



## **EU Environmental Crime Enforcement Networks Conference 2017**

**Oxford, UK**

IMPEL/EnviCrimeNet/ENPE

### **Working title of Conference:**

***“Tackling Waste and Wildlife Crime in Europe – challenges and solutions”***

### **Introduction - including the overall aim and theme of the conference**

Building upon last year’s successful [EU Environmental Crime Enforcements Network conference in Utrecht](#), in 2016, a follow up for highlighting common challenges and practical solutions will take place in Oxford on 20 & 21 September 2017.

In Utrecht, the Networks reaffirmed the value of always seeking to make the polluter pay and tracking down and recovering the proceeds of crime; and were optimistic about the future.

A key recommendation was that European enforcement networks and projects retained their strong elements of capacity building and training as well as the sharing of information in tackling environmental crime. The notion of the Compliance Chain, being only as strong as its weakest link, was an agreed, recurring theme.

With a particular focus on Wildlife and Waste Crime, this conference looks at general and specific themes and topics, and by using case studies and training, how consistency in the approach to enforcement will result in strong sanctions and a reduction in illegal activities. We will look at how the activities of the Networks can best bring about both prevention and deterrence in the fight against environmental crime. We will look at practices and procedures and learn from best practice in other jurisdictions.

The European Council conclusions on setting the priorities for the fight against organised and serious international crime between 2018 and 2021, adopted by the Council on 18 May 2017, focusses on disrupting organised crime gangs involved in environmental crime, more particularly wildlife and illicit waste trafficking. This means that the EU has to develop, together with the experts of the relevant EU agencies and institutions, a Multi-Annual Strategic Plan (MASP) and Operational Action Plans (OAP), defining the most appropriate strategy to tackle the problem. Member States will have to integrate the relevant actions developed into their national planning and to allocate resources to support a common EU approach. This will need to be multidisciplinary, integrated and integral, covering preventive as well repressive measures in order to effectively address the prioritised threats, as exemplified in the approach recently taken by EUROPOL, amongst others. The input from experts from the networks will therefore be more important than ever before, with a particular challenge to develop and realize action plans.

The timing of our conference is opportune, following on from the publication by DG Environment of its Compliance Assurance Initiative. This important statement by the Commission of its commitment to translating legislation and policy into clear implementation and delivery, links into the work which all of the networks are currently undertaking and will result in real improvements in environmental protection across Europe.





## - Programme -

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# EU Environmental Enforcement Networks Conference 20-21 September 2017 Oxford, UK

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*“Tackling Waste and Wildlife Crime in Europe – challenges and solutions”*

### **Tuesday 19 September 2017**

**Check-in and registration from 2.00pm at Magdalen College Porter’s Lodge**

**6.30pm – 9.00 pm drinks & light bites, Old Kitchen Bar & East side of Cloisters Lawn**

**First night accommodation for delegates**



### **Wednesday 20 September 2017**

**08.00 – 09.00: Breakfast (served at the Buttery);**

**08.00 – 09.00: Conference registration including coffee/tea and networking (Grove Auditorium foyer)**

**09.00 – 10.0: Opening of Conference (Grove Auditorium - please arrive by 08.45)**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Director General, DG Environment, EC – Mr Daniel Calleja</li><li>• Heads of EPAs (NEPA) representative – Terry A’Hearn (CEO SEPA)</li><li>• Welcome by the conference chairs: Roel Willekens, Chris Dijkens &amp; Anne Brosnan</li></ul> |
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The conference will be formally opened by special guests from the European Commission and the Network of Heads of Environmental Protection Agencies. The Chairs of the conference will set out the main aims and objectives of the conference.

