

DEFENDING THE DEFENDERS IN AN ILLIBERAL DEMOCRACY INSIDE THE EU: THE SITUATION IN HUNGARY

SIDE EVENT ON ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISTS

AARHUS CONVENTION MOP6, 11.09.2017

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- ▶ Special Police Force (43 officers) raid at the offices of Ökotárs, distributor of the EEA Grants (Civil Society Strand) in Hungary in 2014.
- ▶ Diplomatic talks with Norway lead to cancellation of all related domestic processes (taxation, criminal, administrative).



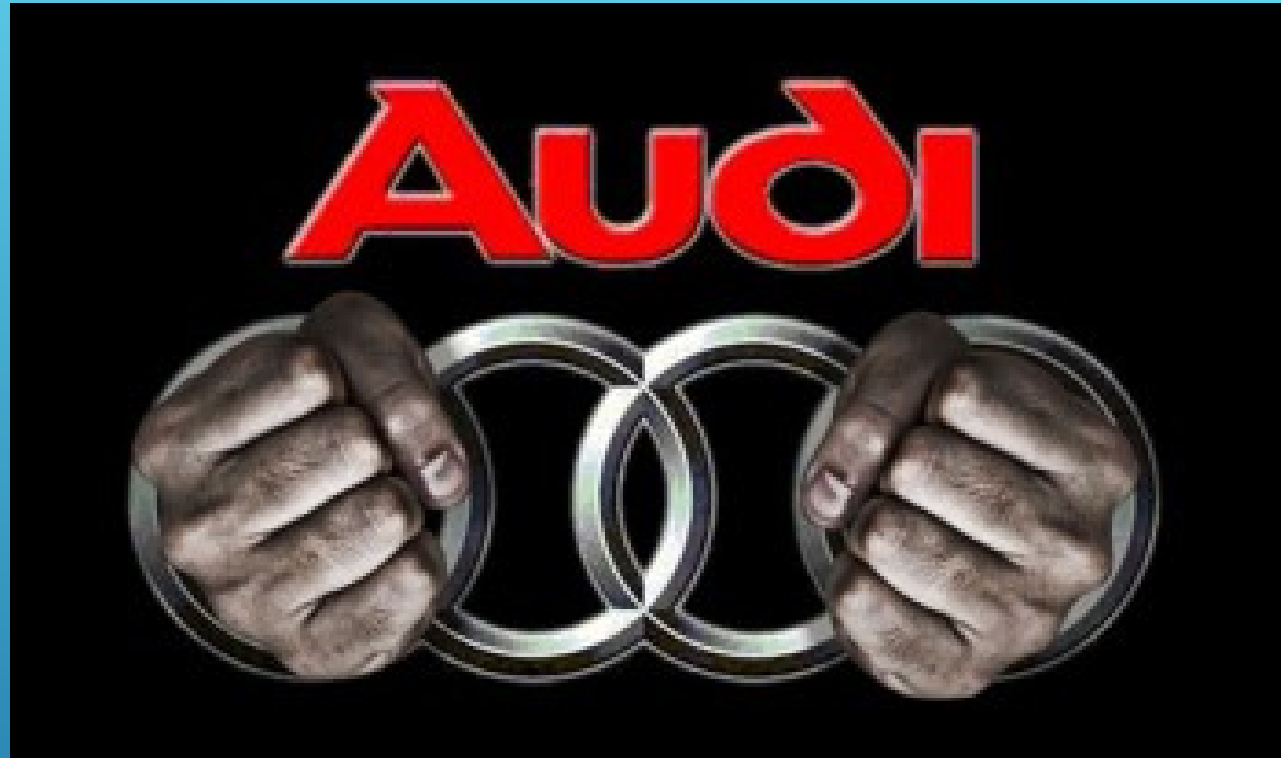
THE HARRASSED

- ▶ Detention of protesters trying to block the felling of trees and construction of public buildings in the City Park in Budapest in 2017.
- ▶ Large scale national media coverage.



THE DETAINED

- ▶ Imprisonment of an activist protesting against construction of Audi factory and demolishing of a Natura 2000 area in 2015.
- ▶ ACCC Communication (case closed), ECHR Complaint (compensation paid).



THE ENCARCELATED

- ▶ Act of Parliament on the transparency of organizations supported from abroad in 2017.
- ▶ Passive resistance by some NGOs qualifying as foreign agents, infringement procedure by the EU.



THE STIGMATIZED

- ▶ Strategic partnerships with selected NGOs by the Ministry of Agriculture (de facto Ministry of Environment) since 2012.

- ▶ ?



THE PRIVILEGED

▶ Thank you for your
attention!

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