



# Aarhus Centres Network of Serbia

**Srdjan Matovic**  
**Aarhus Centre**  
**Kragujevac, Serbia**





## REPUBLIC OF SERBIA and AARHUS CONVENTION

The National Assembly  
**adopted**  
the Law on ratification  
of the Aarhus Convention  
on **May 12<sup>th</sup> 2009.**

On **July 31<sup>st</sup> 2009.**  
Republic of Serbia  
**signed accession to the Aarhus**  
**Convention.**

The Convention  
**entered into force**  
on **29<sup>th</sup> October 2009.**





# REPUBLIC OF SERBIA and AARHUS CONVENTION



Government of the Republic of Serbia  
**adopted**  
the Strategy for Implementing the Aarhus Convention and the related Action Plan  
**(2011-2016)**  
on  
**December 31<sup>st</sup> 2011.**





# AARHUS CENTRES 2010 – 2011



December 23<sup>th</sup> 2011.



Mart 4<sup>th</sup> 2011.



April 28<sup>th</sup> 2010.



# AARHUS CENTRES 2010 - 2011





# AARHUS CENTRES 2012

**AARHUS**  
ARHUS CENTAR



**AARHUS****SU**  
ARHUS CENTAR SUBOTICA

**AARHUS****JIS**  
ARHUS CENTAR JUŽNE I ISTOČNE SRBIJE



**AARHUS**  
ARHUS CENTAR SUBOTICA



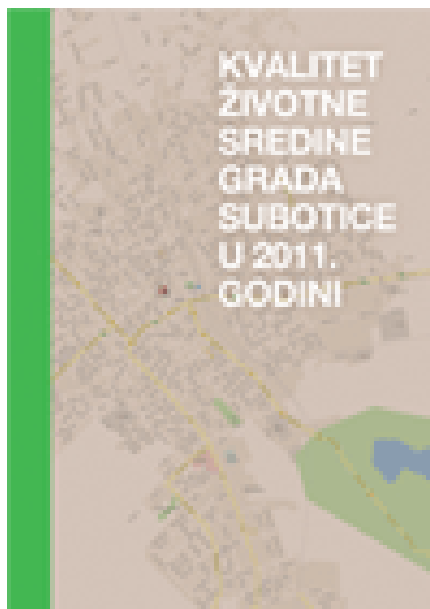
ANALIZA KOMBINACIJA IZ ODRŽIVOSTI INFORMACIJA, UČESĆU GRAĐANIN IZ DONOSILACIJA ODLUKA I PROMENA PRAVNIH ZAKLON I PRAVILNA ŽIVOTNE SREDINE

**AARHUS**  
ARHUS CENTAR

**AARHUS KC**  
ARHUS CENTAR KRAJEVAC

PRIMENA  
ARHUSKE KONVENCIJE  
U REPUBLICI SRBIJI

MODELI  
PRAVNIH AKATA  
ZA JEDINICE  
LOKALNE SAMOUPRAVE  
U CILJU PRIMENE  
ARHUSKE KONVENCIJE



**AARHUS JIS**  
ARHUS CENTAR JUŽNE I ISTOČNE SRBIJE



PRIMENA  
ARHUSKE  
KONVENCIJE  
U SRBIJI





## AARHUS CENTRES

### Establishment

### CSO

**KRAGUJEVAC**

April 28<sup>th</sup> 2010

August 13<sup>st</sup> 2012

**SUBOTICA**

Mart 4<sup>th</sup> 2011

**NOVI SAD**

December 23<sup>th</sup>2011

Mart 23<sup>th</sup> 2011

**NIS**

October 30<sup>th</sup> 2012

The main purpose of Aarhus Centres  
is to enshure effective implementation of the Aarhus Convention principles by assisting  
the Government authorities to fulfill their obligations under the Convention.





## Memorandum of Understanding

signed between

the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning  
and City of Kragujevac

**supporting the establishment  
of Aarhus Centre Kragujevac**

Aarhus Centre Kragujevac is part of the Environmental  
Protection Service within the City Administration.