**Moderator: Anne Brosnan, President of ENPE network and Chief Prosecutor of The Environment Agency, England**

With the contribution of the LIFE financial instrument of the European Community





### **10.0 – 11.00: Network activities (Grove Auditorium)**

- EUFJE – Jan Van den Berghe
- IMPEL's Expert Team on Waste Marina de Grier & Katie Olley
- EnviCrimeNet – Roel Willekens
- LIFE-ENPE Working Group 1, on Wildlife Lars Magnusson
- LIFE-ENPE Working Group 2, on Waste Rob de Rijck

This is an opportunity for each network to update the conference on their key activities and challenges in the enforcement of environmental crimes in Europe. The IMPEL waste team will provide a short overview, followed by more detailed summaries from IMPEL and ENPE on specific waste & wildlife collaborative work. The EnviCrimeNet Chair will provide an overview of their network activities to include a summary of the Multi-Annual Strategic Plan (MASP). To conclude, the LIFE-ENPE project working groups on Wildlife and Waste will report on their work in guidance development and capacity building.

**Moderator: Anne Brosnan, President of ENPE network and Chief Prosecutor of Environment Agency England**

### **11.00 – 11.30: Coffee break & networking**

### **11.30 – 12.30: A wider perspective on Environmental Protection (Grove Auditorium)**

- IMPEL Nature Protection Team – John Visbeen
- Chinese Supreme People's Procuratorate – Liu Jiapu
- LIFE-ENPE Working Group 3, on Air Pollution – Lorna Dempsey.
- LIFE-ENPE Working Group 4, on Sanctions – Carole Billiet

IMPEL's Nature Protection Team will provide a summary of their recent Network Activities followed by The Chinese Supreme Procuratorate who will deliver their presentation on progress in environmental prosecutions in China. The third and fourth LIFE-ENPE Working Groups – Air Pollution and Sanctions, Prosecution and Judicial Practices, will then have the opportunity to share with the conference, their activities and outputs and challenges so far.

**Moderator: Rob de Rijck, ENPE network Waste Working Group Chair**

### **12.30 – 13.30: Lunch (the Buttery)**





### 13.30 – 15.00: Breakout Groups (Summer Common room & Grove Auditorium)

Waste	Wildlife
1) Boterbloem (Buttercup) Case By Frank van Diem Dutch prosecutor Ben Bom and Thera Boelhouwer, Dutch Inspectorate of Environment and Transport, the Intelligence and Investigation Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The state of environmental law and jurisprudence in Italy- Pasquale Fimiani Deputy Prosecutor General at the Italian Supreme Court of Rome</li><li>• The protection of biodiversity in Italy, a case study of conviction for killing of endangered species – Avv Carla Campanaro Lawyer, Legal consultant to LAV and Waldrappteam, LIFE + Reason for Hope project</li><li>• EU Twix - Vinciane Sacre</li><li>• 'IMPEL E-SIX' - Jaap Reijngoud</li><li>• Glass Eel case - Antonio Vercher</li></ul>

The Waste breakout group will feature an interactive workshop presenting and discussing a successful recent Dutch case on Trans Frontier Shipment of Waste. This fascinating case will be presented by the prosecutor, legal officer and specialist environmental accountant involved and will examine the tools used to obtain a successful outcome. Reference to on-going IMPEL and ENPE collaborative working will be made throughout.

The Wildlife session will commence with an overview of the state of Italian environmental law and jurisprudence, followed by the general situation about the protection of biodiversity in Italy and the effectiveness of tackling poaching there. This will be illustrated through a case study : the conviction from the Supreme Court of a hunter for killing of Northern Bald Ibises, which will include reference to the LIFE Reason for Hope project, the killing of two Northern Bald Ibises and the investigation resulting in the double conviction and new strategies for the future.

To conclude, there will be an overview of EU Twix and IMPEL e-six initiatives, followed by a second case study discusses an example of tackling illegal smuggling of wildlife from Antonio Vercher – the 'Glass eel case'.

**Waste theme, Moderator: Marina de Gier, Waste & TFS Expert Team Leader, IMPEL network**  
**Wildlife theme, Moderator: Lars Magnusson, ENPE network Wildlife Working Group Chair**

### 15.00 – 15.30: Coffee break & networking





### 15.30 – 17.30: Breakout Groups (Summer Common Room & Grove Auditorium)

Waste	Wildlife
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using satellites to detect and prosecute unlawful waste activities - Ray Purdy; Air &amp; Space Evidence, University of Oxford</li> <li>Blockwaste project – Leila Suvantola</li> <li>Interpol PCWG - Joseph Poux</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EU perspective on illegal wildlife trafficking – Gael De Rotalier</li> <li>Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean (MIKT) – Carmen Naves</li> <li>Understanding the intrinsic value of birds and habitats &amp; cost recovery – Finnish Price list – Jarmo Rintala</li> </ul>

The Waste session theme is innovation, with the first presentation from Ray Purdy providing an overview on: 1) where satellites are already used in other areas of environmental law enforcement; 2) the opportunities that satellite monitoring might offer in detecting unlawful waste activities (that are different to what regulators already have); 3) experience to date in using satellite monitoring in unlawful waste activities (how well it works in practice); and 4) how much it costs.

