



## GAL NEWS – December 2020

Dear GAL Expert,

2020 is ending and 2021 is coming with new possibilities for animal protection. At GAL, we are doing our best to make the world a better place for them, in working on improving their legal protection, in theory and practice, at national and global levels.

Thank you all for contributing to be part the solutions !

Wishing you the best end of year and happy new year to come!

The Global Animal Law GAL Team



**GAL NEEDS YOU !**

**#GivingTuesday**

**[Make a gift for the animals](#)**

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**Breaking News**

# Register now! UNCAHP Event: Experts Discussion on the 15 of January 2021



**GAL EXPERTS DISCUSSION:**  
**UNCAHP for a better world for animals?**  
January 15, 2021, 12:00 UTC  
Livestreamed on YouTube  
Organised by Global Animal Law GAL Association and the Global Research Network (GRN) Animals & Biodiversity Think Tank Programme

Please join us for an exciting panel discussion where renowned experts will discuss the importance of the adoption of the UNCAHP (Universal Convention on Animal Health and Protection)!



**Do you want to see a global protection for animals enshrined in International Law ? If so, please join the discussion on the UN Convention for Animal Health and Protection (UNCAHP)!**

During this unprecedented event that will take place **on January 15th, 2021 at 12.00 pm UTC**, animal law experts from all over the world will come together to highlight the importance of the Universal Convention for Animal Health and Protection (UNCAHP) that will result in a **Key Statement of 10 arguments in support of the adoption of the UNCAHP** by the UN. The Panel Discussion, in which will participate renowned panelists and experts in Global Animal Law, will be broadcasted live on YouTube and free to watch for all.

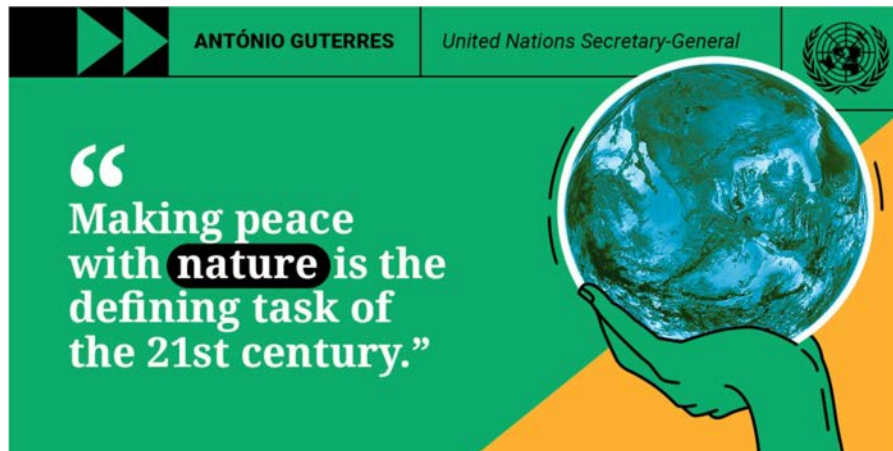
As GAL Expert invited to join the discussion, **you received a special invitation in your mailbox**. If not, please let us know. Looking forward to have you there!

Program here

## International News

# It's time to make peace with nature

## Urges the UN Secretary General



"Humanity is waging war on nature. This is suicidal. Nature always strikes back and it is already doing so with growing force and fury. **Biodiversity is collapsing.** One million species are at risk of extinction. Ecosystems are disappearing before our eyes. (...)

And with people and livestock encroaching further into animal habitats and disrupting wild spaces, we could see more viruses and other disease-causing agents jump from animals to humans. Let's not forget that 75 per cent of new and emerging human infectious diseases are zoonotic. (...)

### **Now we must use 2021 to address our planetary emergency.**

Next year, countries will meet in Kunming to forge a post-2020 biodiversity framework to halt the extinction crisis and put the world on a pathway to living in harmony with nature. (...)

