United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

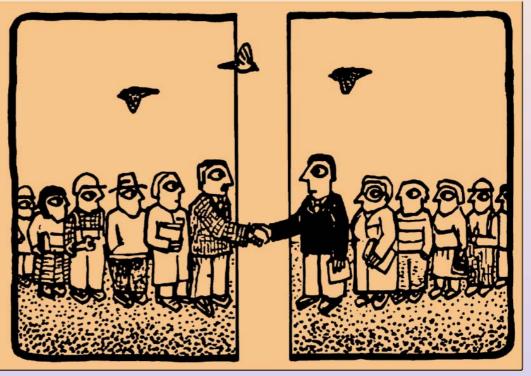
Espoo Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context

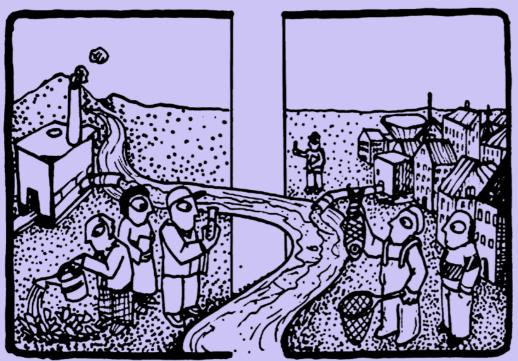


Kiev Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment

The Espoo Convention obliges its Parties to assess the environmental impact of certain activities at an early stage of planning, and to notify and consult each other on all major projects under consideration that are likely to have a significant adverse impact across boundaries.

The Convention ensures that people living in areas likely to be affected by an adverse impact are told of the proposed activity, it provides an opportunity for these people to comment on the proposed activity, and it ensures that comments and objections are taken into account in the final decision.





The Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) will oblige its Parties to evaluate the environmental consequences of their official draft plans and programmes, and, possibly, policies and legislation. The Protocol will be open to all UN Member States.

SEA allows the identification and prevention of possible

from the start of the decision-making process, and it enables environmental objectives to be considered on a par with socio-economic ones, bringing sustainable development closer.