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Air pollution and Health: Recent Advances to Inform the European Green Deal

**21-22 January, 2020
Brussels**

**WIFI: Square-guest
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Organizers



Dr. Maria Neira
**Director Public Health, Environment
and Social Determinants of Health**
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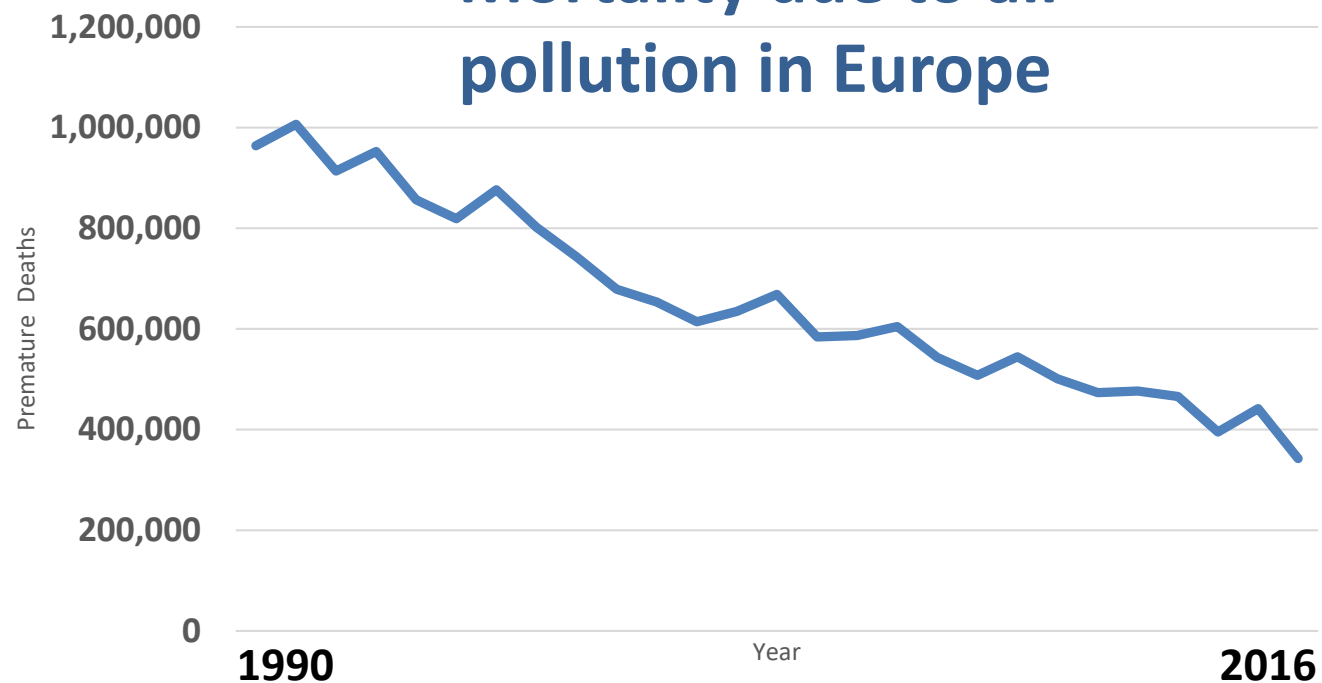
Dr. Barbara Hoffmann
**Professor of Environmental
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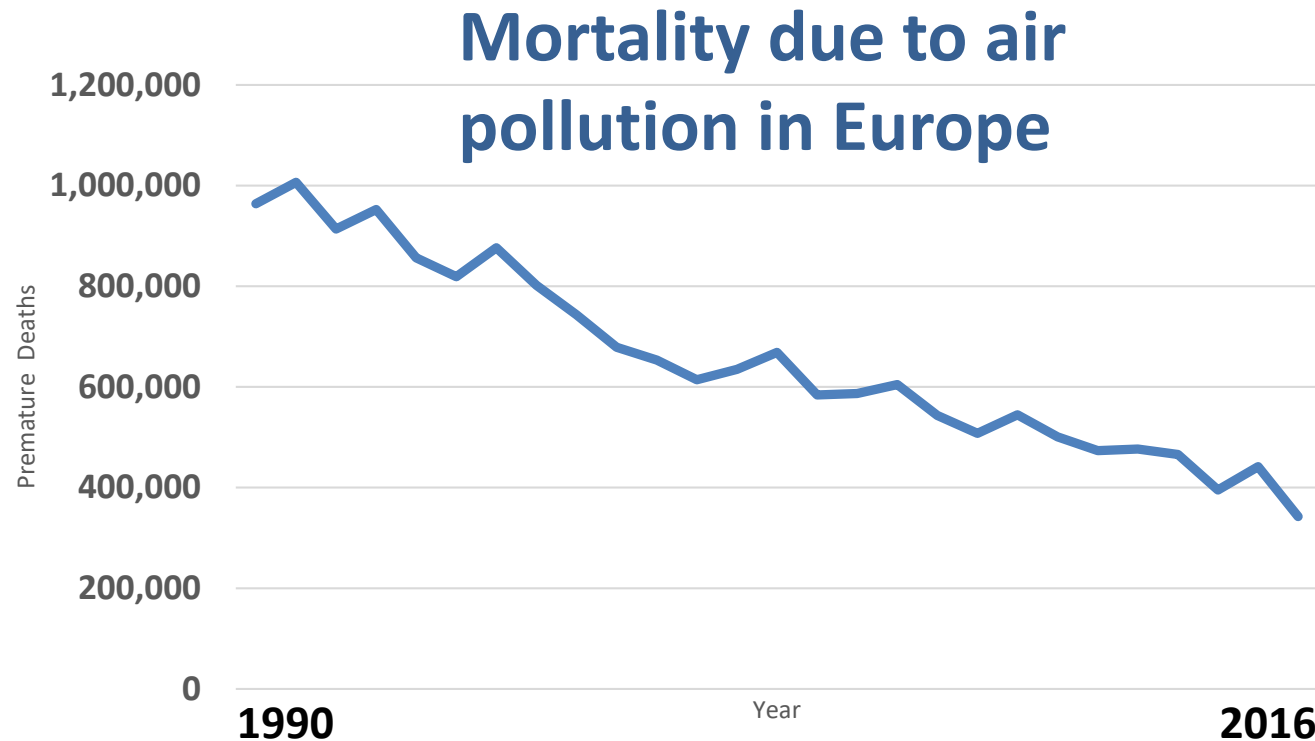
Success Story

