



EEB 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Sailing the winds of change for Europe's environment
Date: Monday 18 November 2019
Venue: [Umweltforum](#), Pufendorfstr. 11
Berlin, Germany

About the conference

Against a global backdrop of climate breakdown, biodiversity loss and an ever-growing disconnect between people and nature, the need to step up action to protect our environment is evident. And there is growing public recognition of this, whether expressed by the young people all over Europe marching for climate action and against species extinction, or through the 'green wave' which resulted from the recent European Parliament elections. But while the European Union has made considerable progress in developing environmental laws and protections, actions by governments and businesses lag well behind what science demands.

The increased public awareness of the challenges we face presents us with a golden opportunity to sail the winds of political change blowing across the EU. But what are the steps we need to take to secure the European Green Deal promised by Commission President-elect Ursula von der Leyen in her political guidelines? And what would success in navigating to a one-planet economy look like?

The 2019 EEB Annual Conference will bring together key players from the European environmental movement with political decision-makers at a crucial moment for the European Union. As 2019 draws to a close, freshly elected MEPs and a newly appointed European Commission will be getting ready to set sail for the next five years. National governments will also play a decisive role as the EU's rotating presidency moves around the block, arriving in Germany in 2020.

Join us in Berlin on 18 November 2019 to discuss what true environmental leadership will look like in the coming years and how the European Union can succeed in protecting the natural world and the fundamentals of life.

The conference will be held in cooperation with the EEB's member Deutscher Naturschutzring (DNR).

PROGRAMME ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2019

Latest updates and full speakers' profiles is available at www.eebconference.eu

DAY 1			
TIME	SESSION TITLE	SPEAKERS	DESCRIPTION
08:00	Registration and networking coffee	Registration desk/area	
9:00	Welcome & Opening	<p>Message of welcome Kai Niebert, DNR President Jouni Nissinen, EEB President</p> <p>Welcome by conference facilitators: Patrick ten Brink, EU Policy Director, EEB Patrizia Heidegger, Director Global Policies and Sustainability, EEB</p>	<p>Short welcoming speeches focusing on hope for what the EU can do over the next five years.</p> <p>Introduction to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The agenda and its “red thread” • Slido tool: poll and questions. • Twitter #EEB2019
9:20 – 10:20	<p>SESSION ONE</p> <p>Europe Protects? – The EU’s role in safeguarding the natural world and human wellbeing</p>	<p>Keynote speeches:</p> <p>Karsten Sach, Director General “International and European Policy, Climate Policy”, Federal Ministry for the Environment Pascal Canfin, Chair of the European Parliament Environment Committee (Video)</p>	<p>Speeches about vision, hope and opportunities.</p> <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What should the EU do more of? 2. What are the priorities for the next five years?

		Followed by moderated Q&A	3. What hopes have we for Europe, for EU presidency roles, the new Commission and the New EP?
10:20 – 10:50	Coffee		
10:50 – 12:45	<p>SESSION TWO All hands on deck: Five years of common challenges and shared solutions (Part 1)</p>	<p>Multiple stakeholder vision for the next five years: Hopes and fears for the next European Commission, European Parliament and EU Presidencies.</p> <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence: Dirk Messner, Co-chair of the Advisory Council, German Advisory Council on Global Change (WBGU) • Business: Nick Molho, Executive Director, Aldersgate group • Youth representative: Rebecca Freitag, UN Youth Delegate on Sustainable Development of Germany • Civil Society: Linn Selle, President, European Movement Germany <p>Followed by moderated Q&A</p>	<p>Guiding questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can the EU provide answers to the biggest environmental questions? 2. What can be done on this in the next 5 years? 3. Who should do what? 4. What are the opportunities for EEB members and the wider environmental movement to steer the agenda?
12:45 – 13:45	Lunch		

