



EU LEGISLATION ON WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING, DEFORESTATION AND ILLEGAL LOGGING, AND COMBATting ASSOCIATED CRIME

Webinar for judges, court staff, and prosecutors

Online, 29-30 October, 5-6 November

29 October, 9h-13h15; 30 October, 9h-12h15

5 November, 9h-12h15; 6 November, 9h-12h30



EXCELLENCE IN
EUROPEAN LAW

Planned speakers & training managers

Anne Brosnan, Deputy Director (Chief Prosecutor), Legal and Audit Services, Environment Agency, Bristol

Anna Kanellopoulou, Course Director, European Public Law, ERA, Trier

Michael Faure, Professor of Comparative and International Environmental Law, Maastricht University

Ricarda von Meding, Legal and Policy Officer – International Forest Policy

Christina Olsen Lundh, Senior Judge, Head of Division, Associate Professor of Environmental Law, Vänersborg

Julia Rusch, International Relations Officer - International Wildlife Trade and Trafficking Focal Point for Whaling, EU Seals Regime and Humane Trapping, DG Environment, Brussels

Alberto Sartori, Representative of Italian Police Enforcement

Key topics

- Wildlife protection, trade and trafficking
- Forest protection and logging
- Environmental Crime Directive
- The role of European organisations/networks/associations
- Investigation of, prosecution of and adjudication on wildlife and forest-related crimes
- CJEU case law
- Preliminary reference procedure
- Various case studies

Language
English

Event number
426DV134

Organiser
ERA (Dr Luisa Cortat) on behalf of the European Commission

EU Legislation on Wildlife Trafficking, Deforestation and Illegal Logging, and Combatting Associated Crime

Thursday, 29 October 2026

08:45 Connecting to Zoom

09:00 **Welcome and introduction**

Luisa Cortat or Anna Kanellopoulou

SETTING THE SCENE

09:15 **Introduction to environmental, economic, social and criminal impacts of wildlife trafficking, deforestation and illegal logging**

- TRAFFIC's Reports
- CITES database
- Background to the financial flows associated with wildlife trafficking and illegal logging and trade of timber, and environmental crime
- Overview of the AML Regulation and Directive and its relevance for environmental offences
- Online platforms and environmental crimes

09:45 Discussion

Michael Faure

10:00 Break

10:15 **Main features in the international law framework**

- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- Convention on Biological Diversity Global Biodiversity Framework (post-2020 targets)
- The EU global role in combatting wildlife crime and deforestation (including cooperation with UNODC, INTERPOL, and CITES Secretariat)

10:45 Discussion

Julia Rusch

11:00 Break

EU LEGISLATION, POLICY AND CASE LAW

11:15 **Wildlife protection, trade and trafficking**

- Council Regulation (EC) no 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein, as amended
- EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking 2022–2027, current implementation and evaluation
- Commission Regulation (EC) no 865/2006 concerning the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) no 338/97
- Digital Services Act (Reg. (EU) 2022/2065), obligations of online platforms with regards to content and cooperation with authorities
- CJEU case law

11:45 Quiz and Discussion

Julia Rusch

13:15 End of day 1

Friday, 30 October 2026

08:45 Connecting to Zoom

09:00 **Case study on illegal wildlife trafficking: focus on online trafficking**

- Introduction to the case study
- Working groups
- Plenary discussion of the results

Anne Brosnan and Michael Faure

10:15 Break

10:30 **Addressing deforestation (and enhancing forest protection)**

- EU Deforestation Regulation (Reg. (EU) 2023/1115) key obligations and due-diligence requirements
- Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade Action Plan (FLEGT)
- CJEU case law

11:00 Discussion

Objective

The aim of this 4-day webinar is to provide participants with a comprehensive overview of the wildlife and forest-related crimes which have raised major concerns in recent years. Emphasis will be given to EU legislation and case law related to wildlife trade and trafficking, deforestation, and the illegal timber trade, the relationship between criminal and administrative law provisions for these crimes, as well as the main challenges for investigation, prosecution and adjudication in this field. This workshop will shed light on the protection of the environment through criminal law with special focus on wildlife and deforestation and the provisions under the new Environmental Crime Directive. By addressing these issues relevant for prosecutors as well as judges, it will facilitate the handling of future national court proceedings in this field.

