

GLOBE EU event of March 5, 2024

“Charting the Path to Sustainable Resource Management: Unveiling the 2024 Global Resources Outlook Report (GRO24)”

Speakers:



Janez Potočnik (1958) graduated from the Faculty of Economics at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia (Ph.D. degree 1993). He started as a researcher at the Institute of Economic Research (1989) and was nominated for a Director of the Institute of Macroeconomic Analysis and Development in 1994. He was appointed Head of Negotiating Team for Accession of Slovenia to the EU (1998). He was also Director of Government Office for European Affairs (2000), Minister Councillor at the Office of the Prime Minister (2001) and Minister responsible for European Affairs (2002). In 2004 he joined the European Commission, first as ‘shadow’ Commissioner for Enlargement and then as Commissioner responsible for Science and Research. In 2010 he became Commissioner for Environment. After the end of his mandate in November 2014, he was appointed as Co-Chair of the UN Environment International Resource Panel. Since April 2016, he is also Partner in SYSTEMIQ.



Paul Ekins has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of London and is Professor of Resources and Environmental Policy at the UCL Institute for Sustainable Resources, University College London. From 2005-10 was Chairman of the UK’s National Industrial Symbiosis Program (NISP), the country’s most effective initiative at promoting resource efficiency in industry. In 2013 he was appointed to UNEP’s International Resource Panel (IRP), for whom he was lead author of a major report on resource efficiency at the request of the German Government at the G7 Summit in 2015. He was also co-author of the National Government chapter of the UK Chief Scientific Advisor’s 2017 report *From Waste to Resource Productivity: Evidence and Case Studies*. In 2011 he was appointed Vice-Chairman of the DG Environment Commissioner’s High-Level Economists Expert Group on Resource

Efficiency, and in 2012 a member of the European Commission's European Resource Efficiency Platform. He was one of two Co-Chairs of UNEP's sixth Global Environmental Outlook (GEO-6), which is the United Nations' flagship environmental report, and which was presented to the United Nations Environment Assembly in March 2019. He is currently lead coordinating author on an IRP report on financing the extraction of critical minerals for sustainable development. In 1994 Paul Ekins received UNEP's Global 500 Award 'for outstanding environmental achievement'. In the UK New Year's Honors List for 2015 he received an OBE (Officer of the Order of the British Empire) for services to environmental policy..



Mathilde Crêpy is Head of Environmental Transparency at ECOS – the Environmental Coalition on Standards. She leads a team working on sustainable finance, corporate sustainability reporting, green claims, and greenwashing. Mathilde is a former member of the Platform on Sustainable Finance, the EU Commission's expert group on the EU Taxonomy. Before joining ECOS in 2017, she worked for the European Commission on the EU carbon market.



Josip Pervan is a Senior Manager at the Policy, Advocacy and Member Mobilization Team at WBCSD. In his role, Josip is focusing on global policy & advocacy in the area of circular economy and nature and biodiversity. Previously, Josip advised the UNECE Secretariat as a consultant on the nexus between trade and circular economy and wrote a report on advancing circular economy through trade in the UNECE Region. As a Director of Policy & Advocacy at Rebellith Ltd., Josip interpreted stakeholder maps, developed messaging, and strategized to deliver the best advocacy impact for his clients. As Director of Policy and Programmes at IDEAS Centre, Josip acted as the COO, securing & managing partnerships and funding and providing assistance to developing countries to design their trade policies and negotiate trade agreements. Between 2002 and 2007, he served as a trade diplomat at the Mission in Geneva, representing Croatian interests at the multilateral level. As a leader of two negotiating groupings at the WTO and WIPO, he articulated and advocated specific interests of developing and transition economies. In WIPO, he coordinated the Regional Group of Central European and Baltic States, while in the WTO, he served as a long-term leader of the Recently Acceded Members (RAMs), securing their vital negotiating interests. In the past, Josip also negotiated the Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA) between Croatia and the EU

and Croatian WTO accession, as well as several regional and bilateral trade agreements on behalf of Croatia.



Jeff Turner is a Senior Advisor at WBCSD (World Business Council for Sustainable Development) focusing on sector transformation. In this role, Jeff advises WBCSD leadership and supports several teams and member coalitions in industrial and land-based sectors to develop and execute programs across its broad climate, nature and equity agenda. Within this role, he was instrumental in establishing and structuring the Global Circularity Protocol program and is a member of this steering committee. Jeff brings extensive sustainability, strategy and organizational development experience. He was formerly Corporate Vice President Sustainability at Royal DSM and has a career spanning multiple leadership roles in the materials, nutrition and ingredients businesses.



Hans Bruyninckx is the former Executive Director of the European Environment Agency and a distinguished Belgian environmental scholar and policymaker. He is currently a Professor of Environmental Governance at the University of Antwerp. With a background in political science and environmental management, Hans has been instrumental in shaping environmental policies at both the national and international levels. His research delves into the nexus of environmental issues with politics, economics, and society, establishing him as a prominent figure in the field of environmental studies.



Heather Grabbe is Senior Fellow at Bruegel, the Brussels-based think-tank, as well as Visiting Professor at UCL and Senior Advisor at Kaya Partners. From 2004 to 2009 she was senior advisor to European Commissioner Olli Rehn on the Balkans and Turkey. Previously, Dr Grabbe was deputy director of the Centre for European Reform in London, and she conducted academic research at the European University Institute, Chatham House, Oxford and Birmingham universities. Recently she co-authored the International System Change Compass on the implications of the EU's Green Deal for the EU's relations with other regions of the world.



Veronika Hunt-Safrankova is the Head of the UN Environment Programme Brussels Office, focusing on partnership building with EU institutions and key stakeholders. With over 15 years of experience in international environmental affairs, she has led various initiatives at the Czech Ministry of Environment and successfully managed EU-funded projects in multiple countries. She has also played a key role in negotiating Czech positions on environmental legislation in the Council of the European Union.

Veronika has served on national decision-making bodies and the Management Board of the European Environment Agency. She spent time in the academic sector as the Director of International Relations Office at Charles University in Prague. Veronika is Czech and has two children.



Astrid Ladefoged is Head of Unit for Planetary Common Goods, Universal Values & Environmental Security within DG Environment at the European Commission. The unit contributes to improved global resource management and pursues a better integration of the importance to protect the natural resource base in both EU and global policy responses on climate, energy, development, trade, and foreign and security policy. This includes promoting sustainable forest management and combating legal and illegal deforestation. It also comprises work on the UNECE water convention and water

resilience, and more broadly, with the International Resources Panel and other bodies aiming to enhance the science-policy interface and to support international initiatives for resource efficiency and an international uptake of circular economy. Astrid has 25 years of professional experience working on the EU's policies including at national level in a ministry, at European level in a think-tank and finally 20 years in the European Commission in various departments and in a cabinet.