April 28<sup>th</sup> 2010.

## Civil Society Organization

August 13<sup>th</sup> 2012.



# "The adoption of European standards in the design and implementation of environmental policy in Serbia"



# Roundtable "Sustainable Partnerships towards a Healthy Environment"



## Presentation of "The Protocol on Water and Health "



## "School of Environmental Law 2013."

### ŠKOLA EKOLOŠKOG PRAVA

19/20. 04. 2013.  
Kragujevac



## REGIONAL AARHUS CENTRE SUBOTICA

### Meeting point of Environmental organization (CSO)

- Public debates
- Round tables
- Discussions
- Presentations
- Initiatives



## REGIONAL AARHUS CENTRE SUBOTICA CSOs

- Association TERRA'S
- Center for Environment and Sustainable Development (CEKOR)
- Association Know-how
  - AIESEC
- Compost Team EUG "HORIZONTI"
- Movement Zeitgeist



# PUBLIC CAMPAIGNS

2011



**Earth Day**  
**April 22<sup>th</sup>**



**Europe Day**  
**Maj 9<sup>th</sup>**



**World Environment Day**  
**June 5<sup>th</sup>**

2012





# PUBLIC CAMPAIGNS

2013

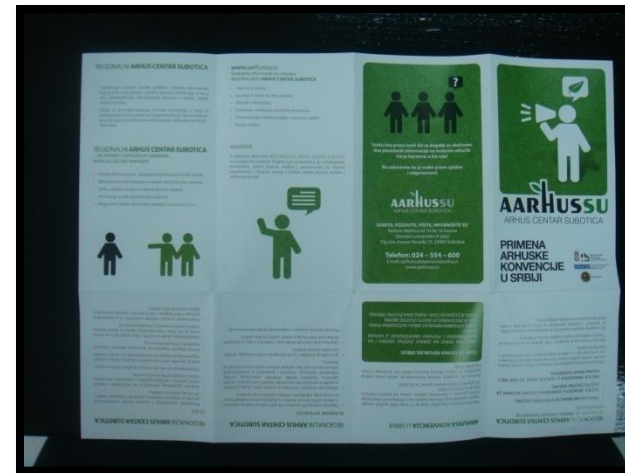
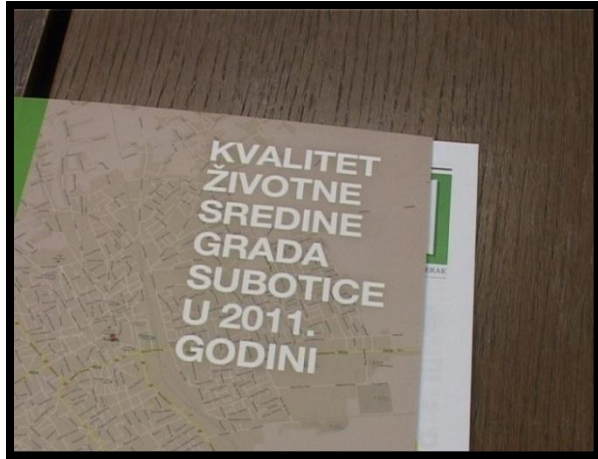


**Europe Day**  
**Maj 9<sup>th</sup>**





# ENVIRONMENTAL LIBRARY





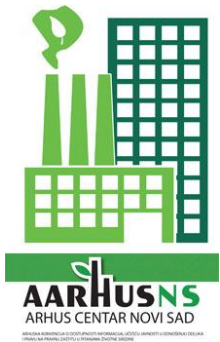
# AARHUS CENTRE NOVI SAD

[www.aarhusns.rs](http://www.aarhusns.rs)

[aarhus.novisad@gmail.com](mailto:aarhus.novisad@gmail.com)

Established on December 23<sup>rd</sup> 2011.