Mortality due to air pollution in Europe



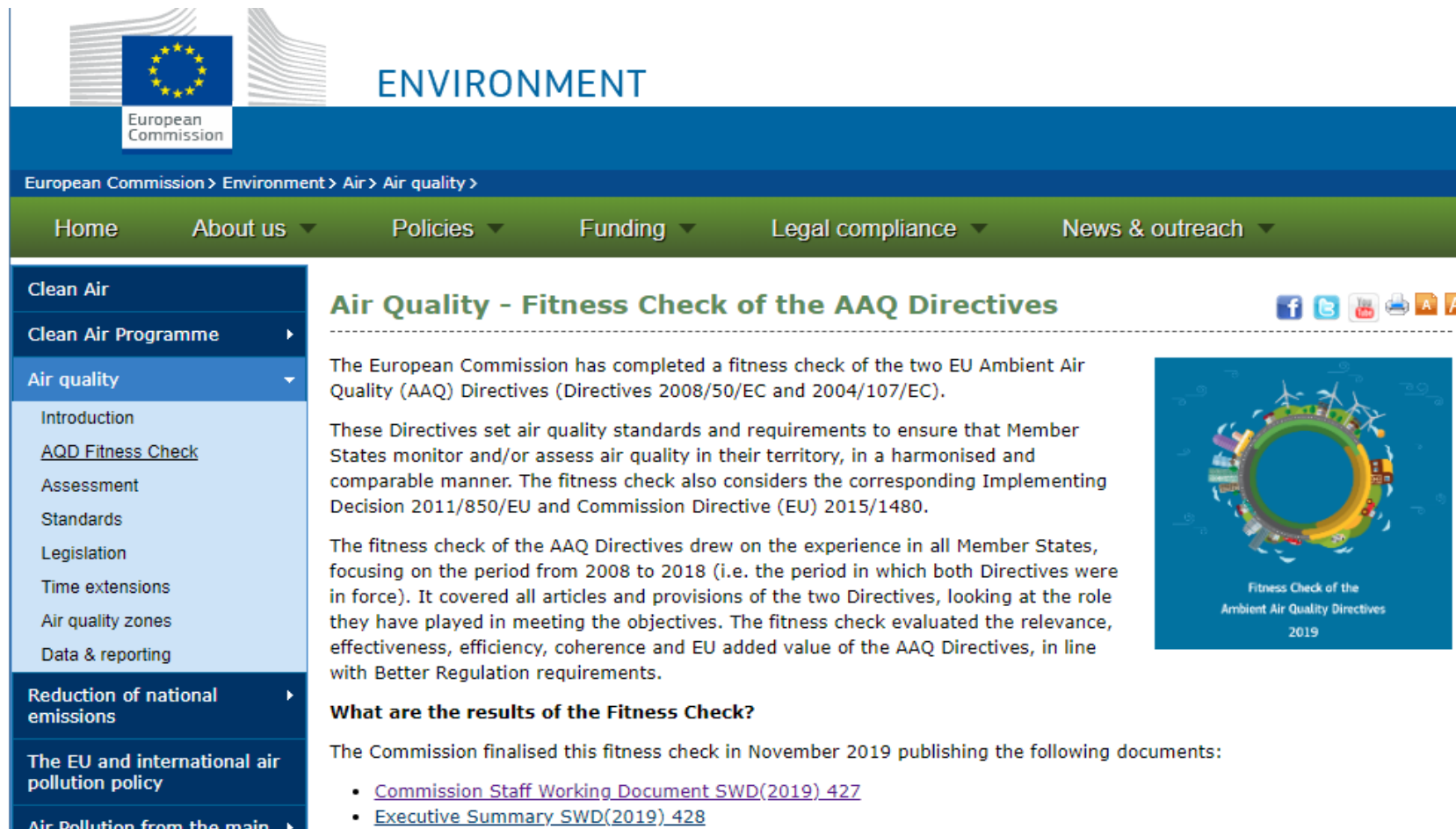
Source: Based on EEA (2018)

