

# European Forests: Hotspots of Biodiversity

9 September 2020, 13:30 to 17:30

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## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY



**Adam Jarubas**

*Member of the European Parliament*

MEP Adam Jarubas - a graduate of Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce, Poland. In 2018 he obtained the title of Doctor of Social Sciences there. He is Member of the European Parliament for the period of 2019 - 2024. Member of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (COM ENV). Assistant professor at the Institute of International Policy and Security of Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce, Poland. In 2006-2018, the marshal of the Governor of the Świętokrzyskie Province (Voivodeship) in Poland. Until 2019, plenipotentiary of the Mayor of Starachowice (Poland) for social affairs.



**Jessica Polfjärd**

*Member of the European Parliament*

Jessica Polfjärd is a Swedish politician of the Moderate Party and has been a Member of the Swedish Parliament since 2006. She is a member of the European Parliament in the EPP group since 2019 and a Member of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health, and Food Safety (COM ENVI) and the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly. Mrs. Polfjärd is the rapporteur of the COM ENVI Opinion on the European Forest Strategy - The Way Forward. She is also Vice-Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Mexico Joint Parliamentary Committee.



**Luc Bas**

*Director European Regional Office, IUCN*

Luc Bas was European Director of The Climate Group in Brussels, working with business and government to reach more ambitious EU climate policies and prepare for a true energy transition. As International Director of The Climate Group's States and Regions Alliance, he established one of the most significant networks of sub-national governments leading on tackling climate change. Luc worked as adviser on international sustainable development policies for both the Belgian Federal and Flemish Governments, representing them at the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (SD), the OECD national SD expert panel, the Belgium Federal Council on SD, as well as at

various networks of subnational governments. Luc holds a Master's degree in industrial engineering and postgraduate degrees in both environmental science and international politics.



**Annemarie Bastrup-Birk**

*Forest Assessments and Information, European Environment Agency*

Annemarie Bastrup-Birk has more than 25 years of professional experience on forests and forestry issues. She is currently responsible for Forest Assessments and Information at the European Environmental Agency (EEA).



**Humberto Delgado Rosa**

*Director for Natural Capital, DG Environment, European Commission*

Humberto Delgado Rosa is the Director for Natural Capital, DG Environment, European Commission. Previously he was Director for Mainstreaming Adaptation and Low Carbon Technology in DG Climate Action. He is experienced in European and international environmental policy, particularly in biodiversity and climate change issues. He served as Secretary of State for the Environment of the Portuguese Government from March 2005 to June 2011. Between 1995 and 2002 he was an advisor for environmental matters to the Prime-Minister of Portugal. He holds a PhD in Evolutionary Biology. H. Delgado Rosa was born in Lisbon in 1960.



**Christine Farcy**

*International Forest Policy (Service Public de Wallonie) and invited Lecturer at UCLouvain*

Christine Farcy is the chairperson of the European Forestry Commission of FAO as well as the vice-chairperson of the Board of the European Forest Institute (EFI). She is Forest Engineer and holds a PhD in Agricultural Sciences. She dedicated many years to research activities and interested in building bridges between natural, human and social sciences. During the Belgian Presidency of the European Union in 2010, she was chairing the Working Party on Forestry of the EU Council. Since 2010, she has acted as advisor on international forest policies for the Walloon Region (Belgium) and has been a negotiator for Belgium in various international fora. As of 2019, she is doing so as part of the Ministry (SPW). She is also an invited lecturer at UCLouvain University (Belgium), where she has been teaching forest planning and international forest challenges since 2009.



**Sven Erik Hammar**

*Member of the Board of CEPF*

Sven Erik Hammar is a Member of the Board of CEPF as well as a Member of the Board of The Forest Owner Association Mellanskog. Mr Hammar has through various positions within the forest owner organizations in Sweden and Europe, long experience of putting the important issues for the family forestry on the agenda and impelling them forward. He is currently the Special Envoy for Swedish Forest Owners in international forest issues. He has a forest education and in addition to his assignments as an elected representative, he is a forest owner, entrepreneur and strategic advisor. Sven Erik Hammar is also the former President of the Federation of Swedish Family Forest Owners and Vice President of the Federation of Swedish Farmers (LRF).



**Frank Krumm**

*Researcher Forest dynamics unit, Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research*

Frank Krumm is currently Working at the Swiss Federal Institute of Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL in the group Forest dynamics/disturbance ecology. The focus of his work is to identify and evaluate processes on how to improve biodiversity conservation within managed forests that produce valuable timber but also other ecosystem services. At the moment Krumm is engaged as the Project leader of the “oForest” project - *How to balance Forestry and Biodiversity conservation? – A view across Europe*. A book project with a compilation of good practice examples across Europe on how to integrate biodiversity conservation into forest management on an enterprise level. Until 2017 he has worked at the European Forest Institute (EFI), project work and management in different projects (INTEGRATE, INTEGRATE+, INVASIVES, FRISK-GO) in the regional office for Central Europe in Freiburg, Germany.



