

# European Forests: Hotspots of Biodiversity

9 September 2020, 13:30 to 17:30  
Virtual Conference

*Hosted by*  
**MEP Jessica Polfjärd**  
**MEP Adam Jarubas**

Photo: Hélène Koch

Organisers

**#Forests4Biodiversity**  
**#EUforests**



# EVENT OVERVIEW

Forests are an important part of the European landscape and crucial for reaching the objectives of the European Green Deal and the Biodiversity Strategy for 2030. Sustainable and active forest management plays a key role in meeting the EU's long-term biodiversity and climate objectives, by maintaining and enhancing the health and resilience of forest ecosystems.

This joint event will offer an insight into sustainable forest management practices, which includes environmental conservation, and how they support achieving the goals of the Biodiversity Strategy for 2030. Daily operations of sustainable forest management aim to ensure that our forests maintain their biodiversity, remain resilient and continue to serve society's multiple environmental, economic and socio-cultural expectations.

The discussion will focus on the future vision of sustainable forest management in Europe and different approaches to be considered when addressing common efforts in maintaining and enhancing forest biodiversity. What are those approaches and what measures are needed at EU level to ensure that our forests continue to be hotspots of biodiversity?

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## AGENDA

- Moderator*      **Jo O'Hara MICFor**, Land Use Consultant and former Head of Forestry Commission Scotland
- 13:30 - 13:45      **WELCOME ADDRESS**  
**Adam Jarubas**, Member of the European Parliament  
**Reinhardt Neft**, CEO of Bavarian State Forest Enterprise and President of EUSTAFOR
- 13:45 - 14:00      **KEYNOTE SPEECH**  
**Jo O'Hara MICFor**, Land Use Consultant and former Head of Forestry Commission Scotland
- 14:00 - 15:00      **PANEL DISCUSSION I**  
**About forests and biodiversity: Where do we stand?**  
**Annemarie Bastrup-Birk**, Forest Assessments and Information, European Environment Agency  
**Christine Farcy**, International Forest Policy (Service Public de Wallonie) and invited Lecturer at UCLouvain  
**Floor Vodde**, Researcher, Estonian University of Life Sciences  
**António Paula Soares**, Member of the Board of Directors of the Confederation of Farmers of Portugal, Member of the Board of CEPF, and Chairman for the European Commission Civil Dialogue Group on Forestry and Cork  
**Uwe Mestemacher**, Head of Nature Conservation Department, Lower Saxony State Forest
- 15:00 - 15:15      **Q&A WITH THE AUDIENCE**

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- 15:15 - 15:30 **COFFEE BREAK**
- 15:30 - 16:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION II**  
**About forests and biodiversity: Opportunities and Action**  
**Humberto Delgado Rosa**, Director for Natural Capital, DG Environment, European Commission  
**Jørgen Bo Larsen**, Professor emeritus, Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management, University of Copenhagen  
**Luc Bas**, Director European Regional Office, IUCN  
**Frank Krumm**, Researcher Forest dynamics unit, Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research
- 16:00 - 16:15 **MEMBER STATES' PERSPECTIVE**  
**Matthias Schwoerer**, Chair of WP Forestry, German Presidency of the Council of the EU
- 16:15 - 17:20 **DISCUSSION AND Q&A WITH THE AUDIENCE**
- 17:20 - 17:30 **CLOSING REMARKS**  
**Jessica Polfjärd**, Member of the European Parliament  
**Sven Erik Hammar**, Member of the Board of CEPF
- 17:30 **END**

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