This means:

- More and bigger effectively managed conservation areas, so that our assault on species and ecosystems can be halted;
- Biodiversity-positive agriculture and fisheries, reducing our overexploitation and destruction of the natural world,
- Phasing out negative subsidies -- the subsidies that destroy healthy soils, pollute our waterways and lead us to fish our oceans empty.
- Shift from unsustainable and nature-negative extractive resource mining, and to broader sustainable consumption patterns.

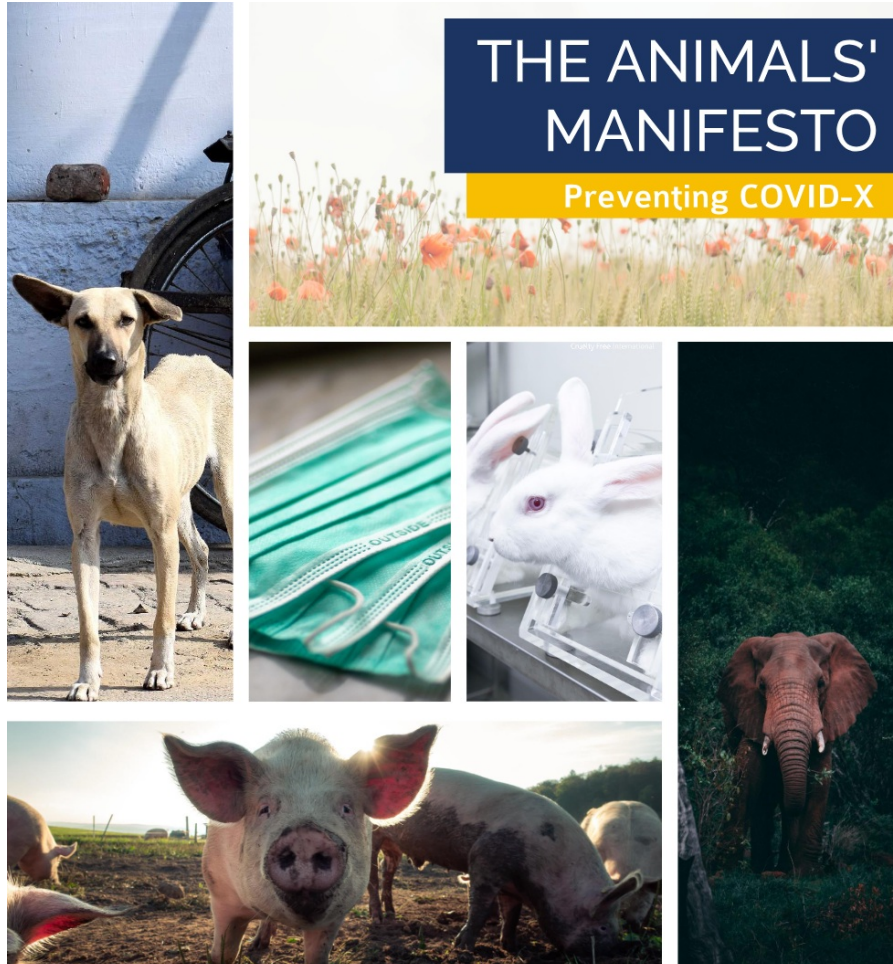
**Biodiversity is not just cute and charismatic wildlife; it is the living, breathing web of life.** (...)

[Full Speech](#)

## Animals' Manifesto Update

[Here](#)

GAL is proud to have contributed to the '[Animals' Manifesto: Preventing COVID-X](#)' led by the WAN and gathering now **167 signatory organizations** with the official **support of Dr Jane Goodall** herself! We support in particular the need to adopt a UN convention embodying the One health/One welfare approach, as the UN Convention on Animal Health and Protection ([UNCAHP](#)) that GAL is promoting.



### THE ANIMALS' MANIFESTO

Preventing COVID-X

A call to "Build Forward" to create a more **sustainable, equitable, and humane** world, and *prevent the next pandemic.*

## Experts News

## Giving Animals a Voice ... through a Global Animal Law Friendly Index on animal welfare



Dr. Antoine F. Goetschel

The establishment of a Global Animal Law Friendly Index (GALFI) is to be launched by the Swiss-based Global Animal Law (GAL) Association and will rate each country in terms of animal friendliness based on its laws for animal protection.