Remaining challenges...



Appr. 400.000 deaths per year

BUT: There is a lot going on in Europe...



The screenshot shows the European Commission website page for 'Air Quality - Fitness Check of the AAQ Directives'. The page features a navigation menu with options like 'Home', 'About us', 'Policies', 'Funding', 'Legal compliance', and 'News & outreach'. A sidebar on the left lists various air quality topics, with 'Air quality' expanded to show sub-sections like 'Introduction', 'AQD Fitness Check', 'Assessment', 'Standards', 'Legislation', 'Time extensions', 'Air quality zones', and 'Data & reporting'. The main content area includes a title, a paragraph about the fitness check, a detailed description of the directives, and a section titled 'What are the results of the Fitness Check?' which lists two documents: 'Commission Staff Working Document SWD(2019) 427' and 'Executive Summary SWD(2019) 428'. A graphic on the right side of the page shows a circular arrangement of icons representing different air quality aspects, with the text 'Fitness Check of the Ambient Air Quality Directives 2019' below it.

European Commission

ENVIRONMENT

European Commission > Environment > Air > Air quality >

Home About us Policies Funding Legal compliance News & outreach

Clean Air

Clean Air Programme

Air quality

Introduction

AQD Fitness Check

Assessment

Standards

Legislation

Time extensions

Air quality zones

Data & reporting

Reduction of national emissions

The EU and international air pollution policy

Air Pollution from the main

Air Quality - Fitness Check of the AAQ Directives

The European Commission has completed a fitness check of the two EU Ambient Air Quality (AAQ) Directives (Directives 2008/50/EC and 2004/107/EC).

These Directives set air quality standards and requirements to ensure that Member States monitor and/or assess air quality in their territory, in a harmonised and comparable manner. The fitness check also considers the corresponding Implementing Decision 2011/850/EU and Commission Directive (EU) 2015/1480.

The fitness check of the AAQ Directives drew on the experience in all Member States, focusing on the period from 2008 to 2018 (i.e. the period in which both Directives were in force). It covered all articles and provisions of the two Directives, looking at the role they have played in meeting the objectives. The fitness check evaluated the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and EU added value of the AAQ Directives, in line with Better Regulation requirements.

What are the results of the Fitness Check?

The Commission finalised this fitness check in November 2019 publishing the following documents:

- [Commission Staff Working Document SWD\(2019\) 427](#)
- [Executive Summary SWD\(2019\) 428](#)