**Uwe Mestemacher**

*Head of Nature Conservation Department, Lower Saxony State Forest*

Uwe Mestemacher holds a Master`s degree in forest sciences from the University of Göttingen, where he specialized in nature protection and landscape conservation. During his time as a research assistant at the University of Göttingen, he contributed to a book on the economic assessment of various forest development scenarios for the Hessian Reed, in the context of the rapidly changing water and climate conditions and requirements of the European Natura 2000 protected area system. Mr. Mestemacher joined the Lower Saxony State Forest Enterprise in 2010, where he initially worked as the Head of Section, IT for the Timber Profit and Loss Account. In his current position, Mr. Mestemacher focuses on integrated nature conservation approaches and the provision of ecosystem services for the Lower Saxony state forests.



**Jørgen Bo Larsen**

*Professor emeritus, Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management, University of Copenhagen*

Jørgen Bo Larsen is professor emeritus (Forest Ecology and Silviculture) at University of Copenhagen and professor at Nanjing Forestry University in Nanjing, China. Former, he was professor (Forest protection) at Göttingen University, Germany.

His research covers silviculture, genetics and forest tree breeding, gene conservation and gene ecology, forest ecology, eco-physiology, provenance research and forest protection with the objective of understanding processes and functions of forest ecosystems to facilitate the development of sustainable forest management approaches. He has been instrumental in developing and applying close-to-nature forest management in Denmark. He has served on the Board of several international forest research organizations including European Forest Institute (EFI, Board chair), International Forestry Research Center (CIFOR, Board member) and World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF, Board member).



**Jo O'Hara MICFor**

*Land Use Consultant and former Head of Forestry Commission Scotland*

Jo O'Hara MICFor is a senior leader in UK Forestry, having served as a UK Forestry Commissioner, as Chief Executive of Scottish Forestry, and as Scotland's first Chief Forester. During her time in Scottish Forestry she oversaw major reform of forestry regulation, the establishment of a new Forestry Agency, and the introduction of a comprehensive national Forestry Strategy.

Jo is a member of the Council of the UK Institute of Chartered Foresters, and runs her own consulting, coaching and facilitation business. She is also Vice-Chair of Changeworks – a large Scottish carbon-reduction charity.



**Reinhardt Neft**

*CEO of Bavarian State Forest Enterprise and President of EUSTAFOR*

Reinhardt Neft completed his forestry studies at the LMU Munich in 1986. After the state examination for higher forestry services in 1988, he worked in the forestry and forestry department at the State Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (StMLF). He headed the data processing planning team there until 1994, after which he took over the management of the forest office in Landsberg. From 2000 he headed the department "Business Administration, Information and Communication Technology" and from 2001 the department "Forest Organization, Management, Information Technology" at the StMLF. From 2004, Reinhardt Neft was founding director of the Bavarian State Forest, which is currently being set up. Since the foundation of the Bavarian State Forests, Neft has been a board member of the Bavarian State Forests. He is married and has three grown children.



**Matthias Schwoerer**

*Chair of WP Forestry, German Presidency of the Council of the EU*

Matthias Schwoerer is Director of the European and International Forest Policy Division within the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture. He is forester by profession. During his career he has been involved in a broad range of national and international processes of forest and environmental policy, inter alia as coordinator of the National Forest Program. He overlooks and is chief negotiator for Germany on all European and international forest-related matters, is focal point for UNFF and FOREST EUROPE and coordinator of the German policies and programs against illegal logging and in support of deforestation-free supply chains of agro-commodities. He has over long time served as member of the Standing Forestry Committee of the EU Commission, has been involved in the development of the two first EU forest strategies and initiated the European network INTEGRATE on nature protection in forestry. To support know-how transfer, capacity building and education in the field of sustainable forest management worldwide, he developed and is responsible for the international and bilateral forest cooperation program of the Federal Ministry. As current chair of the Working Party on Forestry he overlooks deliberations on the future of EU's forest-related policies and is guiding the development of Council Conclusions on a post-2020 forest strategy of the EU.



**António Paula Soares**

*Member of the Board of Directors of the Confederation of Farmers of Portugal, Member of the Board of CEPF, and Chairman for the European Commission Civil Dialogue Group on Forestry and Cork*

António Paula Soares is a Member of the Board of the Confederation of European Forest Owners (CEPF) and a Member of the Board of the Confederation of Portuguese Farmers (CAP) and a Chair for the Civil Dialogue Group (CDG) on Forestry and Cork. Mr Soares is also President of the National Association of Landowners in Portugal (ANPC), Member of the Forestry National Council and Member of the Advisory Board of the National Institute for Nature Conservation and Forests (ICNF). He has a long experience from forestry and forest-based sector, including projects related to biodiversity conservation and bioeconomy.



**Floor Vodde**

*Researcher, Estonian University of Life Sciences*

Floor Vodde is a scientist at the Estonian University of Life Sciences in Tartu and a member of the PROFOR network (supported by SNS and the Forest Biodiversity Network). Her main field of focus is natural forest disturbance dynamics, with an emphasis on rendering the forest ecosystem more resilient. Current projects are associated with the regrowth of forest after wind disturbance and the mechanisms behind spruce bark beetle spread. The main quest will be to pinpoint references for a more natural forest composition in order to increase the range of responses to challenges such as climate change and the sustainable provision of forest ecosystem services.