The next session will present the results of the BLOCKWASTE project, “*Blocking the loopholes for illicit waste trafficking*”. This provides strategic analysis of the threats and the risks of illicit trafficking of waste across Europe in order to improve the prevention capabilities of EU public and private agencies. The project identifies the opportunity structures of illicit waste trafficking (IWT) and problems faced by law enforcement authorities. The presentation will introduce the results of the research activities. Then Joseph Poux of the US Department of Justice will outline the role of INTERPOL’s Pollution Control Working Group in tackling international waste crime.

The Wildlife session will focus on the protection of wild species from illegal hunting, with an overview from the EU on their approaches to tackling illegal trafficking, a summary of the MIKT project and an update on assigning appropriate intrinsic value on species using the ‘Finnish Price list’.

**Waste theme, Moderator: Rob de Rijk, ENPE network Waste Working Group chair**  
**Wildlife theme, Moderator: John Visbeen, Nature Expert Team Leader, IMPEL network**

### 17.30 – 18.00: Plenary, reporting from breakout groups (Grove Auditorium)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waste</li> <li>Nature &amp; Wildlife</li> </ul>
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This will be an opportunity for the breakout groups to report back on the summary of the discussions, including outputs and next steps agreed.

**Moderator: S Robinson ENPE network**





**- End of Day 1 -**

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*For ENPE & EnviCrimeNet General Meetings - members only – rooms to be allocated*

**18.00 – 18.30: ENPE Members only – General Meeting; Chair: Anne Brosnan**

**18.00 – 18.30: EnviCrimeNet members only - General Meeting; Chair: Roel Willekens**

ENPE	EnviCrimeNet
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ENPE and EnviCrimeNet will hold their General meetings, with attendance limited to the network members only. Delegates are requested to notify the network secretariat contacts of their wish to attend





## Conference Dinner - Dining Hall, Magdalen College



- 18.45**      **Drinks reception (garden/cloisters)**
- 19.30**      **Guests to be seated for dinner**
- 21.00**      **After dinner speaker & magic show – Prof. Richard Macrory, UCL**

**Second and final night's accommodation for delegates**





**Thursday 21 September 2017**

**08.00 – 09.00: Breakfast (served at the Buttery); Coffee/tea and networking**

**09.00 – 11.00: Securing Compliance Assurance (Grove Auditorium)**

- European Commission (DG Environment) Miroslav Angelov – Action and strategic approaches to tackle environmental crime
- Grant Pink – co-operation and co-ordination between authorities in the compliance chain - A view from Australia
- THEMIS - Mrs Tsvetelina Borissova Filipova , Head of Unit Environmental Governance, REC: Raising standards of environmental law compliance through regional cooperation
- Europol – Jari Liukku, Head of Department of the European Serious Organised Crimes Centre
- Interpol- Davyth Stewart

This session looks at instilling consistency in environmental enforcement at all stages of the compliance chain. Its focus is necessarily international, starting with the EU DG Environment's action and strategic approaches to tackle environmental crime, to include key obligations and the typical related offences and crimes along with principles of enforcement, and expanding out to include a view on competent authority co-ordination from Australia through our invited guest speaker Grant Pink.

This will include the role of networks such as all of our conference networks, and the importance of linking the different players in the compliance and enforcement chain with the aim to harmonise enforcement strategies. Examples of enforcement strategies in place in Australia and the importance of the roles and positions of different players in that, as well the essentials of the strategies will be discussed, as well as the pitfalls and challenges encountered together with good and best practices.

