



NO AIRPORT IN VJOSA-NARTA

ADVOCACY FOR NATURE AND PRESERVATION OF VJOSA – NARTA PROTECTED AREA



Date: 06 - 07 February 2023

Start time: 09:15 CET

Location: Rogner Hotel Tirana

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Background

Vjosa-Narta Protected Landscape represents one of the largest and most important wetland ecosystems of Albania and the Mediterranean region. But this wetland, part of almost all international ecological networks that a natural site in Albania could be a part of, is threatened by the devastating plans for the construction of an airport within the protected area boundaries. The national, and international CSOs and researchers have opposed these plans since the very first beginning of these plans but the government still refuses to take into consideration suggestions and facts on the importance of the area.

This conference aims to emphasize the importance of the preservation of the Vjosa - Narta protected area through the presentation of different studies, to update on the actual legal case, and highlight advocacy for nature conservation in Albania.

Moderation: Mr. Zydjon Vorpsi, Ms. Klaudja Koci, Ms. Tea Zeqaj



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Day I – 6th of February 2023

Session I

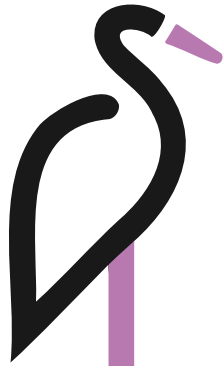
09.15 – 09.30	+	Arrival & registration
09.30 – 10.00	+	Welcoming speech, the opening of the event Mr. Aleksander Trajce PPNEA's Executive Director, Mrs. Annette Spangenberg EuroNatur Conservation Director, Mr. Gökhan Tuncer Heinrich Böll Stiftung Executive Director, Mrs. Lea Galtre DIMFE Representative
10.00 – 10.15	+	Timeline of Vjosa – Narta case / Mr. Xhemal Xherri , Project Manager at PPNEA
10.15 – 10.30	+	Legal case / Mr. Dorjan Matlija & Mrs. Irena Dule , Executive Director at ResPublika
10.30 – 10.45	+	International Waterbird Census / Mr. Taulant Bino , President of AOS
10.45 – 11.00	+	Breeding birds in Vjosa-Narta / Mr. Mirjan Topi , Executive Director at BoA
11.00 – 11.20	+	Q & A
11.20 – 11.40	+	Coffee/tea break
11.40 – 11.55	+	Implications of an airport within a protected area / Mr. Olsi Nika , Executive director at EcoAlbania
11.55 – 12.10	+	Natura 2000 habitats in Vjosa-Narta and the proposed site for Vjosa- Narta – PishëPoro Natura 2000 site / Mrs. Emerlinda Mahmutaj , Researcher at Tirana University
12.10 – 12.25	+	Coastline evolution at Vjosa river outlet / Mr. Emanuele Ingrassa , Researcher at University di Trento
12.25 – 12.40	+	Chapter 27 - Environment and climate change / Mr. Edvin Pacara , Environment and Energy Officer at EU Delegation in Albania
12.40 – 13.00	+	Q & A
13.00 – 14.30	+	Lunch

Session II

14.30 – 14.45	+	Case study Burgas Airport in the proximity of Natura 2000 Atanasovsko Lake / Mrs. Gloriya Marinova , Researcher at BBF Bulgaria
14.45 – 15.00	+	Montijo Airport case in Portugal / Mr. Joaquim Teodósio , Head of Terrestrial Conservation Department at SPEA Birdlife Portugal
15.00 – 15.15	+	European Nature Restoration Law and its potential for non-EU countries / Mrs. Sofie Ruyschaert , Nature Restoration Policy Office at Birdlife International
15.15 – 15.30	+	Importance of Vjosa-Narta, youth perspective / UNYA
15.30 – 15.45	+	Investigative media / Mr. Lorin Kadiu , Journalist at Citizens Channel
15.45 – 16.10	+	Discussion & closing of the event
16.10 – 16.30	+	Coffee/tea break

Day II – 7th of February 2023 (Outdoor) Narta Lagoon field visit

11.00	+	Arrival in Vlora
11.00 – 14.30	+	Visiting Kërkova, saltpans, Narta Lagoon, Airport construction site
14.30 – 15.00	+	Lunch - 'Taverna e Miqesise' Narta
17.00	+	Arrival to Tirana



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