

Webinar

“Enforcing the Habitats Directive in national courts”

June 4th 2020, 11:00 – 12:30pm GMT+1 Brussels time

Please register here: <https://meeting.zoho.eu/meeting/register?sessionId=1274091967>

This webinar provides an overview of the legal framework that applies to individuals and NGOs seeking to enforce the Habitats Directive in national courts.

It is organised by ClientEarth with funding from the European Commission Life Programme and is intended for public interest lawyers, judges, public authorities and NGOs.

Presenters: **Anne Friel**, Environmental Democracy lawyer, *ClientEarth*
Soledad Gallego, Wildlife lawyer, *ClientEarth*

Agenda:

Presentation 1 - Introduction to the legal framework on access to justice in the context of the Habitats Directive (20 minutes)

- Brief introduction to the access to justice obligations in the Aarhus Convention and their implementation in EU law with regard to the Habitats Directive;
- Discussion of main case law regarding access to justice and the Habitats Directive.

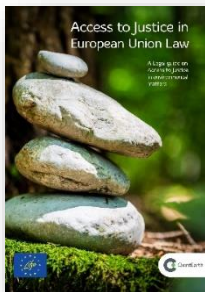
Presentation 2 - Case study on SEO/Birdlife challenge to the open pit mine project in the Zilbeti Forest, Spain (40 minutes)

- Insights into the practical implications of challenging permits on the basis of the Habitats Directive, including possible interactions with other EU procedures.

Questions from participants

Improving **access to justice for a greener Europe** is the goal of the **EARL A2J project**. Managed by **ClientEarth** and **Justice & Environment** over eight European states, it aims to improve the implementation and enforcement of EU environmental law in EU countries by making sure Europeans can challenge environmental law breaking in court.

The project focuses on raising awareness about the legal possibilities available for citizens and NGOs. Aside from seminars and webinars, we have launched the following publications:



A comprehensive **guide on access to justice in environmental matters at EU level:**

<https://www.documents.clientearth.org/library/download-info/16209/>

A series of **country-specific legal toolkits on access to justice at national level:** <https://www.clientearth.org/country-toolkits-on-access-to-justice/>

For more information about our project: <https://www.clientearth.org/access-justice-greener-europe/>