



# Recent CJEU Case Law on Nature Protection and EIA Requirements

Webinar for Judges, Prosecutors, and Court Staff  
Online, 1-2 October 2025

EXCELLENCE IN  
**EUROPEAN LAW**<sup>1</sup>

## Speakers

**Maria Alexandra Aragao**, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Coimbra

**Julie Brohee**, Legal Secretary, Court of Justice of the European Union, Luxembourg

**Matthias Keller**, Presiding Judge, Aachen Administrative Court, Germany

**Klaus Lernhart**, Judicial Training Advisor, ERA, Trier; former Presiding Judge, Higher Administrative Court, Mannheim

**Vojtěch Vomáčka**, Legal Advisor (Supreme Administrative Court of the Czech Republic) and Assistant Professor (Masaryk University), Brno, Czech Republic

## EC Representative

\*invitations pending

## Key topics

- Birds and Habitats Directives
- CITES
- Access to justice and nature protection
- EIA Requirements
- The role of national judges

Language  
English

Event number  
425DV135

Organiser  
ERA (Anna Kanellopoulou) on behalf of the European Commission

# Recent CJEU Case Law on Nature Protection and EIA Requirements

## Wednesday, 1 October 2025

08:30 Connecting to the platform

09:00 **Welcome and introduction**  
*Anna Kanellopoulou*

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### I. Setting the scene: the role of EU environmental case law

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09:15 **The role of EU case law in the effectiveness of national environmental law implementation**

- CJEU
- Infringement procedures
- Preliminary rulings

*EC Representative*

09:45 Discussion

10:00 Short break

10:10 **Landmark judgments handed down by the CJEU in the field of Nature Protection and EIA Requirements**

*Vojtech Vomacka*

10:50 Discussion

11:00 Short break

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### II. CJEU case law on nature protection I

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11:10 **Protection of Habitats**

- Key findings of the CJEU in Cases C-434/22 (Latvijas valsts meži), C-238/20 (Sātiņi-S), C-254/19 (Friends of the Irish Environment), C-411/19 (WWF Italia Onlus), C-297/19 (Naturschutzbund Deutschland – Landesverband Schleswig Holstein).
- Cases C-116/22 (Commission v Germany), C-432/21 (Commission v Poland), C-661/20 (Commission v Slovakia), C-559/19 (Commission v Spain) and C-849/19 (Commission v Greece).

*Maria Alexandra Aragao*

11:40 Quiz and Discussion

12:10 Short break

12:20 **Protection of Species under the Habitats Directive and the CITES Framework**

- Key findings of the CJEU in cases C-166/22 (Hellfire Massy Residents Association), C-357/20 (Magistrat der Stadt Wien (Grand hamster – I)), C-477/19 (Magistrat der Stadt Wien), C-88/19 (Alianța pentru combaterea abuzurilor), C-601/22 (Umweltverband WWF Österreich and Others v Amt der Tiroler Landesregierung), C-659/20 (Department of the Environment (Perroquets Ara hyacinthe)), C-87/20 (Hauptzollamt B).

*Julie Brohee*

12:50 Discussion

13:00 End of the first day

## Thursday, 2 October 2025

08:30 Connecting to the platform

*Chair: Klaus Lernhart*

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### III. CJEU case law on nature protection II

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09:00 **Protection of Birds**

- Key findings of the CJEU in cases C-900/19 (One Voice a Ligue pour la protection des oiseaux), C-473/19 and C-474/19 (Föreningen Skydda Skogen), C-217/19 (Commission v Finland) and C-161/19 (Commission v Austria).

*Maria Alexandra Aragao*

## Objective

This two-morning webinar aims at providing a comprehensive update on the CJEU's recent judgments in the field of nature protection. Through interactive lectures, participants will receive an overview of the case law of the EU Courts, the fundamentals of EU environmental law, and their role in national implementation of EU environmental legislation on nature protection and Environmental Impact Requirements. The webinar aims to serve as a platform to promote judicial dialogue and cooperation of practitioners within the judiciary.

## About the Project

This seminar is part of a large-scale project sponsored by the European Commission with the title 'Cooperation with national judges in the field of environmental law'.

## Who should attend?

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

## Online conference

Hosted on Zoom

## Networking opportunity

Our legal training events offer a fantastic opportunity to connect with legal professionals and high-level speakers from different parts of Europe. Together, you will have the chance to network during our coffee breaks.

## Your contacts



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Christel Wilson  
Assistant  
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Tel.: +49 (0)651 9 37 37 4

09:30 Discussion

09:45 Short break

10:00 **Case study on Nature Protection and Access to Justice**

- Focus on the intersection of nature protection and access to justice.
- Key findings of the CJEU in cases C-234/22 (Roheline Kogukond), C-84/22 (Right to Know), C-470/19 (Friends of the Irish Environment), C-619/19 (Land Baden-Württemberg)
- Introduction to the case study
- Working groups
- Plenary discussion of the results

*Vojtěch Vomáčka*

11:30 Short break

11:40 **Environmental Impact Assessment**

Key findings of the CJEU in cases C-575/21 (WertInvest Hotelbetrieb), C-121/21 (Czech Republic v Poland, Mine de Turów), C-110/20 (Regione Puglia), C-463/20 (Namur-Est Environnement), C-300/20 (Bund Naturschutz in Bayern), C-24/19 (A and Others).

*Julie Brohee*

12:10 Discussion

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**IV. The role of national judges**

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12:20 **Role of the National Judge**

General aspects of EU environmental law, including the role of national judges as EU judges and the importance of preliminary references on both interpretation and validity of EU acts. Case C-524/20 (VÍTKOVICE STEEL) will be analysed and search tools will be presented.

*Matthias Keller*

13:00 Discussion

13:15 Evaluation of the webinar

13:30 End of the webinar

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**Save the date**

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

Online, 08-09 December 2025

For programme updates:

**[www.era.int](http://www.era.int)**

Programme may be subject to amendment.



Times indicated are CEST  
(Central European Summer Time)

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Online, 1-2 October 2025 / Event Number: 425DV136



## 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 **10 September 2025**.
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 at 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 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.
9. A certificate of attendance will be issued electronically after the end of the workshop.

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### Venue

Online

### Language

English

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