



EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.

⚠ Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).)

PROJECT	
Participant:	7 - PIC PRAVNI CENTER ZA VARSTVO CLOVEKOVIH PRAVIC IN OKOLJA (PIC)
PIC number:	931013082
Project name and acronym:	Strategic Litigation and Environmental Rights — STELLAR Rights

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	D10.2		
Event name:	Training and conference reports and deliverables Slovenia		
Type:	Training and conference		
In situ/online:	<i>In situ</i>		
Location:	Slovenia, Ljubljana		
Date(s):	18.6.2025 (Training); 15.1.2026 – 16.1.2026 (Conference).		
Website(s) (if any):	https://pic.si/obnovljivi-viri-energije-varstvo-clovekovih-pravic-in-okolja-gradivo-z-izobrazevanja/ and https://pic.si/nacionalna-konferenca-ali-spreminjamo-okolje-na-bolje-povezala-glasove-javnosti-na-podrocju-varstva-okolja-gradiva/		
Participants			
Female:	20 + 107 = 127		
Male:	8 + 53 = 61		
Non-binary:	0		
From country 1 [Slovenia]:	188		
Total number of participants:	28 + 160 = 188	From total number of countries:	1
Description			
Provide a short description of the event and its activities.			
1. Introduction This report presents the implementation of Deliverable 10.2. under the STELLAR Rights project – Training session for CSOs and legal professionals/practitioners and			

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them.

Conference held together with the Ombudsman office and collates documents related to those sessions.

Project activities were implemented in two separate events. The participants and all the speakers were photographed during their presentation. The presentations on the conference were also audio recorded. Participants and speakers gave their express permissions.

This report includes:

- The basic information on implementation;
- The objectives, programmes, substance, and materials;
- An overview of the participants and outcomes,
- Outreach, webpage and social media posts.

2. The basic information on implementation

On 18.6.2025 a training session for CSOs and legal professionals was held on the topic of human rights in the climate and energy transition with the focus of deployment of renewable energy sources. The focus was chosen considering the challenges that Slovenia is facing in the energy transition and complying with the EU targets in that regard. The training was titled “Obnovljivi viri energije, varstvo okolja in človekove pravice” (English: “Renewable energy sources, environmental protection and human rights”). It was held in the National Museum of Slovenia - Metelkova in Ljubljana, Slovenia. The event lasted for approximately 3,5 hours, between 9:00 and 12:30 CEST. Methods for strategic litigation in deployment of Renewable Energy Sources (RES) were discussed, participatory rights of the public and their correct implementation were presented. The role of Charter rights was brought forth in that regard. The training focused on creating capacity of CSO, NGOs as well as civil initiatives, and legal practitioners that work on deployment of renewable energy sources.

On 15.1.2026 and 16.1.2026 PIC organised a national conference with the Ombudsman Office and Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana. Differently than the training, the conference with the Ombudsman adopted a wider lens and focused on practical application of the rights of the public in environmental matters, with a particular focus on policy- and decision-making in climate and energy matters. The two-day conference was titled “Nacionalna konferenca Pravo za družbo in naravo: Ali spreminjamo okolje na bolje?” (English: “National Conference Law for Society and Nature: Are We Changing the Environment for the Better?”). It was held on Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana in Ljubljana, Slovenia and lasted between 9.00 and 17.30 CET on the first day (15.1.) and between 9.00 and 14.30 CET on the second day (16.1.). The target groups were CSOs working in the field of environmental and nature protection and legal professionals. We also targeted the Ombudsman and its staff but they had a special position in the preparation of the conference as coorganisers. The conference addressed the predicaments of not properly considering the views of the civil society and scientific facts in climate and energy–

related matters. It offered specific avenues to address those shortcomings by addressing the role of the courts and lawyers more generally. It discussed strategic litigation methods including human rights-based approaches such as the EU Charter.

In total, the training and the conference reached 188 in-situ participants. Targeted publics were reached on both occasions, and they represented the majority of participants. However, both training and conference were public. That means that other stakeholders were present as well, such as representatives of public bodies (e.g., ministries, regulators) and some commercial companies too.

