

INVITATION:  
**A Human Rights Based Approach To Climate Action**  
**What Accountability For EU's  
Climate Finance Contributions?**



**AN EVENT KINDLY HOSTED BY:**  
Heidi HAUTALA, Greens/EFA  
Jo LEINEN, S&D  
Eleonora EVI, EFDD Group  
Ignazio CORRAO, EFDD Group

**Tuesday 24 March 2015 from 12:00 to 14:30**  
**European Parliament - Room 5 E1**

## INVITATION:

# A Human Rights Based Approach To Climate Action

## What Accountability For EU's Climate Finance Contributions?

2015 marks an important year that will culminate with the adoption of a new set of sustainable development goals and an international climate treaty to replace the Kyoto Protocol. At the UNFCCC negotiations in February 2015 the Geneva Pledge, an initiative to better understand the connection between human rights and climate change, was launched. This upcoming lunch debate builds on the momentum of the need to protect human rights and the discussions around the accountability of climate finance and aims to discuss this important topic for the first time from a European perspective.

Experience with climate finance projects to date have shown a policy gap that protects human rights in all climate actions. For example, the Santa Rita hydroelectric dam in Guatemala, co-funded by the Dutch and German development banks as well as by the World Bank was approved by the UN's offsetting mechanism despite violent conflicts between the indigenous Q'eqchi' and Poqomchi' communities.

At the occasion of the event, experts will discuss the role of human rights in climate actions, the accountability of companies involved in mobilising private finance and the role the EU's Strategic Framework on Human Rights and Democracy can play to advance a human rights based approach in a future climate treaty.

### Program:

- 12.00** Sandwich lunch
- 12.30** Opening remarks, *MEP Heidi Hautala*
- 12.40** Experience with the UN's approved Santa Rita hydro electric dam, *Maximo Ba Tiul, Council of Peoples of Tezulutlan, Guatemala*
- 12.55** Opportunities for integrating a human rights based approach in a global climate treaty, *Eva Filzmoser, Carbon Market Watch*
- 13.10** The role of UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights & climate change, *Meera Ghani, CIDSE*
- 13.25** Overview of landscape of current EU Human Rights and Democracy Policy, *Claire Ivers, Human Rights Watch*
- 13.40** Discussion, Q&A, moderated by *MEP Ignazio Corrao*
- 14.15** Closing remarks, *MEP Eleonora Evi*

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