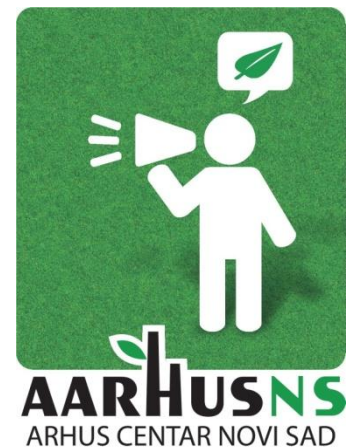


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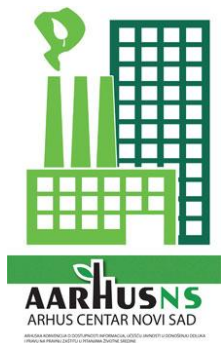
aarhus.novisad@gmail.com

## WITH INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE TOWARDS THE ENVIRONMENT



PRIMENA  
ARHUSKE  
KONVENCIJE  
U SRBIJI





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## STRENGTHENING THE AARHUS CONVENTION PILLARS

Workshops for legal practitioners, lawyers, journalists,  
representatives of media, business and CSOs

October – December 2012.



# AARHUS CENTRE SOUTH AND EAST SERBIA NIS

Founded in 20 October 2012 in partnership with NGO Protecta



Centar za razvoj građanskog društva



[www.aarhuscentarjis.rs](http://www.aarhuscentarjis.rs)

# AARHUS CENTRE SOUTH AND EAST SERBIA NIS

Hosted a meeting of Board for Environmental protection of Standing Conference of Cities and Municipalities of Republic of Serbia



Presentation  
Protocol of Water and Health





# AARHUS CENTRE SOUTH AND EAST SERBIA NIS

Initiative for implementation of Aarhus Convention  
in City of Nis on June,5 2013





Napomena:  
Stavovi izrečeni u ovoj publikaciji pripadaju  
isključivo autorima i ne predstavljaju  
nužno zvaničan stav Misije OEBS u Srbiji.

# IMAS PRAVO



**oebs**

Organizacija za evropsku  
sveobuhvatnost i saradnju  
Misija u Srbiji

**AARHUSKC**  
ARHUS CENTAR KRAGUJEVAC

PROJEKTOM JE OBUHVACENO  
**14 GRADOVA U ŠUMADIJI  
I JUGOZAPADNOJ SRBIJI:**



- \* KRAGUJEVAC
- \* RAČA
- \* TOPOLA
- \* BATOČINA
- \* LAPOVO
- \* PARAČIN
- \* ARANĐELOVAC
- \* ŠABAC
- \* ČAČAK
- \* NOVA VAROŠ
- \* PRIJEPOLJE
- \* NOVI PAZAR
- \* RAŠKA
- \* KRUŠEVAC



Projektne aktivnosti su promovisane preko sajta regionalnog Arhus centra, Volonterskog centra Kragujevac i lokalnih i nacionalnih medija.



**AARHUSK**  
AARHUSK CENTAR KRAGUJEVAC

**Amaloznjenje** predstavlja 31 step 1000 godina na čemu se oslanjaju svi građani u državi. Prilikom izvođenja projekata, kao što su izgradnja objekata, mora se uzeti u obzir i zaštita okoliša. U skladu s tim, svaki građanin ima pravo biti uključeni u proces odlučivanja o projektima koji će uticati na okoliš. Ovo pravo je poznato kao pravo javnog učešća.

**Pravica javnog učešća** je pravo građana da se uključe u proces odlučivanja o projektima koji će uticati na okoliš. Ovo pravo je poznato kao pravo javnog učešća.

- Pravica javnog učešća**
- 1. pravo javnog učešća
  - 2. pravo javnog učešća
  - 3. pravo javnog učešća
  - 4. pravo javnog učešća
  - 5. pravo javnog učešća

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**UDRUŽENJE VOLONTERSKI CENTAR KRAGUJEVAC**

Volonterski rad je rad koji se obavlja bez namere da se zaradi novac. On je rad koji se obavlja u cilju pomoći drugima ili u cilju unapređenja zajednice. Volonterski rad može biti obavljan na različitim područjima, kao što su obrazovanje, zdravstvo, socijalna pomoć, zaštita okoliša, itd.