3. The objectives, programmes, substance, and materials



Banner graphic of the event - training

The **main objectives of the training** for environmental CSOs and legal professionals within the STELLAR Rights project were:

- (1) Build the understanding on the current state of affairs in the energy transition, EU and climate requirements for the deployment of RES, and the state in Republic of Slovenia, including challenges;
- (2) Inform about potential uses of legal remedies to protect human rights and the environment in the context of spatial planning for RES. It would highlight newly established case law from the constitutional court which established a new legal remedy in spatial planning in order to safeguard the Right to the effective remedy from the Charter;
- (3) Train on the ways Charter provisions can be used in the context of environmental protection in RES deployment to improve human rights implementation, particularly Art 37, 41 and 47;
- (4) Present the legal treatment of RES deployment in the context of nature protection and the resolution of the conflict of public interest in this regard;

- (5) Discuss the challenges and solutions on the field of public participation of the civil society in RES deployment and identify ways for strategic use of legal remedies for improving public participation.

The **programme of the training** consisted of several speakers versed in renewable energy deployment, legal remedies in planning, strategic litigation and human rights. The detailed programme in Slovene is included in the full invitation, and is accessible → [here](#).

The **substance of the training** framed the energy transition as a human rights challenge, not merely a technical response to climate change. Training participants learned about the state of affairs in RES deployment currently in Slovenia and about legal safeguards in RES planning, including human rights.

The opening session outlined Slovenia's current RES framework, highlighting key national legislation and policy instruments supporting EU energy objectives. While Slovenia currently lags behind most EU Member States in wind energy development, prospects for solar energy are significantly stronger. Speakers emphasized that the energy transition is not only a technical or economic challenge, but a legal and societal one, requiring careful balancing of competing public interests within EU and national legal frameworks.

A central session of the training were tools that enable bringing a lawsuit in front of the court to enforce human rights standards in the renewable energy sector. Particular attention was paid to access to justice in RES planning procedures whereby the Constitutional court recently established a new mechanism in order to comply with Article 47 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. The role of the Charter was further emphasised including through RES legislation and EU-funded projects. Speakers emphasized the Charter's practical relevance in environmental disputes, especially Article 37 (environmental protection), Article 41 (right to good administration), and Article 47 (right to an effective remedy and fair trial). While historically underused in Slovenian environmental litigation, the Charter was presented as a powerful legal basis for challenging procedural deficiencies, exclusion of the public, or inadequate judicial protection. Another aspect of the training presented the resolution of conflicts between RES deployment and rights of nature. It examined situations in which renewable energy may override nature protection only under strict conditions reflecting proportionality and rights-based balancing. These include overriding public interest, absence of alternatives, and compensatory measures subject to EU oversight. Strategic litigation was framed not as an obstacle to renewable development, but as a corrective mechanism ensuring legality, accountability, and rights-compliant decision-making in RES deployment.

The final segment linked human rights protection to effective public participation. Speakers stressed that early and meaningful public involvement is a core procedural right under EU law and international standards, and a prerequisite for effective legal protection. The participatory challenges were exposed and solutions were sought collaboratively in a discussion with participants. A good practice was

also brought forward from the Netherlands which consists of community ownership over RES. Ultimately, the event concluded that embedding human rights considerations—through participation, transparency, ownership and access to justice—reduces conflict and litigation risks while strengthening the legitimacy and sustainability of renewable energy projects.

More detailed description of the training and the training materials including presentations of speakers and photos from the event are accessible permanently → [here](#).



Banner graphic of the event - conference

The **main objectives of the conference** organised with the Ombudsman in the STELLAR Rights project were:

- (1) Build the understanding on the state of policy- and decision-making in Republic of Slovenia, particularly in the field of climate and energy policy, by analysing, how scientific findings on the state of environment is taken into account;
- (2) Share practical experiences of CSOs that work in the field of environmental protection. Demonstrate their efforts to improve environmental protection in energy and climate matters and how they used legal remedies in that regard to improve public participation efforts;
- (3) Inform about the role of the courts for ensuring effective protection of the environment in climate and energy matters and ensuring effective participation of the civil society. Their role in effective implementation of EU law and policy is emphasised, particularly the EU Charter of fundamental rights.

- (4) Discuss and propose solutions to ensure a more effective implementation of environmental protection in energy and climate matters.