Explained GAL Founder and President Dr. Antoine F. Goetschel: "The global index aims to record, analyse and compare the animal-friendliness of 193 countries in terms of legislation, enforcement, and education. On the basis of sound data, GAL will be in a position to customize and propose real improvements on a global scale."

He added: "Animal friendliness is related to animal dignity. Indeed, the mistreatment of animals is contrary to the principle of dignity. To have the dignity of animals acknowledged by national

legislators and given due regard by the UN will be a big step forward in law."

GAL Co-founder Dr. Sabine Brets said: "The GALFI project is an important pillar of the UN Convention on Animal Health and Protection (UNCAHP) - on the one hand it motivates nations to progress and on the other hand, less active nations are encouraged to follow suit."



Dr. Sabine Brets

For more information about the Global Animal Law Friendly Index (GALFI) and UNCAHP, go to

[www.globalanimallaw.org](http://www.globalanimallaw.org)  
<https://youtu.be/7c6GrHwZ26>

## New Animal Voice Journal is out!

Discover how GAL wants to Give Animals a Voice through the Global Animal Law Friendly Index ([GALFI](#))

More Here



## A Warm Welcome to the new GAL Experts!



### **Bianka Atlas**

#### **Congratulations for her LLM!**

Bianka Atlas is a New Zealand qualified lawyer and graduated in 2020 with a LLM Hons in Animal Law from Lewis & Clark Law School. [More.](#)



### **Selene Snippe**

Corporate & commercial lawyer at Vriman M&A Lawyers in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. New volunteer for GAL on the UNCAHP project. [More.](#)



### **Aloïse Quesne**

Lecturer in private law at the University of Paris-Saclay, Evry Val d'Essonne, member of the Centre de Recherche Léon Duguit, and associate researcher at the Institut Demolombe of the University of Caen Normandy. [More.](#)



### **Jessica Tselepy**

Jessica Tselepy, J.D & B.A, Model United Nations Conferences awards, Australia. New volunteer for GAL on the UNCAHP. [More.](#)



### **José-Javier Paniagua**

Chairman of the European Foundation for the Rights of the Living World (EFRLW) and administrator of the Belgian association Planète-Vie. [More.](#)



### **Foundation for the Rights of the Living World (EFRLW)**

The Foundation for the Rights of the Living World (EFRLW) is now part of UNCAHP Coalition. [More.](#)

# Experts Contributions

- **Elie Verniers**, [Opinion of Advocate General Hogan in Case C-336/19 Centraal Israëlitisch Consistorie van België and Others, ECLI:EU:C:2020:695](#), GJAL, Nov. 2020

- **Antoine F. Goetschel** : E-Conference on saving animals in distress, with a particular focus on Switzerland and solutions for France. In french: Animaux en Détresse #4: Porter secours à un animal en Suisse selon la loi, Oct. 2020: <https://youtu.be/ykXM7IkYUrk>

- **Fernanda Sanchez**, [El animal no humano \(ANH\) en el Código Civil colombiano](#), Adalquí, Oct. 2020

- **Antoine F. Goetschel** (in french): "Les piliers pour la protection juridique de l'animal : Constitution, législation et application selon une vision globale" at the Conference *La sensibilité animale: approches juridiques et enjeux transdisciplinaires*, 23 oct 2020 in Caen, online at : <https://sensibilite.animale.sciencesconf.org/resource/page/id/13>.

GAL Founder and President

**Dr. Antoine F. Goetschel**





GAL Co-Founder

**Dr. Sabine Brels**



GAL Administrator

**BLaw Marie Heiglauer**



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**Global Animal Law GAL Association**

**The GAL office is moving!**

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**. UNCAHP website: [www.uncahp.org](http://www.uncahp.org)**



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