

The Aarhus Convention on the ground: implementation and adaptation of the principles of environmental democracy

Side event of non-governmental organizations at the margins at
**the 8 Meeting of the Parties
to the Aarhus Convention in Geneva**

18 November 2025, Tuesday / 8:30-9:45

The Palace of Nations, building H, room H.207-209

**Online participation
possible through MS
Teams platform.**

Agenda

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

Panel 1: Challenges and obstacles in making environmental democracy alive

- Introduction: **What the national implementation reports don't say**
- Keynote address: Jerzy Jendroska, vice-chair of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee
- **BELARUS:** Three years after exiting the Aarhus Convention / Ecohome
- **BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA:** Public interest in the service of not providing information / Ratko Pilipović, Aarhus Centres BiH
- **GERMANY:** Comment on the National Implementation Report / Luisa Schneider, IfU – Independent Institute for Environmental Issues
- **GEORGIA:** Access restricted / Salome Shubladze, Social Justice Centre
- **KAZAKHSTAN:** Comments to the National Implementation Report / Green Salvation
- **MOLDOVA:** An instrument of environmental democracy? / Ilya Trombitsky, Eco-Tiras
- **UKRAINE:** Upholding the Aarhus principles in times of war / Olha Melen-Zabramna, Environment People Law

DISCUSSION:

- *How to make the reporting mechanism more effective? How to contribute to ensuring that implementation reports reflect the full reality?*

Panel 2: The triple crisis of the Caspian Sea

- **The Caspian:** Bringing a triple planetary crisis to light / Dina Ni, Save the Caspian Sea movement
- **Holding Power to Account: The Government and Oil Corporations.** Submission to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee and UNHRC Special Procedures on access to information and justice in relation to production sharing agreements / Vadim Ni, Socio-Ecological Fund

DISCUSSION:

- *How can the public be guaranteed access to the agreements that have a major impact on the environment? Why is transparency regarding production-sharing agreements essential?*

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

Questions/comments: Sasa Zurkova, tel. +420 737 917 690, e-mail: sasa.zurkova@arnika.org

More information: <https://arnika.org/en/our-topics/public-participation/aarhus-convention/aarhus-8-mop-geneva>