



# EUROPEAN TRIBUNAL IN DEFENSE OF AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS

Starting January 30th, 2021 • to May 29th, 2021



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## EUROPEAN RIGHTS OF NATURE TRIBUNAL "IN DEFENSE OF AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS"

Fourth Hearing

Balkan Rivers

-Saturday, April 24th, 2021-

The fourth hearing of the European Tribunal for Aquatic Ecosystems will take place on Saturday, April 24th, 2021 at 5 pm (Paris time). The [Balkan Rivers case](#) is being brought to international attention through the International Rights Of Nature Tribunal, organized by the European Hub of the Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature.

The Balkan Rivers are one of five selected areas in Europe where a European Tribunal for Aquatic Ecosystems will symbolically examine if their rights have been violated by various human activities affecting them.

There is still time to act. From January to March 2021, the European Tribunal for the Rights of Aquatic Ecosystems heard three cases of aquatic entities to be protected in Europe: the Mer de Glace France, the rivers of French Guiana case and the Lake Vättern case in Sweden. There is one more hearing coming up for this Tribunal: the Mediterranean Sea threatened by red mud in Marseille (May 29th).

Recognizing the rights of Nature means recognizing the interdependence between humans and Nature and accepting that humans can no longer dispose of it with impunity. Thus, it is a necessity to establish the legal personality of Nature in order to systematically take it into account in our political and societal choices. This legal evolution is necessary for the preservation of life.

This Tribunal aims to recognize the rights of Nature, which means recognizing the interdependence between humans and Nature and accepting that States, companies and humans can no longer dispose of it with impunity. Thus, it is a necessity to establish the legal personality of Nature in order to systematically take it into account in our political and societal choices. This legal evolution is necessary for the preservation of life.

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