

SIDE EVENT: The Future of Youth Climate Litigation (ClimaTalk)

Event title

The Future of Youth Climate Litigation

Background and Rationale

A conversation between activists, petitioners and academics about the future of climate litigation drawing on previous youth-led climate cases. Climate litigation is a means used by society to fight the current climate crisis and is an innovative solution through which children can enforce their rights and help move towards a more sustainable future.

Youth climate litigation is used both as a tool for climate action and to promote peace, justice and strong institutions. By hosting an event with key speakers involved in climate litigation in Europe, the aim is to understand to what extent climate litigation is effective in promoting sustainable development. During the conversation, we will be speaking with representatives from pending and decided cases, to really gather a better grasp of what the effects are of youth climate litigation in the long term.

Session objectives and expected outcomes

The event has the following objectives:

- Understanding to what extent is strategic litigation an effective example of climate action as a goal for sustainable development;
- Looking at outcomes of past or pending cases, to understand what role youth climate litigation plays in ensuring that our institutions promote peace and justice;
- Assuming that youth climate litigation plays an important role in sustainable development, understanding whether it will continue to have a significant impact on this, discussing what potential challenges lie ahead.

Expected outcomes:

- Short background to key youth-led climate change cases;
- Insight into what it means to be a climate activist;
- Reflections on the role of youth climate litigation in sustainable development and the UN Regional Forum Agenda;
- Personal insights on what are upcoming challenges in youth climate litigation.



Organizers

Lead organizers: ClimaTalk

Contributors: Not applicable

Focal points: Anna Bortolussi, Georgia Fulton

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Agenda and Structure

This event will be divided into 4 parts.

PART 1

Presentation (15 minutes)

- Preliminary Event structure (1 min)
- Introduction to ClimaTalk and YCLD (3 mins)
- Introduction to Speakers and their respective cases (10 mins)

PART 2 (45 mins)

Comments of the panellists on SDGs 13 (Climate Action) and 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) linked with youth climate litigation.

- Short background on speakers' involvement in climate justice
- Discussion on youth climate litigation in relation to the SDGs relevant to this year's forum
- Reflections on the future challenges of youth climate litigation

PART 3 (20 mins)

- Open Q&A and comments from the panellists

PART 4 (5 mins)

- Final reflections and closing statements

List of Panellists

Speakers:

- Ida Edling – Petitioner and legal co-coordinator of the Auroramålet vs Sweden case.
- Camila Bustos - Assistant Professor of Law at the Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University and Petitioner on the Future Generations vs Colombia case.

Moderator: Adriana Alzamora – ClimaTalk (Co-Lead of the Youth Climate Litigation Database (YCLD))

Sign-up / Registration Link

<https://forms.gle/RikzBWX5ETmpwhUz7>