

HUMAN RIGHTS CONVERSATION

KLIMASENIORINNEN VS. SWITZERLAND: RELEVANCE FOR UN HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

15 MAY 2024, 12:30-14:00

VILLA MOYNIER, 120B RUE DE LAUSANNE, GENEVA

Organized by the Geneva Human Rights Platform in co-operation with Center for International Environmental Law this event will explore the significance of this ruling by the European Court of Human Rights.



© CIEL

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



CENTER for INTERNATIONAL
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

On 9th April 2024, the European Court of Human Rights delivered a groundbreaking decision with respect to human rights protection in the context of climate change. In *Verein KlimaSeniorinnen Schweiz and Others v Switzerland*, the Court found that states have an obligation to mitigate climate change under article 8 of the European Convention of Human Rights, which protects the right to respect for private and family life. The Court found that Switzerland, by failing to implement sufficient measures to combat climate change, violated the Convention.

As the issue of the interrelation between climate change and human rights becomes more and more important, this decision will bear significant implications in advancing climate justice litigation at the international, regional and domestic law levels. As also recognized by the European Court of Human Rights, there is now a convergence between different human rights bodies, including UN Special Rapporteurs, that the question is no longer whether, but how, human rights courts should address the impacts of environmental harms on the enjoyment of human rights.

This Human Rights Conversation, co-organized with the Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL), aims at exploring the significance of this ruling by the European Court of Human Rights and assess how other human rights bodies can draw from this decision and further strengthen the interrelation between human rights and climate change and clarify the legal obligations of states in protecting human rights from environmental harm.

In particular, the discussion will explore the meaning and impact of regional human rights systems' decisions for the debate at the UN level. On 5 April 2024, the Human Rights Council appointed Elisa Morgera as new mandate holder for the post of Special Rapporteur on Climate Change. The conversation between her and a representative of KlimaSeniorinnen Switzerland, will highlight the links between national, regional and international work in a concrete setting.

MODERATION

Felix Kirchmeier

Executive Director, Geneva Human Rights Platform

SPEAKERS

Elisa Morgera

UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change

Anne Mahrer

Co-president, KlimaSeniorinnen Switzerland

Nahla Haidar

Member of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

Francesca Mingrone

Staff Attorney, Center for International Environmental Law

REGISTRATION

Register here to attend this event in person at Villa Moynier:

<https://bit.ly/3QrBOqs>

