



EEB 2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Getting to the Europe we want
- *Actions to accelerate the Green Transition*
Date: Monday 5 November 2018
Venue: [Area42](#), 46A rue des Palais
Brussels, Belgium

About the conference

After two successful Annual Conferences abroad (Vienna 2016 and Edinburgh 2017), the EEB is returning to Brussels for a high-level public conference in the run-up to the crucial European elections in spring 2019.

Europe is at a crossroads. Living within our planet's limits has been a long stated goal of European environmental policy but it seems further away than ever. The EEB conference will bring together policymakers, politicians and experts to debate, discuss and seek solutions to our most pressing environmental problems and identify environmental priorities for the post-2020 period. It will explore policies and actions needed to make society sustainable including environmental, social, economic and governance issues. This acknowledges that society, and the economy as part of it, can only thrive in the safe space within planetary boundaries.

This timely debate comes as the European Union needs to also set out its own priorities for environmental policy in the coming years through the development of a new Eighth Environment Action Programme and an implementation plan for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The debate comes at a time when the political parties of the European Parliament lay out their vision for Europe ahead of the elections next year.

High-level speakers from the EU institutions, Member States and key stakeholder groups will debate the obstacles which have prevented the EU from fully delivering on the promises of the Seventh Environment Action Programme and seek solutions to ensure better mainstreaming of environmental considerations in the future. The Conference is expected to deliver a strong message in the run-up to the 2019 European elections that the environment must be given higher priority during the next five-year cycle than during the present one.



Attendees will get a strong overview of where we need European policy to go over the next decade to meet the goal of living within planetary boundaries. The conference will address horizontal issues such as the impact of growth on environmental degradation and the role of governance and rule of law in environmental protection. We will also have breakout sessions that explore how to meet our climate goals, achieve a non-toxic circular economy and protect the web of life which is our life support system.

PROGRAMME ANNUAL CONFERENCE 5 NOVEMBER 2018

Latest updates and full speakers' profiles will be available closer to the conference at www.eebconference.eu

| TIME | SESSION TITLE | SPEAKERS | DESCRIPTION |
|---------------|---|---|---|
| 09.00 – 09.40 | Welcome coffee and registration | Registration desk/area | |
| 09.40 – 09.50 | Welcome & Opening | Message of welcome: Jouni Nissinen, EEB President | |
| 09.50 – 12.00 | High-level panel discussion: All-change at the EU: more of the same or a chance to set an ambitious green vision for the '20s? | <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Claire Doole, Journalist, Claire Doole Communications <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Günter Liebel Director General for Environment and Water Management, Austrian Federal Ministry of Sustainability and Tourism) Virginie Dumoulin, Director of EU and International Affairs, Ministry of Ecological Transition, France (tbc) Benedek Jávor, Member of the European Parliament, Group of the Greens/European Free | This session will address the prospects and priorities for environmental policy as the EU approaches a new legislative cycle and a new decade. Panellists will be invited to discuss the success and failures in advancing environmental policy in the current five-year cycle, the reasons for those successes and failures, the key priorities post-2020 and how we can deliver on those. |

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| | | <p>Alliance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celine Charveriat, Executive Director, IEEP • Veronica Manfredi, Director for Quality of Life (Air, Water, Marine Environment, Industrial Emissions & Safety), European Commission • Patrick ten Brink, EU Policy Director, European Environmental Bureau | |
| 12.00 – 13.00 | Lunch | Registration area | |
| Parallel break-out sessions | | | |
| | | | <p>Three parallel breakout sessions will provide the opportunity to explore in greater depth three broad topics that are critical to the EU's future: climate, biodiversity and a non-toxic circular economy. They will follow a similar structure with speakers from different sectors addressing the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the nature and scale of the challenge? • What actions are being taken? • What still needs to be done, by when and by whom? <p>The breakout sessions will be designed to allow plenty of opportunity for interactive participatory discussions. Each breakout session is expected to result in a set of recommendations or ideas for further actions which will be</p> |

