









Combatting Environmental Crime

Priorities and Opportunities for further EU Action

Brussels, 17-18 February 2016

Moderators & Speakers



Marcus Asner

Marcus is a partner at Arnold & Porter LLP in New York. Marcus served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in New York from 2000 to 2009, where he was Chief of the Major Crimes unit for two years. As a prosecutor, Marcus led the U.S. prosecution of United States v. Bengis, one of the largest poaching cases in history, which involved a massive scheme to import into the U.S. illegally harvested lobster from South Africa. At Arnold & Porter, Marcus routinely counsels clients on a wide variety of environmental and wildlife trafficking issues, and writes and speaks frequently on international wildlife trafficking and corruption. He has given training to INTERPOL and other law enforcement entities on wildlife trafficking, has testified on trafficking issues before the U.S. House of Representatives, and has conducted briefings for the U.S. Congress on wildlife trafficking and related issues. Marcus currently serves on President Obama's Advisory Council on Wildlife Trafficking, where he co-chairs the Subcommittee on Law Reform.



Pablo Ballesteros-Palaez

Pablo is currently with DG Research and Innovation. He was formerly with DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. He also has experience with Transparency International EU where he dealt with EU anti-corruption legislation and EU money laundering, and conducted research on EU Institutions transparency, accountability, independence and integrity.



Anne Brosnan

Anne is a member of the Presidency of the ENPE and Chief Prosecutor at the UK Environment Agency. She has been a qualified solicitor for twenty-five years. She previously headed the Agency's Serious Casework Group. In 2005, she spent a year in Sydney, Australia, on a working exchange to the then Department of Environment and Conservation of New South Wales.



Brendan Burns

Brendan has represented SMEs on a variety of UK Government and EU committees. In 2006, he was appointed by the UK Government to the EESC. In 2013 he was elected as the Vice President of the employers group and in 2015 he was elected as President of the NAT Section (Rural affairs, environment and agriculture).



Rob de Rijck

Rob is a public prosecutor working with the "Functioneel Parket" in the Netherlands. This branch of the National Prosecution Service is responsible for investigation and prosecution in the areas of environmental criminality and serious fraud. He is currently the national coordinating prosecutor in environmental criminal law. He is also involved in the development of a European network of prosecutors who deal with cases of transfrontier waste shipments. Rob works from Rotterdam, Europe's largest seaport.



Teresa Fajardo de Castillo

Teresa is a senior tenured lecturer in the Department of Public International Law and International Relations in Granada University's Law School. She has worked with the Legal Service of the European Commission and has been visiting researcher at the universities of Florence, Brussels, Geneva and London. She is engaged in several inter-university projects in Europe and the United States relating to International and European environmental law.



Andrew Farmer

Andrew (PhD) is a biologist by training and specialises in EU legislation in relation to pollution control, including on the nature of the enforcement of those policies, including the operation of inspectorates. Andrew also has interest in strategic policy issues. These include issues such as smart regulation and the nature of EU environmental governance. A particular emphasis of his work has focused on improving the governance of Member States institutions to deliver EU environmental outcomes, including planning, enforcement and information.



Elena Fasoli

Elena (LLM, PhD) is research fellow at Queen Mary University of London where she also teaches European Environmental Law and Climate Change Law and Policy. She is a member of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee. Elena has been external consultant to the Ministry of the Environment of Italy on EU law and international law issues from 2009 to 2013 and has on several occasions been a member of the Italian delegation to intergovernmental and expert meetings under the Aarhus Convention and the UNECE Water Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes.



Michael Faure

Michael was first a lecturer and then a senior lecturer at the department of criminal law of the law faculty of Leiden University and became academic director of the Maastricht European institute for transnational legal research (METRO) and professor of Comparative and International Environmental Law at the law faculty of Maastricht University in September 1991. He still holds both positions today.



Monica Frassoni

Monica is an Italian politician and was a Member of the European Parliament for the North West of Italy until 2009. She is a member of Green Italy since 2009, part of the European Greens. Monica was cochair, together with Daniel Cohn-Bendit, of the European Greens—European Free Alliance group in the European Parliament until 2009. Before first being elected as an MEP of the Francophone Green party Ecolo from Belgium in 1999, she served for 10 years as an officer of the Greens group in the European Parliament. She was previously Secretary General of the Young European Federalists.



Anna Rita Germani

Anna Rita (PhD, MSc) is Assistant Professor in Economics in the Department of Law, Philosophy and Economic Studies (Faculty of Law) at the University "La Sapienza" of Rome. She teaches various economics disciplines, among which International Economics and Economics of Public Procurement. Her research interests focus mainly on environmental justice and environmental law and economics issues, such as public enforcement of environmental laws and judicial and prosecutorial discretion in prosecuting environmental crimes. She is currently doing research on the eco-mafia crimes in Italy and on the illegal trafficking of waste.



Christiane Gerstetter

Christiane is a lawyer and works as a Senior Fellow in the Ecologic Institute's legal team. Her main research interests are development, climate change, and international trade policy, as well as the linkages between these areas. Christiane is the coordinator of the EFFACE project.



Alison Hoare

Alison is a Senior Research Fellow of Chatham House, with expertise in forest governance and natural resource use. She leads Chatham House's programme of work on illegal logging and has also been engaged in research on community forestry and climate change.



Andrea Illes

Andrea is a Policy Analyst in IEEP's Environment and Climate Governance Programme, with a degree in environmental policy. She works on a range of pan-European research projects for EU institutions, Member State governments and other clients and her research primarily focuses on horizontal environmental governance issues, climate and energy policy and the EU budget.



