



CONFERENCE

Living in peace with nature to drive economic prosperity: the EU dimension

02.06.2026 | 14:30 - 17:30 (CEST) | EESC, Rue Van Maerlant 2, Brussels | Room VMA 23

LIVE
STREAM

#EU
GREEN
WEEK

Group III
Consumers and Environment Category

AGENDA

Room	VMA 23 – in-person
Co-spokespersons	Baiba MILTOVIČA & Arnaud SCHWARTZ
Email	secretdegroupeiii@eesc.europa.eu

LIVING IN PEACE WITH NATURE TO DRIVE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY – THE EU DIMENSION

Organised by the EESC's Consumers and Environment category and labelled by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Environment, this **EU Green Week partner event** will take the form of a half-day conference, comprising two roundtable discussions and public exchanges. The aim is to explore how nature can drive EU economic prosperity and improve citizens' quality of life.

Alongside the guest speakers, members of the EESC's Consumers and Environment category and other participants will discuss how nature-positive models work in practice. The discussion will focus on sustainable and profitable agriculture and forestry, innovations in soil health, practical nature-based solutions, greening cities, and exciting new opportunities to reverse rural depopulation.

14:30 Opening by the category co-spokespersons, **Baiba Miltoviča** and **Arnaud Schwartz**, Members of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

14:45 Keynote speech by **Cillian Lohan**, President of the EESC Civil Society Organisations' Group

15:00 **1st panel discussion: why would the EU need a nature-positive economy?**

- **Bettina Doeser**, Head of Unit, Natural Capital and Ecosystem Health, Directorate-General for Environment, European Commission
- **Catherine Ganzleben**, Head of Unit, Sustainable and Fair Transitions at the [European Environment Agency](#)
- **Marco Pierani**, Director, Corporate Affairs & Public Relations, [Euroconsumers](#)

Q&A session

16:00 Coffee break

16:15 **2nd panel discussion: how should the EU promote a nature-positive economy?**

- **Olivia Robertson**, Liaison Officer for Biodiversity, [Youth and Environment Europe \(YEE\)](#)
- **Egbert Roozen**, Secretary General of the [European Landscape Contractors Association ELCA](#)
- **Tom Redmond**, Sustainable Finance Policy Officer, [BEUC](#) (The European Consumer Organisation)

Q&A session

17:15 Closing remarks by the category co-spokespersons

Interpretation requested

from: ES-DE-EN-FR-IT

Into: DE-EN-FR
