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AARHUS CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION

PA EcoContact

Aligning laws with the laws of nature

2026

ABOUT US

PA EcoContact is an environmental non-governmental organization operating at the local, national, and international levels, hosting the Environmental Consultation and Information Aarhus Centre in the Republic of Moldova

Vision

A clean, healthy and sustainable environment with resilient, economically and socially developed communities, aligned with EU standards and human rights principles.

Mission

EcoContact contributes to environmental protection and the sustainable development of communities by providing expertise in drafting, public consultation, and monitoring of the environmental legislation, and by facilitating dialogue between citizens and public authorities to ensure environmental rights are respected.

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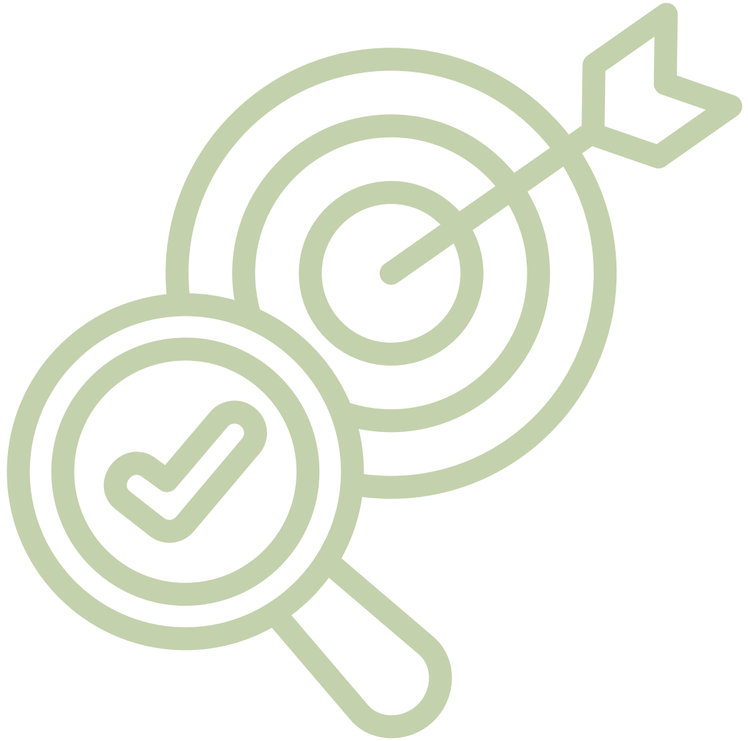
CLUSTERS

- LEGAL
- AARHUS CENTRE
- CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT
- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
- ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
- COMMUNICATION



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LEGAL CLUSTER

- Drafting and reviewing environmental legislation projects (national and local levels)
- Formulation of legal opinions and recommendations on draft public policy projects (advisories)
- Researching and analyzing the legal framework and its application practices
- Monitoring the implementation of environmental legislation and preparing summary reports
- Preparing legal actions and related documents (position notes, petitions, requests)
- Providing legal advice on the application of environmental legislation and ensuring citizens' environmental rights.

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AARHUS CENTRE

- Developing and disseminating informational materials on environmental rights.
- Organizing public events and civic engagement activities
- Monitoring the state's compliance with obligations regarding access to information, public participation, and access to justice in environmental matters
- Preparing position notes and thematic reports
- Managing cases of environmental rights violations
- Providing free legal advice and assistance to citizens, NGOs, and journalists
- Identifying and promoting strategic litigation in collaboration with the legal, communications, and environmental departments.

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CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

- Developing training programs and modules in the fields of environment and green justice
- Preparing and adapting educational materials for diverse target groups
- Researching and analyzing the training needs of partner institutions
- Organizing and conducting professional training sessions and thematic workshops
- Delivering training for NGOs, law enforcement institutions (courts, prosecutors, police, inspectors), local and central public authorities, media, academia, and students
- Organizing conferences and scientific events on environmental and legal topics
- Supporting EcoContact's organizational growth and promoting collaborative team development.

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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Establishing and strengthening Local Environmental Platforms
- Promoting the adoption and implementation of local environmental regulations
- Organizing meetings with local public authorities and communities
- Identifying and documenting priority topics for community dialogue
- Coordinating the expansion and operation of local environmental networks
- Organizing public awareness and engagement events
- Providing technical support for local Committees and Councils (Frumoasa–Crihana, Lower Nistru)
- Participating in local and regional networking meetings and activities.