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| | | | reported back to the plenary. |
| 13.00 – 15.00 | <p>Parallel break-out session:</p> <p>An EU climate policy as if our lives depended on it</p> | <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roland Joebstl, Policy Officer Energy and Climate, European Environmental Bureau <p>Rapporteur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clémence Hutin, Climate justice and energy campaigner, Friends of the Earth Europe <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wendel Trio, Director of Climate Action Network Europe • Levke Caesar, Researcher, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research • Martin Porter, Senior Associate, Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership • Mikael Karlsson, Researcher in Philosophy with focus on Environmental Science and Associate Professor in Environmental Sciences, KAU | <p>In December 2015, the EU committed to pursue efforts to limit global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. But in the more than two years since then, it has failed to adopt policies that reflect this commitment. What should be the priorities for the EU in the coming years to address this and how can they be achieved?</p> |
| 13.00 – 15.00 | <p>Parallel break-out session:</p> | <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sergiy Moroz, Senior Policy Officer for Water and | <p>Biodiversity continues to decline at an alarming rate, while soils are being eroded and water status is not good. This session will address some of the main threats to nature on land and in the</p> |

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| | Protecting our life support system | <p>Biodiversity, European Environmental Bureau</p> <p>Rapporteur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luc Bas, Director, International Union for Conservation of Nature European Union Representative Office <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humberto Delgado Rosa, Director for Natural Capital in DG Environment, European Commission • Marta Santamaria, Policy Director, Natural Capital Coalition • Anna Heslop, Lawyer, Wildlife Project Leader, ClientEarth | oceans e.g. from agriculture, and what can be done by whom to address the challenge. This will focus on the post-2020 strategy for both the EU and Global levels and implementation of EU commitments. |
| 13.00 – 15.00 | Parallel break-out session: Towards a non-toxic circular economy | <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tatiana Santos, Senior Policy Officer for Chemicals & Nanotechnology, European Environmental Bureau <p>Rapporteur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Warhurst, Executive Director, CHEM Trust | The proliferation of hazardous substances over the past decades, combined with more traditional forms of pollution, has outstripped regulatory efforts to limit the harm to human health and the environment. The circular economy concept has the potential to reduce this impact, but will it? This session will look at what is needed in the coming legislative cycle to move the EU away from dependency on toxic production and consumption patterns. |

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| | | <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Boije, Policy Officer, Unit Chemicals at DG Environment, European Commission • Ward Mosmuller, Director EU Affairs, DSM • Jane Muncke, Managing Director and Chief Scientific Officer, Food Packaging Forum • Brenda Koekkoek, Programme Officer, UN Environment | |
| 15.00 – 15.30 | Coffee break | Registration area | |
| 15.30 – 16.00 | Feedback and reporting from parallel sessions | <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Claire Doole, Journalist, Claire Doole Communications <p>Break-out session rapporteurs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clémence Hutin, Climate justice and energy campaigner, Friends of the Earth Europe • Luc Bas, Director, International Union for Conservation of Nature European Union Representative Office • Michael Warhurst, Executive Director, CHEM Trust | In this session, we will hear back from the three break-out sessions. The rapporteurs' summaries of the key points will be followed by a Q&A. |

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| 16.00 – 17.15 | <p>High-level panel discussion: Finding common ground for a sustainable Europe</p> | <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Claire Doole, Journalist, Claire Doole Communications <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Martín Murillo, Advisor on Employment and Just Transition, Ministry for the Ecological Transition of Spain • Montserrat Mir, Confederal Secretary, European Trade Union Confederation • Anna Widegren, Secretary General, European Youth Forum • Jan Noterdaeme, Senior Advisor External Relations and Co-Founder, The European Business Network for Corporate Social Responsibility • Patrizia Heidegger, Director of Global Policies and Sustainability | <p>The closing panel will bring together diverse stakeholders to connect the dots: how do progressive business and the trade unions perceive the economic transition that is necessary to realise our ambitions for a sustainable future? What do young people see as the most pressing issues to address? And most importantly, we will identify common ground to advocate for a more sustainable Europe and discuss how we can build stronger coalitions between progressive forces from civil society, trade unions and business to achieve our goals.</p> |
| 17.15-17.30 | <p>Closing keynote</p> | <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daniel Calleja, Director General, DG Environment, European Commission | |
| 17.30 – 17.45 | <p>Conclusions and the way forward</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeremy Wates, Secretary General, European | |

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| 17.45 – 19.30 | Conference reception | Registration area | |

About the European Environmental Bureau (EEB)

Set up in 1974, the EEB is Europe's largest network of environmental citizens' organisations, bringing together around 140 organisations from more than 30 European countries (all EU Member States plus some accession and neighbouring countries), including a growing number of European networks, with a combined membership of an estimated 30 million people.

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This communication reflects the organizers' views and does not commit the donors.

