

# GIVING NATURE A VOICE: WEBINAR PROGRAM(ME)

## A SPACE FOR INSPIRATION

You will have access to a unique space where knowledge, stories and creative approaches are exchanged, to continue building the global Rights of Nature movement.

## I HAVE QUESTIONS

If you have questions, feel free to contact us at  
[organizer@therightsofnature.org](mailto:organizer@therightsofnature.org)



The Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature is launching a webinar series: **GIVING NATURE A VOICE - Talks about Rights of Nature with game-changing leaders.**

The webinar series will be hosted by key leaders (Pablo Solón, Vandana Shiva, Osprey Orielle Lake, David Boyd, and more) from the global Rights of Nature movement. They will share their knowledge, wisdom and experiences about the expanding Rights of Nature movement and its power to restore balance to our biosphere.

The global Rights of Nature movement is growing every year and we see a great opportunity to strengthen our ties through an exchange with the rest of the world. During the last 10 years, we have seen inspirational judicial advancements on national, subnational and local level in countries such as Ecuador, Bolivia, New Zealand, India, Colombia and the United States.

We invite you to take part in the webinar series to learn more about how Rights of Nature is protecting our planet and people, and to give you the information and tools to get involved in the movement.

# OUR INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKERS

31ST OF MAY 2018

18:00 GMT

## *Rights of Nature: Protecting and Defending the Places We Live*

During this training we will explore the paradigm-shifting work of Rights of Nature, and explain how this transformative legal framework is already being used around the world to challenge legal systems based on dominion over and exploitation of the Earth, and instead usher in a legal, social, political and economic framework based upon the inherent rights and natural laws of the Earth's living systems. We will delve into examples of how U.S. and international communities are successfully enacting local Rights of Nature legislation as a tool to protect ecosystems, their communities and just climate solutions. Presenters will also share stories of the growing global movement for the Rights of Nature and the dynamic Rights of Nature Tribunals that have been held in countries worldwide.



Osprey Orielle Lake, WECAN  
Shannon Biggs, Movement Rights

## *About the speakers*

Osprey Orielle Lake is the Founder and Executive Director of the Women's Earth and Climate Action Network (WECAN) International. She works nationally and internationally with grassroots and Indigenous leaders, policy-makers and scientists to promote climate justice, resilient communities, and a just transition to a clean energy future.

Shannon Biggs is the co-founder and Director of Movement Rights, which was born in 2015 out of her 12 years of work at Global Exchange, where she was Director of Development until 2005, before beginning the Community and Nature's Rights Program, focused on assisting communities confronted by corporate harms to enact binding laws that place the rights of communities and nature above the claimed legal "rights" of corporations.

**This webinar is a collaboration between GARN,  
WECAN International and Movement Rights.**

To attend this webinar, please **enter one of the two links** below:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/195987731155025/> or

<http://wecaninternational.org/pages/international-climate-justice-calls>

# 5 DE JUNIO + 7 DE JUNIO 2018

12:15 GMT

**DUO WEBINAR: Dos siguientes webinars con el mismo orador**

## *La Pachamama y el Derecho Salvaje (webinar in Spanish)*

### **5 de junio: La Pachamama**

Vamos a explorar la epistemología andina para entender la Pachamama. El valor del uso y la utopía andina serán analizados junto con el (des)encuentro con la naturaleza y la literatura.

### **7 de junio: El Derecho Salvaje: El derecho de los Derechos de la Naturaleza**

Vamos a ver los problemas del paradigma antropocéntrico y analizar el derecho de los Derechos de la Naturaleza: la validez normativa, las fuentes, Derechos de los seres no humanos, la exigibilidad y los casos que existen para defender la naturaleza.

**La hora para los dos webinars en Quito, Ecuador: 07h15 a 08h55, ambos días.**



Ramiro Ávila Santamaría,  
Universidad Andina  
Simón Bolívar

## *Sobre el orador*

Ramiro es un abogado ecuatoriano y Doctor en Jurisprudencia, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador; Master of Laws, Columbia Law School, Nueva York; Máster en Sociología del Derecho, y Doctor en Sociología del Derecho, Universidad del País Vasco, Donostia (UPV). Es el director del Departamento de Derecho de la Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar. Ramiro también es profesor de Filosofía del Derecho y Derecho Constitucional en la Pontificia Universidad Católica de Quito. Es miembro del colectivo Yasunidos y su temas de interés en docencia e investigación son teoría del Derecho, Neoconstitucionalismo, Garantismo penal, Pluralismo jurídico y justicia indígena, Derechos sociales, Derechos Humanos y activismo judicial, Cultura jurídica.