Sub-granting:

- Providing grants to NGOs
- Providing grants to media outlets
- Implementing local actions in the fields of environmental protection and public participation

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

- Drafting and analyzing environmental public policy documents
- Assessing the implementation of environmental strategies and programmes
- Coordinating and implementing technical activities specific to the relevant thematic areas
- Organizing field visits and missions to assess environmental conditions
- Conducting applied research in relevant fields

Thematic areas:

- Climate change
- Forestry and forest resource management
- Protected natural areas and the Emerald Network
- Waste management and the circular economy
- Emission control and pollutants
- Chemicals and hazardous products
- Water resources management

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COMMUNICATION

- Planning and delivering public information and awareness-raising campaigns on environmental issues
- Developing communication concepts and informational and visual materials.
- Producing visibility materials (texts, infographics, videos, podcasts, printed materials
- Providing communication and visibility support for event organization
- Designing and implementing strategic communication plans
- Managing ongoing communications and ensuring daily information dissemination

Information networks

- Managing and exchanging environmental data and information
- Using and developing environmental information systems and monitoring tools
- Participating in national and international communication and environmental networks and partnerships

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WHAT DEFINES US?

OVER 15 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

- We have been working for over 15 years to protect the environment, promote environmental justice, and support sustainable development
- Since our establishment, we have implemented more than 100 projects.
- We are the only fully operational Aarhus Centre in the Republic of Moldova as of 2013 (globally, there are over 60 centres in 14 countries).

- *We provide free information and legal advice in the field of environmental law*
- *We help people understand how to request information from public authorities, participate in public consultations, and report environmental violations to the relevant institutions.*

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The only organization in the Republic of Moldova that **covers the entire environmental legislation cycle**

- *Our work spans from the analysis and proposal of legislative acts to public consultations, training of those responsible for their implementation, and monitoring how they function in practice*

We are the organization that **introduced** the concept of **Green Justice** in the Republic of Moldova and **continues to strengthen it**

- *We work closely with public authorities, law enforcement institutions, academia, and citizens to ensure the effective implementation of environmental legislation*

We established the **first functional public-authority dialogue mechanism** on local environmental issues through **11 Local Environmental Platforms**

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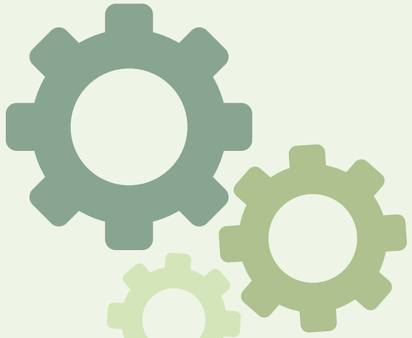
In 2025, **we received** the **European Civil Society Award** in the category of **Sustainable Development and Green Energy**

We contribute to the **conservation** and protection of protected natural areas and to climate change adaptation through:

- *developing and evaluating environmental policies,*
- *conducting applied studies and research,*
- *coordinating technical activities and field missions,*
- *as well as providing support to public authorities in the management of protected areas*



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We consistently represent environmental civil society on international platforms.

- *through the operation of the Aarhus Centre in the Republic of Moldova*
- *and active participation in the UNECE Aarhus Convention mechanisms,*
- *as well as through contributions and interventions within the Civil Society Platforms of the European Union's Eastern Partnership.*

We **are actively involved** as delegated members **in interinstitutional working groups and intergovernmental commissions.**

We provide support for improving emission inventories in the PRTR national system to reduce emissions.

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ECOCONTACT TEAM

Dr. IORDANCA-RODICA IORDANOV
Executive Director

IRINA PUNGA
Legal Cluster Lead

ANNA CAZACU
Aarhus Centre Lead

TATIANA ECHIM
Community Engagement Cluster Lead

Dr. IGOR MATVECIUC
Local Environmental Platforms Coordinator

IRINA COJOCARU
Grants Program Manager

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NATALIA GURANDA
Environmental Protection
Cluster Lead

Dr. ION MARIN
Environmental Expert &
Information Network Coordinator

MARIA LAPTEANU
Program Manager

ANASTASIA POGOR
Financial Manager

ALIONA TODICA
Office Manager

TATIANA GUMENE
Communication Cluster Lead

VICTORIA STEGARESCU
Social Media Specialist & Copywriter

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ONGOING PROJECTS:

International Partnerships Austria

Improving governance of protected areas in Moldova through institutional development, capacity development and habitat restoration

JUSTIȚIE VERDE

Green justice for stronger environmental protection and communities in Moldova

life renata

Roadmap for the alignment of EMERALD network establishment and management to NATURA 2000 standards

RETP REPUBLICA MOLDOVA

Enhancing PRTRs for Sustainability: Meeting the E-PRTR, IED and PRTR Protocol obligations

ONGOING PROJECTS:

Strengthening national-level institutional and professional capacities of country Parties towards enhanced UNCCD monitoring and reporting – Moldova

Elaboration of a National Plan for the Reduction of Short-Lived Climate Pollutants and a National Roadmap for Methane Reduction

Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs) for HB Dniester and HB Black Sea – Prut and Danube

Green Agenda for Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine

Consultancy services to support the improvement of strategic financing for the forest and natural resource management sectors in the Eastern Partnership countries.

Thank you!

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