with the support of the Judicial Training Centre of Slovenia and the European Commission.

The theme will be the **“Cooperation between national judges and the Court of Justice of the European Union in environmental matters”**, more specifically the way national judges implement the case law of the CJEU after it is rendered and what the end result is of the case “on the ground”.

As each year we organize a survey of our national judges on the topic. You can find the questionnaire we developed attached (in French and English). Thanks for sending your **responses to this questionnaire by 30 June 2021**.

Dr. Lorenzo Squintani from the European Law department of the University of Groningen will analyze the responses and work on a summary report that will be presented at the conference.

We will invite a CJEU judge to talk about preliminary rulings in environmental cases for the court's perspective. Judges from different Member States will speak at the conference about what was decided and what happened in practice in the cases in their country after the preliminary ruling of the CJEU.

The conference will take a hybrid form (physical and online). The subscription process will start end May 2021 – beginning of June 2021. More information such as the final program will be sent around that time.

4 Networks Day 21 May 2021

A banner for the '4 NETWORKS DAY' event. The top section is dark blue with the text '4 NETWORKS DAY' in large, white, bold letters. Below this, there are four logos: IMPEL, EnvCrimeNet, ENPE, and the EU Forum of Judges for the Environment. The main text 'Together in the fight against environmental crime' is in large, white, bold letters. Below this, the date, time, and location are listed. At the bottom, there are logos for Life+, SATEC, and the European Commission's Zero Pollution campaign.

4 NETWORKS DAY

IMPEL EnvCrimeNet ENPE EU FORUM OF JUDGES FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
UE FORUM DES JUGES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT

Together in the fight against environmental crime

Date: 21 May 2021
Time: 09:00 - 12:30 | 13:30 - 16:15 CET
Location: online, hosted by LIFE+ SATEC

Life+ SATEC ZERO POLLUTION #EUGreenWeek for healthier people and planet European Commission

After two successful joint conferences IMPEL, EUFJE, ENPE and EnviCrimeNet are organizing a 4 Networks Day on 21 May 2021 as a virtual event to bring together specialists involved in fighting environmental crime.

The overall **aim** is to improve enforcement of environmental law and to join forces by bringing regulators, inspectors, police officers, prosecutors and judges together. This event will run instead of the planned “live” conference, which has been postponed to May 2022 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The [4 Networks Day](#) will concentrate on two key topics: the **revision of the Directive 2008/99/EC on environmental crime** and the next **EU multi-annual Policy Cycle to tackle Organized and Serious International Crime (2022-2025)**.

In the afternoon 5 parallel workshops will be held, focusing on:

- BIOVAL (developing a tool for the evaluation of damage to species in court)
- Shipment of Waste Enforcement Actions (SWEAP) project
- Illegal plastic waste shipment

- Wildlife crime, including a recent case study
- F-gasses and biodiesel fraud

The registration process has been closed on 10 May 2021, but the joint statements of the networks on the above mentioned key topics will be sent to you for comments after the event.

The 4 Networks Day is a Green Week Partner Event. The key messages of the 4 Networks will be presented at the 6th meeting of the Environmental Compliance Forum (online) on 2 June 2021.

Project BIOVAL: update

BIOVAL is a joint project of EUFJE, IMPEL, ENPE and KU Leuven. It aims at creating a non-binding, practical instrument to value ecological damages in court.

The major advantages of using such a valuation instrument in administrative, civil or criminal procedures would be the greater legal certainty and the shorter case duration. It may also lead to more equal treatment of similar cases assessed in different contexts (different regions, different courts, different procedures...). Initially, the scope of the BIOVAL project will be limited to the valuation of wild fauna / vertebrates.

EUFJE, ENPE, KULEuven and IMPEL have launched a tender for a scientific mini-study to develop a first proposal of a method or criteria to calculate damage to ecosystems and protected species to use during prosecution and court proceedings. The study is expected to start in May-June 2021.

The study report will serve as a start note for a series of webinars / workshops we intend to organize in autumn 2021 for in dept discussions aiming at biologists, ecologists, economists, lawyers.

The project team is also exploring possible synergies with similar LIFE projects, such as LIFE SWiPE (Successful Wildlife Crime Prosecution in Europe), LIFE Nature Guardians and LIFE EUROKITE.

BIOVAL will be presented during the Next Joint Meeting of the Bern Convention's SFPs on Illegal Killing, Trapping and Trade in Wild Birds (IKB) and the UNEP/CMS MIKT Task Force in Spring 2021.

Pathway to the 2022 Declaration: A blog by Jurists for Diplomates



300 days from now, governments from around the world will adopt a **high-level political declaration on the environment**. This 2022 Declaration needs to be as ambitious as possible to achieve what is needed to save our environment.

This is why NGOs, experts, and citizens from all walks of life are teaming up to launch the Pathway to the 2022 Declaration platform: a blog by jurists, for diplomats.

The blog's posts will pave the way for the most ambitious declaration possible. Our writers, chosen among the world's most eminent legal and policy experts, will enlighten diplomats with fresh ideas. It is our belief that by bringing together expertise and ambition, we can rise to the challenge of 2022.

To receive the weekly insights, visit <https://www.pathway2022declaration.org/> and subscribe to the newsletter. You can also find information on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

Together with IUCN WCEL, UN Environment, and many other organisations, EUFJE is a partner to the Pathway to the 2022 Declaration.

EVIDENCE FOR ENVIRONMENT - EFE

International Seminar 2

EIO and TEC: Cooperation in protected species trafficking cases

15-18th June 2021 - Online (Webinar)

In the framework of the EU funded project “**Evidence for Environment**” / “**Preuves pour l’environnement**”, the French Ecole Nationale de la Magistrature (ENM) and the Belgian judicial training institute (IGO/IFJ), together with other partners, organize a webinar focusing on practical cases of international cooperation in protected species trafficking from 15 to 18 June 2021.

Please find the program here ([English](#) - [French](#)).

The deadline for subscriptions is 17 May 2021. Please contact umit.oral@igo-ifj.be or valerie.culioli@justice.fr to subscribe.

EJTN specialised exchanges 2022: call for hosting offers - deadline: 30 June 2021

EUFJE members in Greece and Italy have offered specialized exchanges in environmental law in 2021.

Once again we received a request from our partners at EJTN for assistance in identifying **potential hosting organisations, including courts/tutors in the area of environmental law** in the framework of the EJTN specialised exchanges, to be implemented in **2022**.

The request and explanatory documents are attached in both French and English. Please consider whether your organisation might be able to participate in this valuable scheme to host a delegate who will gain experience of environmental law and in particular enforcement and prosecution in another jurisdiction.

Instructions for responding directly to EJTN are included in the attachments but do let the secretariat know if you are able to offer a place for 2022.

If you would like to participate in any of the above mentioned projects or in case of questions, please contact the secretariat: farah.bouquelle@eufje.org



EU Forum of Judges for the Environment

Koningsplein 7
1000 Brussels
Belgium

Phone: +32 (0) 472 936605
Email: farah.bouquelle@eufje.org
Skype: eufjesecretariat

www.eufje.org