

Access to Justice



Already present in some EU Directives, **Access to justice** is a favourite dish amongst progressive EU Member States and institutions who wish to see the EU meet its climate targets. It should give the public the power to ensure they have input into climate targets, that legislative commitments are met and the environment is protected. This classic recipe will ensure that members of public (individuals and ngos) can challenge acts or omissions - by private persons and public authorities - that fail to comply with the requirements of the requirements of the law concerned.

START with a plan

Preheat ambition to 1.5°C and net zero by 2050 at the latest (for best results make this a legally binding target in all member states). Ensure the following provisions are included in all files across the 'Fit for 55' package.



USE what you have

Using an amendment pre-prepared by the European Parliament, add **standing**. This means that members of the public may go to court to challenge climate failings by their Governments, if they have sufficient interest, or their rights are impaired. **IMPORTANT:** Ensure that NGOs always have standing.



FOLLOW instructions!

Make access to justice widely available in accordance with the Aarhus Convention - just as a friendly reminder that the EU and all Member States have an obligation under international law to ensure broad access to justice in all environmental matters.



CHECK requirements

Procedures must be **fair, equitable, timely and not prohibitively expensive**. There should be no exclusion of substantive review, and of any preliminary review procedure. Provision can be made to exhaust administrative remedies if required by national law. Practical information must be made available to the public on how to access procedures.



Best served to your citizens immediately, allowing them to hold member states accountable if they fail to implement climate laws like they have promised to.

Enjoy!