



INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS OF NATURE TRIBUNAL

November 7th & 8th 2017 (8h-19h)
LVR-Landesmuseum, Bonn, Germany



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

CASES AT THE INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS OF NATURE TRIBUNAL in BONN, GERMANY

BONN, Germany - From November 6th until the 17th, during the 23rd United Nations Convention on Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP23) in Bonn, the world's nations will reach new agreements on climate change.

In four days (November 7th-8th) the **4th International Rights of Nature Tribunal** will hear 7 cases from a new socio-economic perspective based on the interdependence between humans and nature. 50 people will be on stage coming from over 19 countries and speaking in over 7 languages. Cases will be presented regarding violations of nature's rights from all over the world. Presenters include prominent voices from indigenous communities.

Immediately prior to the opening ceremony, there will be a welcoming from the Deputy Mayor of the city of Bonn, **Reinhard Limbach**.

The Tribunal will begin with an opening indigenous ceremony. The ceremony will be performed by **Ása Simma** of the **Sámi** People, **Tom Goldtooth** of the **Dine' Dakota**, **Mirian Cisneros** and **Yaku Viteri** of the **Sarayaku** people.

The Tribunal will then consider seven cases over the next two days. The cases are as follows:

1. A case on **Climate Change focusing on False Energy Solutions**. This case will concern violations of the rights of nature caused by **fracking, nuclear energy and the consolidation of fossil fuels in North America**. The judge will be **Osprey Orielle Lake** and the prosecutor will be **Ramiro Ávila**. The case will be presented by **Tadzio Mueller**. Experts providing testimony will be **Enrique Viale, Rheinhard Uhrig** and **Ben Beachy**. The Tribunal will also hear from affected persons **Kashmira Bane** and **Bryan Perras**.
2. The tribunal will then consider violations of the rights of nature caused by the **Financialization of Nature** and the **REDD+** framework. The judge for this case will be **Ruth Nyambura**, while the prosecutor will be **Linda Sheehan**. The case will be presented by **Jutta Kill**, the expert is **Melissa Moreano** with the affected person being **Ken Henshaw**.
3. The third case will concern **Lignite Mining and the Hambach Forest** in Germany. **Ute Koczy** will be the judge and the case will be prosecuted by **Ramiro Ávila**. The presenter is **Emilio Alfred Weinberg**. The experts in this case will be **Eva Töller** and **Alberto Saldamando**.
4. A case will be presented concerning violations of the rights of nature concerning **Defenders of Mother**

Earth. The judge for this case is **Simona Fraudatario** and the prosecutor is **Linda Sheehan**. Specifically, the case will concern violations of the rights of the indigenous peoples in the following areas:

Standing Rock, USA. Presented by **Dallas Goldtooth**. The expert and impacted person is **Kandi Mossett**.

The Shor People, Russia. Presented by **Vladislav Tannagashev**. The expert and impacted person is **Yana Tannagasheva**.

The **Sàmi People, Scandinavia.** Presented by **Krihke Kristina Nordling**. The expert and impacted person will be **Åsa Simma**.

5. The fifth case will concern **water deprivation in Almería, Spain**. The judge for this case will be **Cormac Cullinan**, while the prosecutor will be **Ramiro Ávila**. The presenter for this case will be **David Dene**. The expert in this case will be **Ion Holban** and the affected person in this case will be **Sheila Andion García**.

6. The Tribunal will consider a case concerning various threats to the rights of nature in the **Amazon**. The judges will be **Alberto Acosta** and **Fernando "Pino" Solano** and the prosecutor will be **Ramiro Ávila**. The case will concern the following areas:

Ecuador's Amazon and Sarayaku. This aspect of the case will be presented by **Esperanza Martinez**. The expert is **Mirian Cisneros**, while the impacted person will be **Yaku Viteri**.

Brazil's Amazon. This part of the case will be presented by **Sônia Guajajara**. The expert will be **Ninawa Yawanawa**.

Tipnis in Bolivia. The presenter will be **Martin Viela**. The expert will be **Fabian Gil Rocha** and the impacted person is **Marqueza Teco Moyoviri de Maleca**.

Montagne d'Or in French Guyana. Presented by **Marine Calmet**, the expert is **Patrick Monnier** and the impacted person is **Christophe Pierre**.

7. The final case concerns **Trade Agreements and their Implications on Nature**. The judge for this case will be **Shannon Biggs** and the prosecutor will be **Linda Sheehan**. This case will be presented by **Maude Barlow**. The expert will be **Jörg Haas** and the affected people will be **Ndivile Mokoena, Makoma Lekalakala** and **Alberto Saldamando**.

The cases will be presented in multiple languages, including German, English, French, Spanish, Portuguese (with simultaneous translation) and the indigenous languages of the affected persons.

On November 7th and 8th, the **Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature (GARN)** will hold the **International Rights of Nature Tribunal** in Bonn, at the **LVR-Landesmuseum** with an informative teach-in event to follow. This approach is based on the *Universal Declaration of the Rights of Nature*, which recognizes the rights of ecosystems to exist and thrive and the duty of humanity to respect the integrity of their life cycles.

For more information, please visit <https://therightsofnature.org/ron-tribunal-bonn/> #RONtribunalBonn

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The International Rights of Nature Tribunal will be held at LVR-LandesMuseum Bonn, Colmantstr. 14-16, 53115 Bonn, 8:00 am to 7:00 pm (0800 to 1900).

About the Global Alliance for Rights of Nature (GARN) <https://therightsofnature.org/>

GARN is a network of organizations and individuals committed to the universal adoption and implementation of legal systems that recognize, respect and enforce "Rights of Nature" and to making the idea of Rights of Nature an idea whose time has come.