<p>13:45 – 15:30</p>	<p>SESSION TWO All hands on deck: Five years of common challenges and shared solutions (Part 2)</p>	<p>Developing a stakeholder vision for the next five years: Who can do what together to succeed in catalysing an effective and just transition?</p> <p>Small-group workshops Each table to focus on one thematic/horizontal priority. Participants are free to move around and contribute to several table discussions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sustainable food systems 2. Clean air 3. Boosting biodiversity 4. Non-toxic environment 5. Circular economy 6. Economic transition and responsible trade 7. Climate emergency 8. Getting prices right and the MFF 9. Responsible industry 10. Right to clean water 11. Oceans and fisheries 12. Aarhus Convention and Environmental Justice 13. Sustainable Development Goals 14. Better regulation and implementation and the rule of law 15. Youth <p>Each table facilitated by an EEB staff or member.</p>	<p>Guiding questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the opportunities for success over the next 5 years? 2. What should the EU do to address environmental challenges? 3. What new collaborations can help ensure an effective and just transition? 4. How can civil society make a difference?
<p>15:30 – 16:00</p>	<p>Coffee</p>		

<p>16:00 – 17:30</p>	<p>SESSION THREE Charting a course: How can governments set the agenda for a greener Europe?</p>	<p><u>Representatives from governments of Member States' EU presidency teams:</u></p> <p><u>Previous Trio:</u> Austria: Elisabeth Freytag-Rigler, Head of EU Environmental Affairs, Ministry of Sustainability and Tourism</p> <p><u>Ongoing Trio:</u> Finland: Terhi Lehtonen, State Secretary for the Environment</p> <p><u>Next Trio:</u> Germany: Karsten Sach, Director General "International and European Policy, Climate Policy", Federal Ministry for the Environment Portugal: Alexandra Carvalho, Secretary General, Ministry of Environment</p> <p>Followed by moderated Q&A</p>	<p>Short presentations followed by moderated debate between EU presidency teams.</p> <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What will be your priorities under your presidency to make sure we address the environmental emergencies? 2. What can and should be done in the next 5 years to protect our life support systems? 3. What will success look like for the Council? 4. How can civil society engage to raise and realise ambitions?
<p>17:30 – 18:30</p>	<p>SESSION FOUR Reporting back – Conclusions and the way forward</p>	<p>Summary from the Small-group workshops: What does the combined picture look like: priorities, actions and policy needs?</p> <p>Patrizia Heidegger, Director Global Policies and Sustainability, European Environmental Bureau</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What would you see as success for the next 5 years period (i.e. the Trio Presidency or next EU institution cycle)? 2. What new collaborations can help ensure an effective and just transition? 3. What should the EU do to address the environmental challenges?

		<p>Q&A</p> <p>Conclusions and the way forward Toni Vidan, Zelena akcija - Friends of the Earth Croatia</p>	<p>4. How can civil society make a difference?</p> <p>1. What are our hopes for the EU presidencies?</p> <p>2. Where can the EU make best use of its right of initiative and Treaty responsibilities?</p> <p>3. Can the EP be a new democratic beating heart of an ecological transition?</p> <p>4. What can civil society do to encourage European institutions to embrace a Green New Deal?</p>
18:30 – 20:00	Reception	<p>Speakers:</p> <p>Svenja Schulze, Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany</p>	<p>A short intervention by the Environment Minister on the priorities for the upcoming German EU Presidency.</p>



ORGANIZERS

About the European Environmental Bureau (EEB)

Set up in 1974, the EEB is Europe's largest network of environmental citizens' organisations, bringing together around 150 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.

About Deutscher Naturschutzring (DNR)

The German League for Nature and Environment (Deutscher Naturschutzring - DNR) is an umbrella organisation consisting of 90 German organisations working on nature, animal and environmental protection and together representing eleven million people. The organisations under DNR's umbrella are united by the goals to stand up for biodiversity, resource protection, combatting climate change and a sustainable and environmentally sound economy.

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



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