



EEB
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Bureau



**Friends of
the Earth
Europe**



Rule of Law, the environmental acquis and the future of Europe:
Implementation & enforcement of the EU's Birds and Habitats Directives

NATURE'S LAST LINE OF DEFENCE

May 17, 2018 | European Parliament, room ASP5G305
12:30 - 14:30

Presentation of the publication of “Nature’s Last Line of Defence”

The Fitness Check that assessed EU’s Birds and Habitats Directives two years ago found them to be fit for purpose, but found that Member States’ implementation of the directives to be lacking. On the one year anniversary of the “Action Plan for Nature, People, and the Economy”, NGOs are looking at progress made in the implementation of inter alia the Nature Directives and their enforcement.

Respecting the rule of law and the environmental acquis is important not only when it comes to prominent examples like Bialowieza, but also because it touches on the credibility of the European Commission and the future of Europe as such.

In this event, we will discuss specific complaints and infringement cases, and how the Commission is supporting Member States in their implementation of the Nature Directives.

PROGRAM

- 12:30** **Welcome** (MEP Jo Leinen, S&D)
- 12:40** **Legal input on EU's infringement system** (Ugo Taddei, ClientEarth)
- 12:50** **Current case studies: “Nature’s last line of defence”**
Doñana’s drying wetlands in Spain (Sabien Leemans, WWF EPO)
Tearing up grasslands in Germany (Raphael Weyland, NABU)
Rampant hydropower in Romania (Sergiy Moroz, European Environmental Bureau)
The turtle nesting beach in Cyprus (Adrian Bebb, Friends of the Earth Europe)
- 13:30** **The European Commission’s work on implementation and enforcement of the Nature Directives** (Kathiana Ghio, Cabinet of Commissioner Vella, TBC)
- 13:45** **Questions and answers**
- 14:10** **Wrap-up and main conclusions** (Ariel Brunner, BirdLife Europe)
- 14:20** **Closing remarks** (MEP Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, ALDE)

Note: A small snack will be provided.

Venue: European Parliament, room ASP5G305.

To register, click this link or visit: goo.gl/forms/o9IUyjXugs04LPL2

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The event is graciously co-hosted by MEP Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy and MEP Jo Leinen.
It will be supported by the national NGOs NABU and RSPB.