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# 12 JUILLET 2018

16:00 GMT

## *Accorder des droits à la nature (webinar in French)*



Valérie Cabanes

L'humanité ne peut pas survivre isolée du reste du vivant, comme hors-sol. Nous dépendons des fonctions vitales de la terre. Notre écosystème global est basé sur un ensemble complexe d'équilibres extrêmement précis et fragiles et le dépassement de certaines limites conduit le Système Terre dans un état beaucoup moins hospitalier. Nous sommes une espèce vivante impliquée dans ce réseau d'échanges dont l'équilibre doit être maintenu. Nous devons être capables de parler au nom de la nature, de lui donner une voix face à la prédation des États et des multinationales. Depuis plusieurs décennies, un nouveau modèle de gouvernance reconnaissant les droits intrinsèques des écosystèmes a fait l'objet de réflexions et conduit à l'adoption de lois nationales ou locales qui accordent des droits à la nature. Nous explorerons ce changement de conscience extraordinaire par l'étude des cas concrets dans le monde entier.

## *A propos de l'orateur*

Valérie est avocate en droit international avec une expertise en droit international humanitaire et droits de l'homme. Elle a entrepris un doctorat en anthropologie juridique dans le nord du Québec avec le peuple innu et s'est ensuite engagée dans la défense de son territoire ancestral menacé par de grands projets de barrages hydroélectriques. En 2011, elle s'est opposée à des projets industriels en Amazonie brésilienne, en particulier au barrage de Belo Monte, en préparant des rapports débattus au Conseil des droits de l'homme des Nations unies ou au Parlement européen.

En 2013, elle a participé au lancement d'une initiative citoyenne européenne proposant une directive européenne sur le crime d'écocide. Valérie est, depuis 2016, membre du Réseau de connaissances Harmony with Nature. Elle a contribué avec 7 livres collectifs et est l'auteur de Un nouveau droit pour la terre.

*Si vous souhaitez participer à ce webinaire, veuillez vous inscrire dans notre formulaire et nous vous enverrons une invitation.*

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# 30TH OF AUGUST 2018

16:00 GMT

## *Rights of Nature in plurinational Ecuador: The diversity of the national movement and Rights of Nature as a powerful tool for defending Pachamama*



*Natalia Greene, The Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature*

10 years ago, in 2008, Ecuador became the first country in the world to recognize Nature as a subject of Rights. This became a key element to achieve Buen Vivir or well-being as a model of development based in the respect of the various indigenous nationalities living in Ecuador and the protection of the country's unique mega-biodiversity. Natalia Greene will share the story of how Ecuador was able to incorporate Rights of Nature in its Constitution as well as what has happened since. The country has more than 24 Rights of Nature cases which will be presented and analyzed during this webinar as well as the empowerment and social change in Ecuador thanks to this recognition. This South American country's experience can serve as an inspiration to successfully implement Rights of Nature in other parts of the world in many levels and contexts. The webinar will evidence how the Constitutional provisions have become a very powerful and versatile tool to revolutionize the relationship between humans and Nature during this critical time for the Planet.

### *About the speaker*

Natalia Greene is part of the International Rights of Nature Tribunal's Secretariat. She was actively involved in the Constitution process in Ecuador, particularly with the 'Rights to Nature' clause and the role of civil society and indigenous people in the process. Natalia is a consultant for Rights of Nature with Pachamama Alliance and is the focal point in Ecuador for the Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature. She graduated at Hampshire College, holds a Political Science master's degree from FLACSO Ecuador and a master's degree from UASB on Climate Change. She promoted the recognition of Rights for Nature in Ecuador's Constitution and has worked on the environmental and indigenous aspects of the Yasuní-ITT Initiative to keep oil underground in the Amazon. From 2011 until 2013, Natalia Greene was the President of CEDENMA, the National Coordinating Entity for Environmental NGO's, now re-elected for the 2018-2020 period. Nowadays, she coordinates the Climate Justice National Platform and works with Terra Mater and Fundación Pachamama.