The **programme of the two-day conference** consisted of more than 30 speakers, mostly experienced experts in environmental protection. Speakers represented the scientific community, civil society and legal expertise in human rights and access to justice. The detailed programme in Slovene is included in the full invitation and is accessible → [here](#).

The **substance of the two-day conference** addressed environmental, climate, and energy challenges through the lens of human rights, democratic governance, public participation and the role of law.

In the first day, speakers highlighted a persistent gap between scientific knowledge and political decision-making, particularly in climate and energy policies that have far-reaching social and environmental consequences. Speakers discussed this shortfall in the context of climate mitigation, adaptation and large energy infrastructure projects. A central concern was the systematic weakening of meaningful public participation, where consultations are often reduced to formal procedures with limited influence on outcomes. Several representatives of CSOs spoke on their past experience in trying to improve environment for the better in the context of the climate and energy transition. The conference stressed that participation is not optional but a core procedural right underpinning the legitimacy of climate and energy decisions. Excluding the public from early policy formulation—especially in major energy and infrastructure projects—undermines trust, increases resistance, and risks violating the right to a healthy environment. In the panel, speakers expressed that reliable information and inequality of means were stressed as the major impediments to efficient environmental protection in climate and energy matters.

In the second day, a major focus was placed on access to justice and strategic litigation as safeguards where participatory and administrative processes fail. Speakers documented barriers to effective judicial protection in climate and energy matters, including restricted legal standing, high costs, limited access to information, and the use of general acts to avoid judicial review. Past efforts of the civil society to enhance climate protection through strategic litigation were presented. Presenters spoke about judicial oversight of planning decisions and the position of the civil society to participate in forming national stances on regulating climate and energy matters on the EU level. Courts were presented as essential actors in enforcing climate rights. The Aarhus Convention and EU law, including the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, were identified as key tools for challenging procedural deficiencies. Article 47 of the Charter—guaranteeing the right to an effective remedy—was highlighted as especially relevant for ensuring that individuals and civil society can contest energy and climate decisions that significantly affect protection of the environment. The conference concluded with a solution-oriented session for improving consideration of environmental protection within climate and energy policymaking.

More detailed description of the conference and accompanying materials

including presentations of speakers and photos from the event are accessible permanently → [here](#).

4. Participants and outcomes

There were 188 participants at the events, of which:

- 127 were female,
- 61 were male and
- 0 person was non-binary.

The majority of participants were representatives from NGOs, civil initiatives and experts that work in the field of environmental protection. There was also a significant attendance of legal practitioners, especially judges (regional courts, administrative court), lawyers from public institutions and private companies. Participants also included experts employed at one of the co-organiser of the event, the Ombudsman. As the events were public, there was also attendance of other civil servants from the public sector (Ministry for Environment, Climate and Energy, Ministry for Natural Resources and Spatial Planning, Ministry for Economy, Trade and Sport, Institute for Nature Protection, etc.) and representatives from private companies, particularly from spatial planners and investors in energy infrastructure. There was also high attendance of law students, particularly on the conference, as it was held on the law faculty.

The training built skills and knowledge of CSOs and legal practitioners in the field of RES deployment – a specific focus of EU climate and energy policy. Participants acquired knowledge and skills how to use human rights instruments for improvement of environmental protection and the role of strategic use of legal remedies in that regard. On this basis, a rich and fruitful discussion was held on challenges and potential solutions in their own work. The event stimulated sharing participant's experience in their work on the deployment of RES and use of human rights instruments and public participation.

The national conference joined voices of people and organisation working in environmental protection in Slovenia. It enshrined concrete experience of scientists, experts and CSOs in cases of developing energy and climate policies and the role of human rights and strategic litigation. The conference showed importance of legal knowledge, human rights and effective legal remedies for ensuring a safe and healthy environment. It joined the legal sphere and the sphere of environmental CSOs and experts to jointly find solutions. It identified several such solutions, including increased democratisation, capacity-building and institutional instruments for ensuring improved access to information, participation and access to justice. The conference facilitated networking of participants in order to ensure new connections in the field of environment protection and law.

5. Outreach, webpage and social media posts

PIC undertook several promotional activities of the event in order to widen the reach of the training and the conference.