The THEMIS presentation will look at how standards of environmental law compliance have been raised through regional co-operation. Europol will be represented by Jari Liukku, the Head of Department of European Serious Organized Crime Centre, who will share his vast experience of a transnational policing network, tackling environmental crime, and bring some update information on recent development at Europol. Davyth Stewart will then present on behalf of INTERPOL and reflect on the learning our networks can take from their experiences.

**Moderator: Chris Dijkens, Chair of IMPEL network**

**11.00 – 11.30: Coffee break & networking**





**11.30 – 12.30: Organisational approaches to consistency (Oscar Wilde room; Grove Auditorium & Summer Common room)**

Waste	Wildlife	Enforcement strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WEEE Forum Pascal Leroy</li> <li>• Innovative solutions –LIFE SMART-Waste - Simon Bingham</li> <li>• DOTCOM waste – Federico Magalini</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bird Life Europe – Vicky Jones</li> <li>• CABS Field Actions – Keziah Conroy</li> <li>• FACE - David Scallan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Compliance Assurance – Miroslav Angelov DG Environment</li> <li>• Sun Jiarui - Chinese Supreme People’s Procuratorate</li> </ul>

For the Waste session, we will be provided with an overview of the WEEE forum, a summary of the LIFE-SMARTWaste project which looks at innovative approaches to Waste regulation, and an overview of the DOTCOM waste project.

For the Wildlife session, examples from the involvement of NGOs in field actions will be presented, and also how information from NGOs could lead to longer term strategies and a better priority setting for enforcement bodies. In particular, for CABS – the session will focus on campaigns and the results, For Birdlife - the importance of scientific information according to the state of certain species that can contribute to priority setting and the contributions to training of inspectors. Also, details of birdlife camps in Europe and collaboration with authorities. For FACE – we will look at trends, sustainable hunting and action against illegal behaviour.

The third breakout session, which focusses on enforcement strategies, will include perspective from the EU DG Environment’s Environmental Compliance Assurance (ECA) programme, followed by an introduction on a unique Chinese prosecution mechanism which allows prosecutors to challenge court decision and sentence that is already in effect which enables checking on the courts by the procuracy, ensuring a fairer and more effective law compliance chain.

**Waste theme moderator: Chris Dijkens, Chair of IMPEL network**

**Wildlife theme moderators: Lars Magnusson ENPE network Wildlife Working Group chair & John Visbeen Nature Expert Team Leader IMPEL network**

**Enforcement strategies moderator: Roel Willekens, EnviCrimeNet chair**

**12.30 – 13.30: Lunch (the Buttery)**





### **13.30 – 14.00: IMPEL/ENPE/EnviCrimeNet – learning from conference and next steps (Grove Auditorium)**

- IMPEL/ENPE/EnviCrimeNet – learning from conference and next steps

This session offers the chance to reflect on the key messages arising from the conference, and critically, what next steps are required to further improve the fight against Environmental crime in Europe, and instil consistency in its enforcement across all networks and jurisdictions involved. A short summary from each network chair will be provided.

**Moderator: Chris Dijkens, Chair of IMPEL network**

### **14.00 – 15.00: Inspiring Speaker – Professor Rob White (Grove Auditorium)**

Inspiring speaker – Prof. Rob White; University of Tasmania

To follow the key conference messages, our Inspiring speaker will provide their expert opinion on what has been achieved and what more can be done. There will be an opportunity for comments & discussion from the floor.

**Moderator: Chris Dijkens, Chair of IMPEL network**

### **15.00 – 15.30: Closing of the Conference (Grove Auditorium)**

Closing of conference – thanks from the Chairs, including conference summary and signing of the Memorandum of Understanding

In closing the conference, all delegates will be asked to reflect on the previous two days, and the strides made in forging even closer working links between the networks involved in the chain of compliance. Opportunities for feedback, via the website and questionnaires will be presented to all.

An opportunity for a cultural excursion will be made available to all delegates to finish their unique conference experience at Magdalen College.

**Moderator: Chris Dijkens, Chair of IMPEL network**

**Delegates depart Magdalen College**

**16.00: Optional visit to Oxford Botanic Garden (convene at OBG entrance)**

