



Scientific conference

New Perspectives on Rewilding for Nature and People in Europe

**Maison Irène et
Frédéric Joliot-Curie**

Rue du Trône 100
1050 Brussels



23 and 24
November 2026



Agenda

MONDAY 23 NOVEMBER

10:00-10:30

Reception

10:30-10:45

Introduction to the event
Arndt Hampe

Session I - Europe is rewilding: trends and implications

Moderation: Henrik Smith

10:45-11:05

Deep-time perspectives on Europe's present and future nature
Jens-Christian Svenning

11:05-11:20

Agricultural abandonment and rewilding indicators across Europe
Matthias Baumann, Xiang Liu & Tobias Kümmerle

11:20-11:35

A darkening Europe - implications for biodiversity
Wanben Wu, Jens-Christian Svenning, Sean Pang & Robert Buitenwerf

11:35-11:50

Indicators of rewilding and ecosystem integrity: recent trends in Europe
Magali Weissgerber, Henrique M. Pereira, Gavin Stark & Nestor Fernandez

11:50-12:20

General discussion

12:20-13:30

Lunch break

Session I - Europe is rewilding: trends and implications

Moderation: *Lluís Brotons*

13:30-13:45	A Pan-European survey of rewilding perceptions Angus Smith, Arjen Buijs, Sabrina Dressel & Georg Winkel
13:45-14:00	Modelled future rewilding trajectories in Europe Reinhard Prestele, Judith Kloibhofer & Mark Rounsevell
14:00-14:15	Consequences for ecosystem functioning and carbon dynamics Anna Ferretto, Reinhard Prestele, Adrien Damseaux, Martin Wittenbrink, Peter Anthoni, Carolina Natel, Hector Camargo-Alvarez & Almut Arneth
14:15-14:30	Rewilding consequences for biodiversity Marcel Montanyès, Tristan Bakx, Ella Plumanns- Pouton, Guillem Pocull, Reinhard Prestele & Lluís Brotons
14:30-15:00	General discussion
15:00-15:30	Coffee break

Session II – Rewilding with and for people

Moderation: *Liesbeth Bakker*

15:30-15:50	Gelderse Poort, a gateway to the future Wouter Helmer, ARK Nature, NL
15:50-16:05	Rewilding across socio-economic contexts: A framework for landscape rewilding in Europe Joana Santana, Ricardo Ceia, Ana Teresa Pinto, Jóni Vieira, Francisco Moreira & Pedro Beja
16:05-16:20	Rewilding in policies and institutions Stanislava Brnkalakova, Zuzana Sarvasova, Tatiana Kluvankova, Olena Shelvytska & Maria Kozova
16:20-16:35	The contribution of rewilding to nature's contributions to people: a systematic review Alba Lázaro González, Inge van Halder, Cecilia Fraccaroli & Arndt Hampe
16:35-17:05	General discussion
20:00	Networking dinner (with exhibition of “Rewilding through Art” gallery)

TUESDAY 24 NOVEMBER

Session I - Europe is rewilding: trends and implications

Moderation: Jette Bredahl Jacobsen

9:00-9:15	Costs of rewilding: variable cases Sven Wunder, Cecilia Fraccaroli, Dario Schulz & Chloë Fish
9:15-9:30	An economic understanding of rewilding trade-offs Tim de Kruiff, Andrew Stratton, Jette Bredahl Jacobsen & Jens Abildtrup
9:30-9:45	Spatial heterogeneity in the costs and benefits of rewilding Jens Abildtrup, Toho Hien, Jette B. Jacobsen & Tim de Kruiff
9:45-10:00	Rewilding conflicts and associated management strategies in Europe Agata Konczal, Ravi van de Port, George Iordachescu & Georg Winkel
10:00-10:30	General discussion
10:30-11:00	Coffee break

Session III – Rewilding in a rapidly changing world

Moderation: Sven Wunder

11:00-11:20	A multi-scale approach to integrating rewilding into agricultural landscapes José Maria Rey Benayas, University Alcalá de Henares
11:20-11:40	Rewilding coastal landscapes: an overview from the REWRITE project Vona Meleder, Nantes University
11:40-12:00	Rewilding forests: an overview from the WILDCARD project Giorgio Alberti, University of Udine
12:00-12:30	General discussion
12:30-13:30	Lunch break

Session IV – Rewilding and disturbances: friends or foes?

Moderation: Francisco Moreira

13:30-13:45	A biodiverse Europe requires rewilded disturbance regimes Robert Buitenwerf, Sean Pang, Wanben Wu & Jens-Christian Svenning
13:45-14:00	Restoring fire regimes through rewilding Lluís Brotons, Ella Plumanns-Pouton, Tristan R.M. Bakx, Robert Buitenwerf, Josep Maria Espelta, Francisco Moreira, Adrian Regos, Miriam Selwyn
14:00-14:15	How can we accommodate rewilding and disturbances in landscape management: a synthesis Josep Maria Espelta, Rodrigo Balaguer-Romano, Miquel de Caceres, Ella Plumanns-Pouton, Miriam Selwyn & Lluís Brotons
14:15-14:45	General discussion

Session V : Next-generation rewilding: thinking nature and people together

Moderation: Henrique Pereira

14:45-15:05	The IUCN guidelines for rewilding and a look beyond Steve Carver, University of Leeds
15:05-15:20	Towards climate-smart rewilding: an integrated framework for biodiversity, climate change, and society Gavin Stark, Magali Weissgerber, Néstor Fernández & Henrique M. Pereira
15:20-15:30	We need to keep talking: building a lasting community for rewilding research Paul Mahoney
15:35-15:55	“Cans and can’ts” of rewilding in a rapidly changing world Aveliina Helm, Tartu University, chair Society for Ecological Restoration Europe
15:55-16:30	Coffee break

Session V : Next-generation rewilding: thinking nature and people together

Moderation: Georg Winkel

14:45-15:05	Roundtable discussion: “Rewilding nature and people - which way(s) to go?” Aveliina Helm, Wouter Helmer, Steve Carver, José Maria Rey Benayas
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