PIC sent the following invitations directly via e-mail to more than 500 recipients, targeting particularly CSOs and legal practitioners:

https://pic.si/wp-content/uploads/VABILO-STELLAR_18.-6.pdf

<https://pic.si/nacionalna-konferenca-ali-spreminjamo-okolje-na-bolje/>

We reached out to specific groups and networks that offered access to best target groups for our event, including networks of environmental CSOs. For the conference, Ombudsman and the Faculty of Law promoted the event through their own means, reaching a wide array of legal professionals, including the employees of the Ombudsman institution.

We disseminated and promoted the event and its contents on social media before and after the event on all our social media channels (Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn). The posts included a general post regarding the event and its topic. Furthermore, we also promoted all the speakers in order to stimulate interest for the event. For the conference, we promoted each part of the conference and the speakers in it, due to the large number of speakers. We utilised paid promotion to increase its reach.

FACEBOOK:

<https://www.facebook.com/PICPravnicenter/posts/pfbid0L6f9bQc4TZkCwDgouXPWkuLDv1kP9HLRrH8PCMAJuezgEX3BwicF8rHAun4F5VqNI>

<https://www.facebook.com/PICPravnicenter/posts/pfbid0uHVCxfSxp75iZo9Gtyb2UHKHZvK6bABB9k1u3QNB5frcLo2kqSFe7RQHv2C7JEtI>

<https://www.facebook.com/PICPravnicenter/posts/pfbid0wXLZ7dpzeDLumotZhb96vK9xG1Y21S1FkHqxcZP8PKzsW57q54QyATZ1LxxC41JI>

<https://www.facebook.com/PICPravnicenter/posts/pfbid0efUFUwvz28WmR5ZeWCjDs12u8bRWLwkcsN2JGSrg3E1yQtZq1hx4iU5f5RmfRgFgl>

<https://www.facebook.com/PICPravnicenter/posts/pfbid02PgsnXHsdZ2uznvBAKpDAUKPCKpMHWBszR28uoZPMNcaAFrpybwZp7HZAzngr8yryI>

<https://www.facebook.com/PICPravnicenter/posts/pfbid02Hpd5kPsUU8mtXAEQCVt6AGBL6m8d68NqBpH9z9demhU2FRojdFFqyBiDDGs5FLJI>

<https://www.facebook.com/PICPravnicenter/posts/pfbid0KefcVAyhWQ7LFb57hExEwWDes3kELgatOmBHiQ9ZprenE4q5cdCDp6GxEKYkVozzl>

<https://www.facebook.com/PICPravnicenter/posts/pfbid02sDuBtHUyVwDRaSJelCxBJ7FGvvMuU7MKQW8s6rywNUSDx1y46MUKRaG9WMd1WR6I>

<https://www.facebook.com/PICPravnicenter/posts/pfbid02885gvTENSAXAehmZnfDmboU1MYQb416BY6mHk69QctrkUNzpzCgHSWshHTDI>

<https://www.facebook.com/PICPravnicenter/posts/pfbid02bg9p4rdPRoc1SWigeUohDV4LoV8begW4VuWnte9fGzAEDmJJfwtX9SGTKSfrLnNFI>

<https://www.facebook.com/PICPravnicenter/posts/pfbid045wFf9yjsZ55j4QYV95qGmte7K5CQxoGzmooYgrwv66taaiMpEN8hL7vQsYePZuCI>

<https://www.facebook.com/PICPravnicenter/posts/pfbid02UEfSc7fqSVLNyVfy6v6nazsEM818C4jo4z82sBdHcMNstAW2d2RUizheBF6Rwrmal>

INSTAGRAM:

https://www.instagram.com/p/DKg54SnRa7G/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=NTc4MTIwNjQ2YQ

https://www.instagram.com/p/DSr_TH8FF-0/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=NTc4MTIwNjQ2YQ

https://www.instagram.com/p/DTNWwhMlkV9/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=NTc4MTIwNjQ2YQ

https://www.instagram.com/p/DTQQL5XiDBO/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=NTc4MTIwNjQ2YQ

https://www.instagram.com/p/DTckZhl3nc/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=NTc4MTIwNjQ2YQ

https://www.instagram.com/p/DTfYVITDu0D/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=NTc4MTIwNjQ2YQ