Armine Ishkanian

Armine is an assistant professor in social policy and the programme director of the MSc in Social Policy & Development in the Department of Social Policy, London School of Economics. Her research examines the relationship between civil society and social transformation as well as how civil society organisations and social movements engage in policy processes.



R. Andreas Kraemer

Andreas is Founder & Director Emeritus of Ecologic Institute in Berlin, Germany and Founding Chairman (pro bono) of Ecologic Institute US in Washington DC. He is currently Senior Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) in Potsdam, Germany, Visiting Scholar (2015) at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research (CEEPR), and Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science and Adjunct Professor of German Studies at Duke University.



Wouter Langhout

Wouter is EU Nature Policy Officer at BirdLife Europe and Central Asia. His main topics of work are implementation of the EU Birds and Habitats Directive, including casework on species protection and combatting bird crime. He has been involved in the European Network against Environmental Crime led by SEO/BirdLife Spain.



Luc Lavrysen

Luc is currently a Judge at the Constitutional Court of Belgium. He has been a senior lecturer at the Centre of Environmental and Energy law since January 2000. He is also a visiting professor at the University of Antwerp, a member of the International Environmental Law Network, the President of the European Forum of Judges for the Environment (EUFJE) and collaborates with UNEP.



Pascal Leroy

Pascal became Secretary General of the WEEE Forum in 2007. He was also the Project Manager of 'WEEELABEX', a four-year project, cofinanced by the European Community, that has laid down a harmonised set of standards on collection, logistics and treatment of WEEE, and a set of conformity verification rules. The project came to an end on 31 December 2012.



MC (Mahesh Chandra) Mehta

A lawyer by profession and a committed environmentalist by choice, MC has made the fight to protect India's environment his unending mission. He has pioneered legal activism for environmental protection and is proof that one man can make a difference. He has also conducted green marches involving lawyers, students, and professionals along with the ordinary people for spreading environmental awareness and to encourage positive action from the grassroots level to the top of government hierarchy.



Niels Philipsen

Niels is Associate Professor in Law and Economics and Vice-Director of research institute METRO, located at the Faculty of Law of Maastricht University. He has acted as project manager and researcher in many research projects conducted by METRO for, inter alia, various ministries, European Commission, OECD, insurers, and professional organizations. He publishes and teaches on Law and Economics, competition policy, environmental law, law enforcement and European integration.



Helmut Scholz

Helmut is an MEP who is attached to the Confederal Group of the European United Left – Nordic Green Left. Besides being a member of the Committee on International Trade, he is also a substitute member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Constitutional Affairs. Helmut is a member of the delegation for relations with the United States and substitute member of the delegation for relations with the People's Republic of China.



Ragnhild Sollund

Ragnhild (PhD) is a professor at the University of Oslo, Dept. of Criminology and Sociology of Law. She has published widely within migration and police research. For the last few years she has mainly concentrated her research interests in green criminology. She is currently doing research on the illegal trade in endangered species and has published several contributions in this field. Some of her other publications include Global Harms, Ecological Crime and Speciesism (Nova science publishers, 2008) and Green Harms and Crimes Critical Criminology in a Changing World (Palgrave, 2015).



Christoph Stefes

Christoph (PhD) is a Senior Fellow at Ecologic Institute. His areas of expertise include the politics of renewable energy development in the United States and Germany as well as transatlantic relations concerning climate and environmental politics. Furthermore, he specialises in political and economic developments in the former Soviet Union, the European Neighbourhood Policy, energy and environmental politics in the Caspian region and the connection between climate change and international security.



Grazia Maria Vagliasindi

Grazia Maria is a tenured senior research fellow in Criminal Law at University of Catania, Italy, Department of Law. She holds a Master in EU and National Environmental Law and a PhD in Italian and Comparative Criminal Law. Her teaching experience encompasses Criminal Law and Environmental Law. She was visiting scholar at University of Toronto, Instituto Universitario de Investigación Ortega y Gasset of Madrid, Université de Sousse. Grazia Maria is author of several publications on environmental crime.



Wouter Veening

Wouter is co-founder and Chairman / President of the Institute for Environmental. His work focuses on the policy and legal responses to security risks emanating from environmental degradation in key regions of the world, amongst them preventing and/or halting deforestation in Amazonia and South-East Asia.



Heiko Wagner

Heiko is a German judge and has been seconded to the European Commission since summer 2012. Currently, he is working at the unit B.2 "European Public Prosecutor's Office and Criminal Law" in the Directorate-General Justice and Consumers. He is in charge of environmental criminal law and judicial training in general.



Rob White

Rob is Professor of Criminology in the School of Social Sciences at the University of Tasmania, Australia. Among his recent books are Environmental Harm: An Eco-Justice Perspective (Policy Press), Innovative Justice (with Hannah Graham, Routledge), and Environmental Crime and Collaborative State Intervention (with Grant Pink, eds., Palgrave Macmillan). He has special interest in environment courts, environmental law enforcement, and climate change and ecocide.



R.M. Roel Willekens

Roel is the Chief Superintendent of Police in the Netherlands. He works for the National Police as Programme Manager Environmental Crime and in his work, he develops and implements the plans for the police's environmental criminal enforcement. He leads the National Environmental Expertise Centre Environmental Crime of the police. Roel is also a member of the INTERPOL Advisory Board of the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Committee (ECEC), which advises the Environmental security Sub-Directorate (ENS). He is the Chair of EnviCrimeNet.