

Combatting Environmental Crime

Priorities and Opportunities for further EU Action

Brussels, 17-18 February 2016

Conference Programme

Day One: Research Oriented Discussions

Wednesday, 17 February 2016

Venue: [Thon Hotel EU](#), Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 75, B-1040 Brussels

- 10:30-11:00 **Arrival of Participants / Registration / Welcome Coffee**
- 11:00-12:30 **Session 1: Welcome and Introduction**
- Moderator: **Wouter Veening**, Chairman / President, Institute for Environmental Security (IES)
- Opening Remarks**
Pablo Ballesteros-Pelaez, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission
- Overview of the EFFACE Project**
Christiane Gerstetter, Senior Fellow, Ecologic Institute / EFFACE Coordinator
- Keynote Speech**
Rob White, Professor of Criminology, School of Sociology and Social Work, University of Tasmania / Member, EFFACE Advisory Board
- 12:30-14:00 **Buffet Lunch**
- 14:00-16:00 **Session 2: Parallel Working Groups** - Introduced by short presentations of EFFACE case studies
- Group A: Wildlife-related Crime**
- Moderator: **Rob White**, Professor of Criminology, School of Sociology and Social Work, University of Tasmania / Member, EFFACE Advisory Board
- Wildlife crime: Ragnhild Sollund**, Professor, Dept. of Criminology and Sociology of Law, University of Oslo
- Illegal logging: Alison Hoare**, Senior Research Fellow, Energy, Environment and Resources, Chatham House
- Illegal fishing: Andrew Farmer**, Director of Research and Head of Industry, Waste and Water Programme, Institute for European Environmental Policy

Group B: Mining and other Corporate Pollution Crimes

Moderator: **Christiane Gerstetter**, Senior Fellow, Ecologic Institute / EFFACE Coordinator

The ILVA steel plant: **Grazia Maria Vagliasindi**, Senior Research Fellow in Criminal Law, University of Catania

Environmental crime in Armenia: **Christoph Stefes**, Senior Fellow, Ecologic Institute / EFFACE Scientific Coordinator

Mining accidents: **Teresa Fajardo de Castillo**, Tenured Lecturer in International Law, University of Granada

Group C: Waste

Moderator: **Niels Philipsen**, Associate Professor in Law and Economics, Maastricht University / Vice-Director of Research, Maastricht European Institute for Transnational Legal Research (METRO)

Waste-related crimes in Italy: **Anna Rita Germani**, Assistant Professor in Economics, Department of Law, Philosophy and Economic Studies, University of Rome "La Sapienza"

Illegal waste exports: **Andrea Illes**, Policy Analyst, Institute for European Environmental Policy

16:00-16:30

Coffee Break

16:30-17:30

Session 3: Insights from Research for further EU Action

Moderator: **R. Andreas Kraemer**, Founder & Director Emeritus, Ecologic Institute / Senior Fellow, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS), Potsdam

Working Group Reports

Plenary discussion on insights from the first conference day

17:30- 19:00

Free Time

17:45-18:45 - Optional Programme Activity

Showing of the Dutch KRO/NCRV TV Network **Documentary Film: Circle of Poison**
This 60 minute documentary shows how organised crime is illegally dumping hazardous toxic waste in the region of Naples, how local governance is infiltrated, how investigative journalists are harassed, how toxic materials in the soils reach the vegetables, plants and fruits grown in the region which then are being relabelled as coming from a "clean" region in Italy and are then exported back to the Netherlands where the port of Rotterdam plays a major role in the export of toxic waste: the circle of poison."