*If you wish to attend this webinar, please register in our form and we will send you an invitation.*

# 4 DE OCTUBRE 2018

16:00 GMT



Alberto Acosta

## LA NATURALEZA CON DERECHOS O EL DERECHO A LA EXISTENCIA (webinar in Spanish)

¿Derechos a la Naturaleza? ¿Una aberración?

El antropocentrismo: el corte al nudo gordiano

La Naturaleza no es muda: los límites biofísicos superados

El socio-biocentrismo: volver a atar el nudo gordiano

Un paso histórico en la Asamblea Constituyente de Montecristi

Un análisis compartido: Derechos Humanos y Derechos de la Naturaleza

La difícil construcción de la utopía

Un Tribunal Ético de los Derechos de la Naturaleza

Otras opciones desde la sociedad civil (observatorio de los Derechos de la Naturaleza).

### *Sobre el orador*

Alberto Acosta es un economista ecuatoriano. Antes de ser nombrado Ministro de Energía y Minas, fue investigador en el Instituto Latinoamericano de Investigación Social (ilDis). También fue investigador y profesor en FLACSO-Ecuador. Alberto también es el ex presidente de la Asamblea Constituyente que reconoció los Derechos de la Naturaleza en Ecuador. El ex candidato a la Presidencia de la República del Ecuador, profesor universitario, conferenciante y autor de libros son algunos ejemplos más de sus contribuciones inspiradoras a la comunidad global.

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# 12TH OF NOVEMBER 2018

17:00 GMT



*Shannon Biggs,  
Movement Rights*

## *How the Ponca Nation recognized the Rights of Nature to ban Fracking*

In 2018 the Ponca Nation of Oklahoma made history by becoming the first tribe in the US to recognize the Rights of Nature in tribal law. The tribe has endured a funeral a week related to the onslaught of legalized oil and gas activities including fracking, pipelines, injection wells, refineries, and other toxic infrastructure all located on or around Ponca tribal lands. Supported by Movement Rights, Ponca tribal councilwoman Casey Camp Horinek led these efforts in order to challenge the systemic cause of what their “environmental genocide” at the hands of Big Oil and Gas. Despite becoming the “fracking earthquake capitol of the world” Oklahoma has embraced the industry, and forbidden communities from regulating it. In passing this law, the Ponca nation has not only stood up for the protection of their lands, but are leading other tribes and communities to follow.

## *About the speaker*

Shannon Biggs is the co-founder and Executive Director of Movement Rights, advancing legal rights for communities, indigenous peoples and ecosystems. She works primarily in California but also with Native American tribes and allies nationally where she assists communities to ban harmful projects by passing binding laws that assert the rights of communities and nature over corporate projects. Internationally, she is a recognized leader of the Rights of Nature/Mother Earth movement and a co-founder of the Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature.

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# 30TH OF JANUARY 2019

18:00 GMT



*Michelle Bender, Ocean  
Rights Manager at Earth Law  
Center*

## *Ocean Governance - for the future of our oceans*

The webinar will highlight current ocean protection efforts, provide an overview on cases where Rights of Nature has been advanced in ocean law internationally, and the lessons learned we can take towards further implementing ocean rights together.

## *About the speaker*

Michelle Bender is the Ocean Rights Manager at Earth Law Center (ELC), with the mission to transform the law to recognize and protect nature's inherent rights to exist, thrive and evolve. At ELC, Michelle focuses on incorporating the rights of nature movement into ocean governance internationally, and has created the Earth Law Framework, a guideline for how to implement rights of nature with marine protected areas.

Michelle graduated Summa Cum Laude from Vermont Law School, where she earned a Master's in Environmental Law and Policy and holds a B.S. in Biology with a Marine Emphasis from Western Washington University. Now Michelle works as Earth Law Center as the Ocean Rights Manager.

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# 27TH OF MARCH 2019

17:00 GMT



*Pablo Solón*  
(Fundación Solón)

## *From Tiquipaya to TIPNIS: What has happened until today with the Universal Declaration of Rights of Mother Earth in Bolivia?*

In August 2018, a commission of the International Rights of Nature Tribunal visited Bolivia to obtain first-hand information and to meet with all the parties involved in the conflict in the construction of the road through the protected area and Indigenous territory of the TIPNIS. In this webinar, we will see what the results of this visit have been and how progress is being made in fulfilling the rights of Mother Earth in Bolivia, which hosted the 2010 Peoples Conference on Climate Change and Rights of Mother Earth.

