



EU FORUM OF JUDGES FOR THE ENVIRONMENT  
UE FORUM DES Juges POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT

# 2026 EUFJE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

## THE APPLICATION OF EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW IN DOMESTIC COURTS

15<sup>TH</sup>-16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2026 — DUBLIN



Global Judicial Institute  
on the Environment  
Institut Judiciaire Mondial  
de l'Environnement  
Institut Justiça Mundial  
do Ambiente

ROYAL NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF  
CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT



## PROGRAMME



EU Forum of Judges for the Environment

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## Thursday 15 October 2026

12:00 *Light lunch*

### 13:00 **Welcome**

- Kari Kuusiniemi, President of EUFJE, President of the Supreme Administrative Court, Finland
- Richard Humphreys, Chairperson of the Organizing Committee, Judge at the High Court, Ireland
- Oonagh Buckley, Secretary-General of the Department of Climate, Irish government

### 13:30 **General report on questionnaires**

#### 1. *The Aarhus convention - challenges and pressures*

### 14:00 **European Commission on Aarhus Convention**

Felix Bloch, Head of Unit ENV.E4, Environmental rule of law and governance, DG Environment, European Commission

### 14:30 **The civil and criminal law response across Europe to civil disobedience**

Michel Forst, UN Special Rapporteur on Environmental Defenders

15:00 *Coffee break*

### 15:30 **The Aarhus Convention, access to justice and national judges**

Luc Lavrysen, President Emeritus of the Constitutional Court of Belgium, Professor Emeritus

### 16:00 **Aarhus cases in Ireland**

Richard Humphreys, Judge at the High Court, Ireland

### 16:30 **Discussion**

(17:00 EUFJE Board Meeting)

18:30 *cocktail and dinner*



**Friday 16 October 2026**

**2. Case law of the European Courts**

**9:00 Case law of the European Court of Human Rights**

Darian Pavli, Judge at the European Court of Human Rights

**9:30 CJEU Case Law**

Jan Passer, Judge at the Court of Justice of the European Union

**10:00 The application of European environmental law in Norwegian courts**

Thom Arne Hellerslia, Justice at the Supreme Court of Norway

*10:30 Coffee break*

**11:00 Large Predators' Cases at the European Court of Justice and Estonian Courts**

Pihel Sarv, Judge at the Administrative Court of Tallinn, Estonia

**11:30 A new horizon for environmental litigation following the Limia ruling in Spain**

José Antonio Parada Lopez, Judge at the High Court of Galicia, Spain

**12:00 Discussion**

*12:30 Lunch*

**3. International perspectives**

**14:00 Maintaining legal relations with the UK post Brexit in relation to EU environmental law**

Ian Dove, Lord Justice of Appeal, Deputy Senior President of Tribunals, Chair of the Tribunals Procedure Committee, Court of Appeal of England and Wales

**14:30 Legal Issues of Compensation for Environmental Damage Caused by the War in Ukraine**

Vitalii Urkevych, Justice at the Supreme Court of Ukraine



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**15:30 Domestic application of international environmental laws in the People's Republic of China**  
Speaker TBC

**16:00 Discussion**

*16:30 Coffee break*

**17:00 EUFJE General Assembly**

*17:30 End of Conference*



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