19:00 -

Conference Dinner

Thon Hotel EU, Rue de la Loi 75 Wetstraat, B-1040 Brussels

Hosted by Flemish High Enforcement Council for the Environment (Vlaamse Hoge Handhavingsraad voor Ruimte en Milieu)

Welcome by **Michael Faure**, Chair, VHRM

Guest Speaker: **Marcus A. Asner**, Partner, Arnold & Porter LLP, New York / Member, President's Advisory Council on Wildlife Trafficking / Member, Advisory Board, Wildlife Justice Commission, The Hague

Day Two: Policy Oriented Discussions
Thursday, 18 February 2016
Venue: European Economic and Social Committee
[Room JDE51 / Fifth Floor / Jacques Delors Building](#)
Rue Belliard 99-101 Belliardstraat, B-1040 Brussels

- 08:45-09:15 **Arrival of Participants / Security Clearance / Welcome Coffee**
- 09:15-11:00 **Session 4: Moving forward on Environmental Crime – Perspectives and Recommendations**
- Moderator: **Rob de Rijck**, *National Coordinating Prosecutor for Environmental Criminal Law, Dutch Public Prosecution Service / Member, EFFACE Advisory Board*
- Words of Welcome**
- Brendan Burns**, *Section President, Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment (NAT), European Economic and Social Committee*
- Heiko Wagner**, *Policy Officer, Unit B.2 Criminal law, DG Justice, European Commission*
- Core Conclusions and Recommendations of EFFACE**
- Michael Faure**, *Chair, Flemish High Enforcement Council for the Environment (Vlaamse Hoge Handhavingsraad voor Ruimte en Milieu) / Academic Director, Maastricht European Institute for Transnational Legal Research (METRO)*
- EFFACE Recommendations for Improving Data Gathering and Communication to Decision-makers**
- Andrew Farmer**, *Director of Research and Head of Industry, Waste and Water Programme, Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP)*
- Comments on the EFFACE Conclusions and Recommendations**
- Helmut Scholz**, *Member of the European Parliament / Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left / Member, Committee on International Trade*
- Discussion**
- 11:00-11:30 **Coffee Break**
- 11:30-13:00 **Session 5: How can the role of NGOs and civil society in combatting environmental crime best be facilitated?**
- Moderator: **Christoph Stefes**, *Senior Fellow, Ecologic Institute / EFFACE Scientific Coordinator*
- Panellists:
- Armine Ishkanian**, *Programme Director of the MSc in Social Policy and Development, Department of Social Policy, London School of Economics and Political Science*
- Elena Fasoli**, *Research Fellow, Queen Mary University of London, School of Law*
- Wouter Langhout**, *EU Nature Policy Officer, Birdlife Europe / Birdlife International*
- MC Mehta**, *Supreme Court Lawyer / MC Mehta Environmental Foundation, India*

- 13:00-14:15 **Buffet Lunch**
- 14:15-15:45 **Session 6: What are the political opportunities and challenges for the EU to take further action to combat environmental crime?**
- Moderator: **Grazia Maria Vagliasindi**, Senior Research Fellow in Criminal Law, University of Catania
- Panellists:
- R.M. (Roel) Willekens**, Chief Superintendent, Environmental Crime, Netherlands National Police / Chair, EnviCrimeNet
- Anne Brosnan**, Chief Prosecutor, Environmental Agency / Presidency, European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment (ENPE)
- Luc Lavrysen**, Justice, Belgian Constitutional Court / President, EU Forum of Judges for the Environment (EUFJE)
- Pascal Leroy**, Secretary General, European Association of Electrical and Electronic Waste Take Back Systems (WEEE Forum)
- 15.45 – 16.15 **Coffee break**
16. 15 – 17.00 **Session 7: What is the way forward?**
- Moderator: **Christiane Gerstetter**, Senior Fellow, Ecologic Institute / EFFACE Coordinator
- Monica Frassoni**, Co-Chair, European Green Party
- General discussion reflecting on results of the day, with a focus on policy recommendations**
- 17.00 – 17.15 **Closing Remarks**
- Christiane Gerstetter**, Senior Fellow, Ecologic Institute / EFFACE Coordinator
- 17:15-18:00 **Farewell Drink**



The conference is part of the research project “EU Action to Fight Environmental Crime” (EFFACE, www.efface.eu). EFFACE is funded under the 7th Research Framework Programme of the European Union (FP7).