

Co-organizers:



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# Defending the Defenders: Protecting environmental activists from persecution

**Including: Developments in the work of the Compliance Committee**

Side event of non-governmental organizations at  
**MOP6 of the Aarhus Convention – Budva**

**Monday 11 September / 18:15 – 21:00**

Hotel Montenegro (Bojana or Zeta meeting room)

**Free coffee, tea and snacks will be served for the participants.**

## Agenda:

### **Panel 1: General issues: A rising trend threatening people defending the environment (18:15–18:45)**

- The UN Rapporteur on human rights defenders
- Persecution in non-party states: USA (Oil & gas extraction and transport & coal mining) and Russian Federation
- The LAC process: How it proposes to handle the protection of activists

- *Yves Lador, EarthJustice + David Banisar, Article 19*
- *Kate Watters, Crude Accountability (USA) + Andrei Ozharovskiy, (RUS)*
- *Magdi Toth Nagy, GUTA*

### **Panel 2: The need for protection in the Aarhus Convention countries (18:45–19:30)**

- Cases about harassment of environmental defenders in Ukraine
- Defending the defenders in an illiberal democracy inside the EU: The situation in Hungary
- Presentation of the report on harassment of environmental defenders (including in the former Soviet Union and the USA),
- Stop persecution: New information website

- *Olena Kravchenko, Environment People Law (UA) & GUTA*
- *Csaba Kiss, Justice & Environment, EMLA (HU)*
- *Vadim Ni, EcoForum of NGOs of Kazakhstan + Sergey Solyanik, Crude Accountability (KZ)*
- *Martin Skalsky, Arnika (CZ)*

### **Panel 3: The Compliance Committee and environmental defenders: Belarusian case (19:30–20:00)**

- Persecution case C/102 (Belarus): Decision of the ACCC and what it means?
- The Belarusian case: Dealing with anonymous communication and formulating recommendations
- Persecution of the antinuclear activists in Belarus: Facts, interpretations and consequences. How ACCC case could affect further state policy on persecution.

- *Andriy Andrusevych, Society & Environment (UA) / ECO Forum*
- *Pavel Cerny, AC Compliance Committee*
- *Tatyana Novikova, coordinator of Anti-nuclear campaign (BY) + Sergei Magonov, Ecohome (BY) & GUTA*

### **Final Panel: The Compliance Committee: review of progress during the last cycle (20:00–21:00)**

(Organised by Earthjustice and the ECO Forum Legal Focal Points)

**Please, join us to share your experience and discuss current issues of today!**

**Questions/comments:** Judita Cisarova (+420.724.312.402, [judita.cisarova@arnika.org](mailto:judita.cisarova@arnika.org))

**More information:** <http://english.arnika.org/aarhus-6-mop-budva-2017>



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