Who should attend?

Judges, prosecutors, and court staff interested in environmental law.

Venue

Zoom online platform

Your contact persons



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Ricarda von Meding

11:15 Break

PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT THROUGH CRIMINAL LAW

11:30 **Environmental Crime Directive**

- Main provisions of the Directive
- Expanded list of environmental offences
- Corporate liability and sanctions
- Obligations for Member States by 2026
- Role of judicial cooperation and transnational enforcement

12:00 Discussion

Michael Faure

12:15 End of Day 2

Thursday, 5 November 2026

08:45 Connecting to Zoom

09:00 **EU actors and instruments for cooperation**

- The role of organisations/networks/associations such as EUROPOL, OLAF, Eurojust, CEPOL, ENPE, and EUFJE
- Practical examples of EU-wide cooperation and case handling

09:30 Discussion

Anne Brosnan

09:45 Break

10:00 **Investigation, prosecution and adjudication of wildlife and forest-related crimes and offences**

- Usual modus operandi
- Enforcement, sanctions, and ancillary orders in the prosecution of offences under the new ECD
- Digital tools supporting investigation and prosecution
- CJEU and national case law

10:30 Quiz and Discussion

Anne Brosnan

10:45 Break

11:00 **Case study on deforestation and illegal timber trade**

- Introduction to the case study
- Working groups
- Plenary discussion for a role-playing exercise

Police enforcement representative

12:15 End of day 3

Friday, 6 November 2026

08:45 Connecting to Zoom

09:00 **Combatting wildlife and forest-related crimes in practice**

- Operation Thunder and other examples
- Online emerging threats, corruption, and trade routes
- Judicial cooperation outcomes

09:30 Discussion

Police enforcement representative

09:45 Break

ENFORCEMENT AT NATIONAL LEVEL

10:00 **Case study on medicinal products from CITES-listed plants**

- Introduction to the case study

- Working groups
- Plenary discussion of the results

Christina Olsen Lundh

11:15 Break

11:30 **The role of national judges and prosecutors in enforcing EU legislation on wildlife trafficking, deforestation and illegal logging – focus on preliminary reference and the requirement for access to justice**

12:00 Discussion and exchange of experience

Christina Olsen Lundh

12:15 **Evaluation of the webinar**

Anna Kanellopoulou and Anne Brosnan

12:30 End of the webinar



Terms and conditions of participation

Selection

1. Participation is only open to judges, prosecutors, and court staff from all EU Member States.
2. The number of places available is limited. Participation will be subject to a selection procedure.
Selection will be dependent on:
 - i. the relevance of the seminars to the professional life of the applicant;
 - ii. geographical and linguistic balance among the participants will be sought;
3. Online applications can be made until **20 September 2026**.
4. A response will be given to every applicant of this workshop shortly after this deadline.

Registration Fee

5. There is no registration fee.

Participation

6. Participation to the whole workshop is required and your presence will be monitored.
7. A list of participants including each participant's address will be made available to all participants unless the ERA receives written objection from the participant no later than one week prior to the beginning of the event.
8. The participant's address and other relevant information will be stored in ERA's database in order to provide information about future ERA events, publications and/or other developments in the participant's area of interest unless the participant indicates that he or she does not wish ERA to do so.

A certificate of attendance will be issued electronically after the end of the workshop.

Apply online for

"Recent CJEU Case Law on Waste, Water, Air Quality, Industrial Emissions, and Chemicals"

www.era.int/en/event-number/426DV134

Language

English

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