



Visegrad 4 Aarhus Center Releases New Public Toolkit

[November 28, 2014] – Justice & Environment, also known as the Visegrad 4 Aarhus Centre, published its new Aarhus Convention public toolkit.

The V4 Aarhus Centre is similar to other, existing such centres, to date operated by the OSCE in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia as well as in South East Europe, or by civil society in Brussels. The mission of the V4 Aarhus Center is to help citizens of the Visegrad Region (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia) enforce their rights to information, participation and justice in environmental matters.

The publication of the new Aarhus Toolkit contributes to the knowledge of the public on how to stand up for its access rights and how to make its voice heard in environmentally controversial cases.

Csaba Kiss, Coordinator of Justice and Environment, commented:

“While there are a few guidelines and background materials already published, some of them are quite heavy reading. This one prepared by the Visegrad 4 Aarhus Center is an easy-to-read version of what rights the Aarhus Convention confers upon all of us, anyone of us.”

The V4 Aarhus Centre started its operation on 2nd June and was available for the citizens of the European Union with special regard to Visegrad Countries’ citizens. Cases in which legal advice was obtained are presented in the [Summary Newsletter](#). Legal advice was provided in English, Czech, Hungarian, Polish and Slovak languages respectively.

The Aarhus Convention Public Toolkit is available in English on the [website](#) of J&E. You can find the national language versions (Czech, Hungarian, Polish, Slovak) on the respective websites of our Aarhus Center members: FBS, EMLA, FFB and VI.

The founding and operation of the V4 Aarhus Center was made possible by the generous support of the [International Visegrad Fund](#).

Notes to editors:

1. The Aarhus Convention is an international convention of the UNECE region on access to information, public participation and access to justice in environmental matters. [More info](#)
2. OSCE is the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.
3. V4 Aarhus Center social media platform: <https://www.facebook.com/justiceandenvironment>

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