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- Volonterski rad**
- 1. rad bez namere da se zaradi novac
  - 2. rad u cilju pomoći drugima ili u cilju unapređenja zajednice
  - 3. rad koji se obavlja na različitim područjima
  - 4. rad koji se obavlja u cilju unapređenja zajednice
  - 5. rad koji se obavlja u cilju pomoći drugima

**VOLONTERSKI RAD ZA NAŠU PLANETU**

Volonterski rad je rad koji se obavlja bez namere da se zaradi novac. On je rad koji se obavlja u cilju pomoći drugima ili u cilju unapređenja zajednice. Volonterski rad može biti obavljan na različitim područjima, kao što su obrazovanje, zdravstvo, socijalna pomoć, zaštita okoliša, itd.

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  - 4. rad koji se obavlja u cilju unapređenja zajednice
  - 5. rad koji se obavlja u cilju pomoći drugima



**IMAS PRAVO**

Pravica javnog učešća je pravo građana da se uključe u proces odlučivanja o projektima koji će uticati na okoliš. Ovo pravo je poznato kao pravo javnog učešća.

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  - 3. pravo javnog učešća
  - 4. pravo javnog učešća
  - 5. pravo javnog učešća



**ČLANICE**

1. BEOGRAD	1. BEOGRAD
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# The Aarhus Campaign 2013.

Project Title:

**Providing Access to Environmental Information,  
Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental  
Decision – making Processes**

Activities:

Organization of series of outreach activities, promotional events,  
roundtables and conferences  
in twenty (20) cities and municipalities across Serbia.

# The Aarhus Campaign 2013.

Project Title:

**Providing Access to Environmental Information,  
Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental  
Decision – making Processes**

Outcome:

**Establishment of  
the Aarhus Centre Network of Serbia**

In order to boost the implementation  
of the Aarhus Convention  
the Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities in cooperation  
with the OSCE Mission to Serbia  
provided support to  
the legal team of the Aarhus Centre from Kragujevac  
in developing mechanisms enabling the implementation of the  
Aarhus Convention at local level in Serbia.

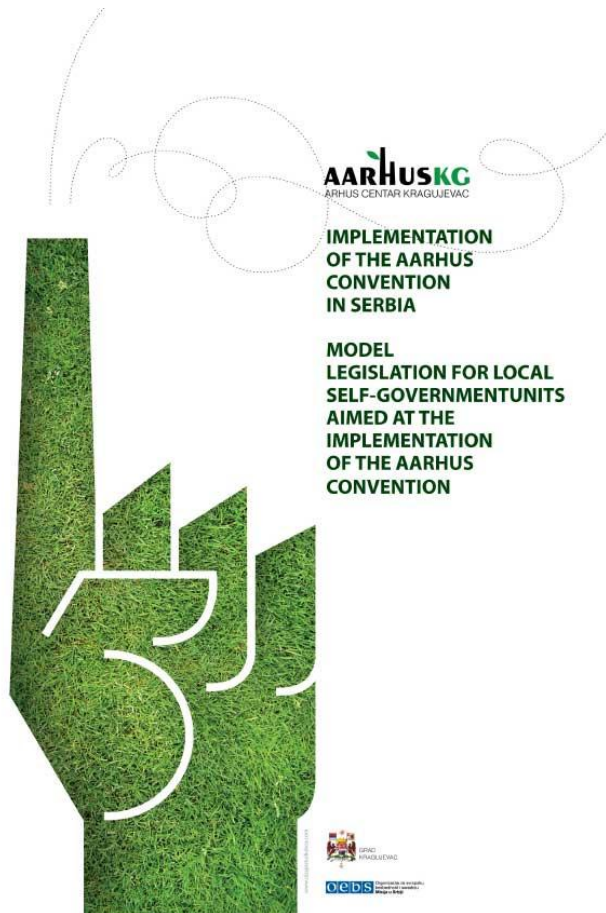
Legal models were developed in the form of municipal assembly  
decisions aimed at establishing:

