



Group of the Progressive Alliance of
Socialists & Democrats
in the European Parliament



Nature's Rights: The Missing Piece of the Puzzle European Parliament 29th March

Dear Madam/Sir,

You are cordially invited to attend our conference "Nature's Rights: The Missing Piece of the Puzzle" at the **European Parliament** on **Wednesday 29 March 2017** at **13.00-15.00** in Conference Room JAN 4Q2.

Join our key-note speakers and representatives from leading environmental institutions to discuss the importance and benefits of nature's rights. Register today to secure your place:
<https://naturesrightsbrussels.eventbrite.co.uk>.

Ecosystems and species are alive. Yet current law treats them as objects, property and resources. This has wide-reaching consequences that are driving the ongoing destruction of the biosphere. Nature's rights are a game-changing solution, bringing fundamental and systemic transformation to our legal and economic systems by re-characterising nature - ecosystems and species - as a subject of the law with legal personality and tangible rights that can be defended in court. Enshrined in constitutional, national and local laws around the world and actively promoted by the UN Harmony with Nature Initiative, nature's rights are the missing piece of the puzzle.

Come and explore:

- What are nature's rights and why is it essential to take a rights-based approach now?
- Why is environmental law failing and how can it evolve to meet the challenges of our time?
- How are nature's rights different from other environmental regulations or reform proposals (e.g. law of ecocide)?
- What does the European Citizens Initiative on the Rights of Nature propose?
- How does nature's rights impact society and how can it solve the multiple crises we are facing?
- How can we transition our legal & economic systems so that they enhance rather than undermine the resilience of nature?

Please see the Conference Agenda & Conference Summary for more information.

MEP Co-Hosts:

Pavel Poc (S&D – Vice-Chair of the European Parliament's Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety)

Benedek Jávor (Greens/EFA – Vice-Chair of the European Parliament's Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety)

Marco Affronte (Greens/EFA – Member of the European Parliament's Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety)

Organising NGO:

Nature's Rights

Speakers:

Keynote on the *Need for a Systemic Solution for Climate Change and Nature Protection* by **Hans Bruyninckx** (Executive Director, European Environment Agency)

Luc Bas (European Regional Director, International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN))

PANEL

Prof. Massimiliano Montini (Sienna University & Cambridge University C-EENRG Fellow - EU law)

MEP Sirpa Pietikäinen (MEP – EPP – circular economy)

Mumta Ito (Lawyer and Founder of Nature's Rights - introducing Draft EU Directive on Nature's rights)

Jen Morgan (Systems Change Consultant)

VIDEO

Statements from UN and other key supporters from around the world

Lunch provided - vegetarian, organic

We look forward to seeing you on the 29th March.

With kind regards,

Nature's Rights



www.natures-rights.org

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC045540