### *About the speaker*

Before becoming Ambassador to the United Nations, Pablo worked as an activist for many years with different social organizations, indigenous movements, workers' unions, student associations, human rights and cultural organizations in Bolivia.

As Ambassador to the UN, Solón spearheaded successful resolutions on the Human Right to Water, International Mother Earth Day, Harmony with Nature, and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. He was very active in climate change negotiations under the UNFCCC, and helped organize the World People's Conference on Climate Change in Cochabamba, Bolivia in 2010. In 2012, Pablo became the Executive Director of the Bangkok-based NGO Focus on the Global South where he worked on the issue of climate change and promoted the Declaration on the Rights of Mother Earth.

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# TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON!



*Vandana Shiva,  
Navdanya*

*The Living Seed in a world facing climate change  
- an ecofeminist perspective*

## *About the speaker*

Vandana Shiva is an Indian physicist, author, eco-activist and agro-ecologist, ecofeminist, scientific advisor and mother. Vandana, the daughter of a forestry official and a farmer, grew up in Dehra Dun, near the foothills of the Himalayas. She combines sharp intellectual enquiry with courageous activism, and her work spans teaching at universities worldwide to working with peasants in rural India. In 1991 Shiva launched Navdanya, meaning “Nine Seeds,” or “New Gift” in Hindi. The project, part of RFSTE, strove to combat the growing tendency toward monoculture promoted by large corporations. Navdanya formed over 40 seed banks in India and attempted to educate farmers on the benefits of conserving their unique strains of seed crops.

*If you wish to attend this webinar, please register in our form  
and we will send you an invitation.*

# HOW DO I REGISTER?

## To join our webinars, this is what you have to do:

Register for the specific webinar you would like to attend through our registration forms provided to you through our **website** ([www.therightsofnature.org](http://www.therightsofnature.org)) and our **Facebook page** (<https://goo.gl/aPHyGs>).

## Important to know

When registered, you will receive an invitation email with all the information you need to join. You will also receive reminder emails closer to the webinar date.

There may occur **changes in the programme** in terms of hour or date of the webinars. We encourage you to keep track of the programme through our website **[www.therightsofnature.org](http://www.therightsofnature.org)**.

If you have any questions regarding the webinar you have registered for or the webinar series in general, feel free to **contact us** at **[organizer@therightsofnature.org](mailto:organizer@therightsofnature.org)**



**GARN**  
GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR  
THE RIGHTS OF NATURE

# FAQ

## *What is the Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature (GARN)?*

The Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature, founded in 2010, is a dynamic and diverse network of over 200 organizations and individuals in six continents that, through active cooperation and collective action, are advancing the legal recognition of Rights of Nature around the globe. Learn more about who we are, what we do and who we work with at <http://therightsofnature.org/>.

Please consider **making a donation to GARN**. We are a nonprofit organization and depend on the generous donations of people like you to fund our work for defending and advancing the Rights of Nature. You can make your U.S. tax-deductible donation at: <https://therightsofnature.org/donation/>

## *What is a webinar and what is Zoom?*

A webinar is a web-based seminar, hosted in real-time. Webinars allow groups in remote geographic locations to listen and participate in the same space, simultaneously, regardless of the distance between them. **Our webinars will last 45 min each**. Participants can listen and ask questions about the topic throughout the webinar.

Zoom is a cloud based service which provides simple online meetings, content sharing, and video conferencing capability. As a webinar participant, **you do not need a Zoom account to attend**, only an invitation with the link to enter the webinar.

## *Why are some webinar descriptions in different languages?*

By having some webinars in French and Spanish in this primarily English-based webinar series, we look to also include non-English speaking participants and communities. We don't want the language to be a barrier for learning and engaging in the Rights of Nature movement. **Each webinar will be presented in the language that the description is listed**. E.g. if a webinar description is in Spanish, the webinar will be held in Spanish and if the description is in English, the webinar will be held in English.

## *How can I find out what time the webinar is in my time zone?*

We recommend you to use this website: <https://www.timeanddate.com>. By using the International Meeting Planner, you can calculate what the time of the webinar will be in your time zone, on the specific date you want to participate.