**Environmental (“Green”) councils**

**“Green seats” in municipal assemblies**

**“Green phone”**

**“Green ombudsmen”**



**IMPLEMENTATION  
OF THE AARHUS  
CONVENTION  
IN SERBIA**

**MODEL  
LEGISLATION FOR LOCAL  
SELF-GOVERNMENT UNITS  
AIMED AT THE  
IMPLEMENTATION  
OF THE AARHUS  
CONVENTION**

FOTO: ILLUSTRACIJA: AARHUSK, ILLUSTRACIJA: AARHUSK, ILLUSTRACIJA: AARHUSK

**DECISION  
ON ACCESS TO  
INFORMATION,  
PUBLIC  
PARTICIPATION IN  
DECISION-MAKING  
AND ACCESS TO  
JUSTICE IN  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
MATTERS**

**Models for towns and municipalities**

This decision regulates in a general way the areas of access to information, the manner in which the public can participate in the decision-making process and access to justice. It can be used as a model for towns and municipalities on the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

The towns and particularly municipalities on the territory of the Republic of Serbia have not equally implemented the powers afforded under the Law on Local Self-Government, such as the right to establish public companies, business corporations or local community offices. Therefore, towns and municipalities can choose one of the proposed models and accordingly oblige the legal entities they founded to act in certain ways to protect the environment on their territory in accordance with the proposed model.

Articles 2, 3 and 4 in the section Access to Information have been proposed according to the same principles. However, it should be especially remarked that apart from the suggested ways of ensuring access to information specified in Article 4, additional procedures can be chosen even if not stated, on condition that they fit a model of communication that is considered to be standard in a setting where it is to be applied.

Articles 5 and 6 of the proposed model, in the section Public Participation in Decision-Making, regulate the participation of the public in the

decision-making process in this area, which is applicable on all local self-government units, regardless of their size and level of development, especially the institute "Green Assembly Chair".

The participation mechanism within this instrument should be regulated in accordance with the provisions of Rules of Procedure of the assembly of each local self-government unit. Namely, the proposed model was developed on the basis of the mechanisms of the functioning of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, but there are no obstacles for it to be fashioned in a different way. For example, the places whose assembly rules of procedure do not contain the provisions on the discussion in principle or in detail should only regulate this instrument and the right to participation in the discussion, without granting the right to participation in decision-making.

The section Access to Justice, as part of the proposed Article 7, envisages the introduction of "Green Ombudsman". This institute has been defined for the places where other institutes specified in the law have already been developed i.e. a legal assistance service and Protector of Citizens. The places where only a legal assistance service has been established will not provide for a Protector of Citizens, while local communities that do not have either of these can appoint one member of the municipal administration who is a law school graduate to perform additional duties specified in this article regulating the domain of legal assistance and the protection of citizens before administration bodies.

The closing provisions of this decision, especially Article 8, stipulate that the activities are financed from the local self-government unit's budget, i.e. the local environmental protection fund. In the cases where this fund has not yet been established, specifying that the activities will be financed from the budget of the local self-government unit will be enough.

2010

**DECISION ON THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF  
THE ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION COUNCIL  
(GREEN COUNCIL)**

**Models for towns and municipalities**

This decision comes in three versions, the model for towns, municipalities and the municipalities with up to 2500 inhabitants. It establishes Environmental Protection Councils, as expert, counselling and operational working bodies tasked with creating conditions, proposing and taking steps in the field of environmental protection, preservation of natural resources, sustainable management, improvement of the environment, providing access to environmental information, ensuring public participation in the decision-making process and other related issues in this field in accordance with law and ratified international agreements, conventions, plans and programmes and environmental protection strategies adopted by the Republic of Serbia and local self-government units, which is regulated by Articles 1 and 2 of the proposed models.

Article 3 of the proposed decisions and their models specifies the number of members of the council. The proposed number of members of councils in towns is 13, in municipalities 9 and in the municipalities with up to 25,000 inhabitants that number is 5. The make-up of the councils is also proposed.