LINKEDIN:

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/pic-legal-center-for-the-protection-of-human-rights-and-the-environment_obnovljivi-viri-energije-varstvo-okolja-activity-7338136148768169986-4uNx?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_android&rcm=ACoAADTYu2YBdh6az_SLKVDYnaKowC06gzi7o_8

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/pic-legal-center-for-the-protection-of-human-rights-and-the-environment_na-izobra%C5%BEevanju-obnovljivi-viri-energije-activity-7338487312504254465-6YFB?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_android&rcm=ACoAADTYu2YBdh6az_SLKVDYnaKowC06gzi7o_8

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/pic-legal-center-for-the-protection-of-human-rights-and-the-environment_pravnik-s-pic-legal-center-for-the-protection-activity-7338832503199182848-Dc1H?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_android&rcm=ACoAADTYu2YBdh6az_SLKVDYnaKowC06gzi7o_8

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/pic-legal-center-for-the-protection-of-human-rights-and-the-environment_%F0%9D%90%92%F0%9D%90%A8%F0%9D%90%9D%F0%9D%90%9E%F0%9D%90%A5%F0%9D%90%A8%F0%9D%90%AF%F0%9D%90%9A%F0%9D%90%A7%F0%9D%90%A3%F0%9D%90%9E-%F0%9D%90%A3%F0%9D%90%9A%F0%9D%90%AF%F0%9D%90%A7%F0%9D%90%A8%F0%9D%90%AC%F0%9D%90%AD%F0%9D%90%A2-activity-7339203646376570881-X1_i?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_android&rcm=ACoAADTYu2YBdh6az_SLKVDYnaKowC06gzi7o_8

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/pic-legal-center-for-the-protection-of-human-rights-and-the-environment_predstavljamo-%C5%A1e-zadnje-strokovnjakinjo-activity-7340284053750779904-Tsge?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_android&rcm=ACoAADTYu2YBdh6az_SLKVDYnaKowC06gzi7o_8

We had one full publication on the results of both events on pic.si in English and Slovenian, including the presentations of all speakers and main points of the panellists:

<https://pic.si/obnovljivi-viri-energije-varstvo-clovekovih-pravic-in-okolja-gradivo-z-izobrazevanja/>

<https://pic.si/nacionalna-konferenca-ali-spreminjamo-okolje-na-bolje-povezala-glasove-javnosti-na-podrocju-varstva-okolja-gradiva/>

We disseminated materials directly to all participants.

We also prepared a publication on the results of our events on all our social media channels:

<https://www.facebook.com/PICPravnicenter/posts/pfbid0jbbnzhhQWgFtdxsdsHp6Rht7SmPPEy1NJpaehxkuFchf7TkMLHmrcwyTrBwLwY3I>

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/pic-legal-center-for-the-protection-of-human-rights-and-the-environment_%F0%9D%90%8E%F0%9D%90%9B%F0%9D%90%A7%F0%9D%90%A8%F0%9D%90%AF%F0%9D%90%A5%F0%9D%90%A3%F0%9D%90%A2%F0%9D%90%AF%F0%9D%90%A2-%F0%9D%90%0%AF%F0%9D%90%A2%F0%9D%90%AB%F0%9D%90%A2-%F0%9D%90%9E%F0%9D%90%A7%F0%9D%90%9E%F0%9D%90%AB%F0%9D%90%A0%F0%9D%90%A2%F0%9D%90%A3%F0%9D%90%9E-activity-7344273355824345088-llz4?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_android&rcm=ACoAADTYu2YBdh6az_SLKVDYnaKowC06gzi7o_8

https://www.instagram.com/p/DLZZHf0BPjS/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=NTc4MTIwNjQ2YQ==

<https://www.facebook.com/PICPravnicenter/posts/pfbid034eGCe7RJQsf55VFyWQmjaNBYUqmkN3B4G54EQp5NSVo53z8GRujGMCs5UmtsLSPI>

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7422208581082435585>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/DUDF0EbjZE6/?igsh=MXpscWk4ZTB6cWQ1>

We will continue to promote the content of the event via our social accounts, both of the general topic as well as specific contributions of speakers.

We published this report on www.pic.si → [here](#) and [here](#)

HISTORY OF CHANGES

VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).