Articles 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 regulate the functioning of councils, including the possibility of establishing temporary and permanent working bodies, as well as working bodies set up following the territorial principle - where problems are encoun-

tered, the manner in which the councils conduct their activities, the obligation of adopting council Rules of Procedure and other issues of importance for the functioning of councils.

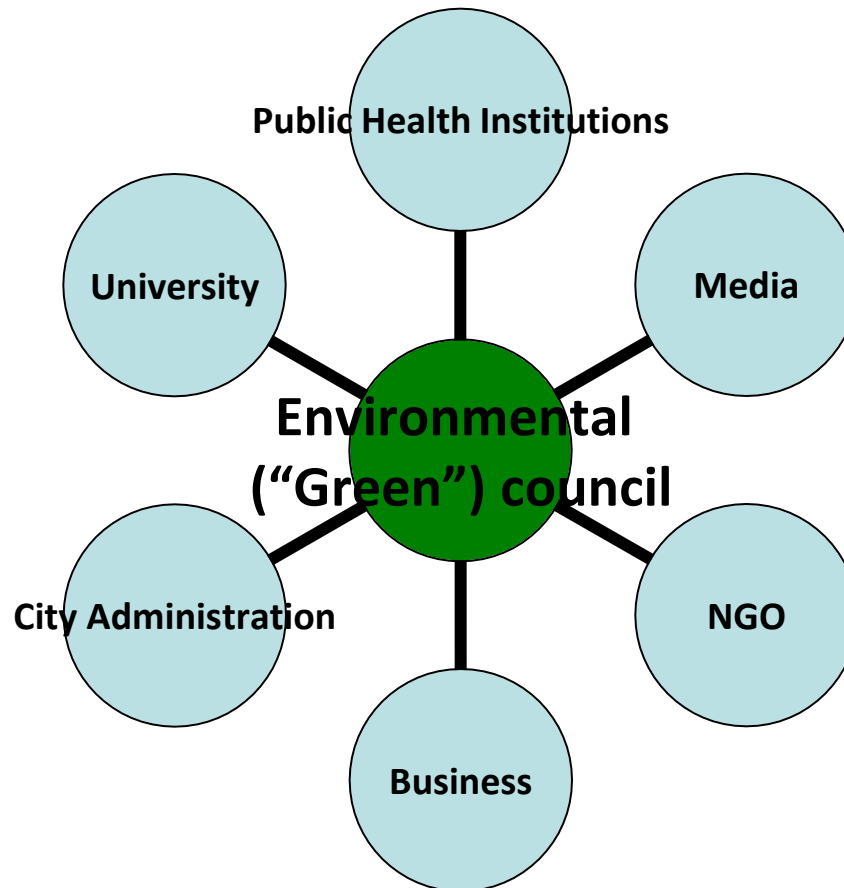
Article 9 of the proposal regulates the role of "Green Telephone", the instrument allowing citizens to inform the councils about the problems in the field of environmental protection. The conditions for its establishment and functioning are to be provided by town or municipal assemblies.

Article 10 of the proposal regulates the instrument of public participation in the process of making decisions adopted by the responsible organs. On the other hand, Article 11 specifies the ways of securing the funds necessary for the functioning of councils.

Article 12 regulates the entry into force of the proposed decisions.

FOTO: ILLUSTRACIJA: AARHUSK, ILLUSTRACIJA: AARHUSK, ILLUSTRACIJA: AARHUSK

# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING







# 2<sup>nd</sup> National Implementation Report of the Aarhus Convention

Republic of Serbia started preparation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Implementation Report of the Aarhus Convention in May 2013

Due to this course Ministry of the Energy, Development and Environmental protection established the working group for the preparation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Implementation Report.

In this working group representatives of four Aarhus Centres from the Republic of Serbia are included.

# Savinac, Gornji Milanovac, Serbia





**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION!**

**Srdjan Matovic  
CSO "Aarhus Centre"  
Kragujevac  
Serbia**

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