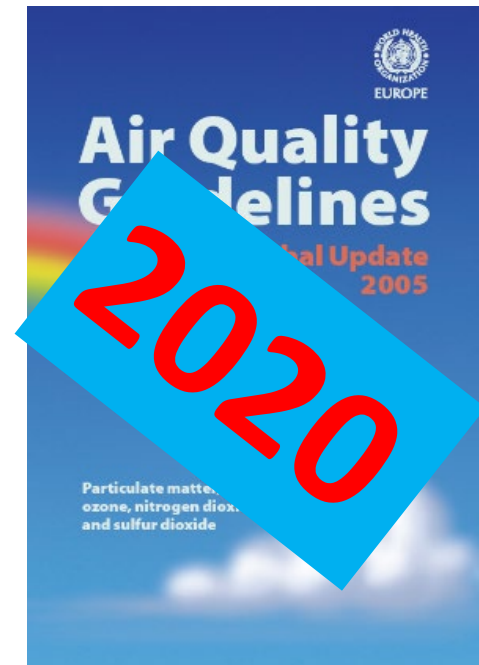
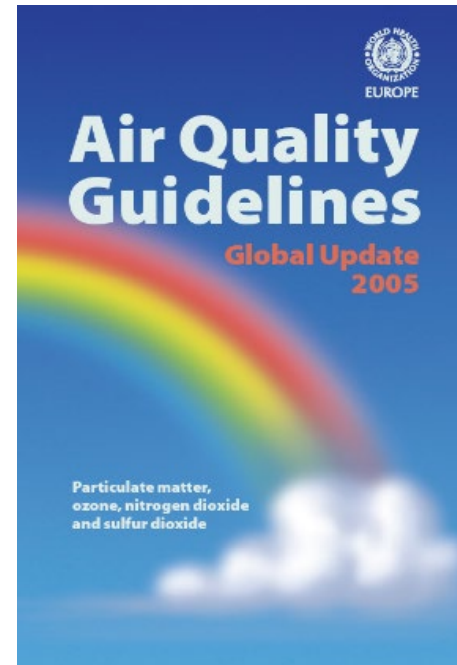
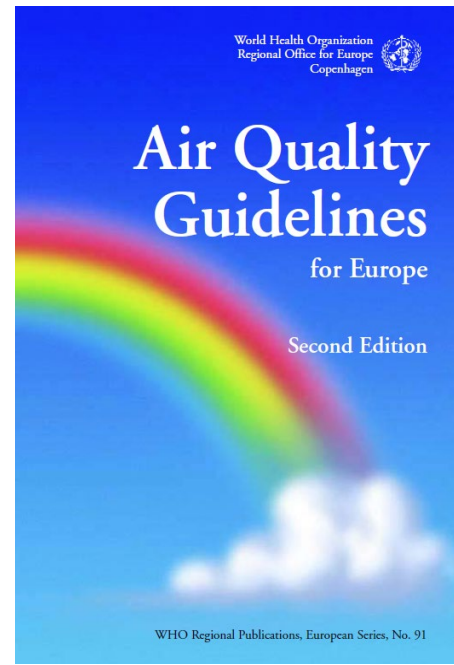
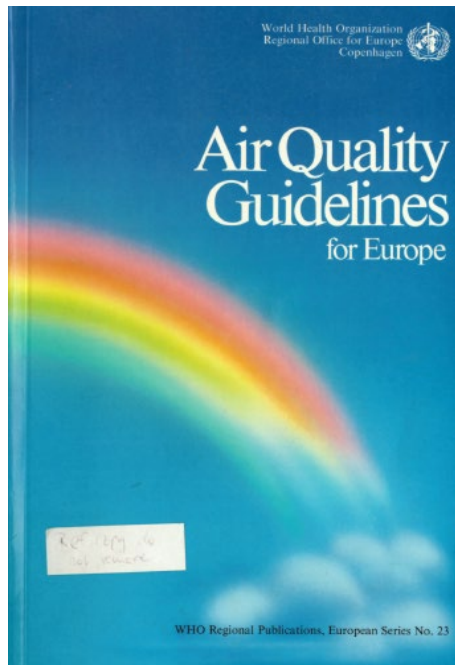
Fitness Check of the Ambient Air Quality Directives 2019



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Update WHO Air Quality Guidelines





[Home](#) > [Strategy](#) > [Priorities](#) > [A European Green Deal](#)

BY 2050

A European Green Deal

Striving to be the first climate-neutral continent

The European Green Deal is about **improving the well-being of people**. Making Europe climate-neutral and protecting our natural habitat will be good for people, planet and economy. No one will be left behind.



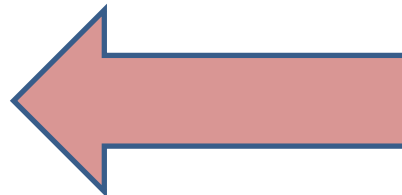
EU parliament resolution, Jan 15, 2020

- Calls for an ambitious **Climate Law....**
- Calls for an **increase of the EU's domestic GHG emissions reduction target**
- Calls on the Commission **to raise the level of protection of the quality of our air, in line with latest scientific findings and the World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines...**

Aim of this joint meeting

Provide latest science on major ambient air pollutants as a key step in evaluating whether to update Europe's air quality policies

Science



Discussion, questions

Policy



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Understanding the Health Effects of Air Pollution: Recent Advances to inform EU policies

Co-organized by the European Commission,
the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe,
and the Health Effects Institute

Brussels, Belgium
Auditorium, Madou Tower, Place Madou

30-31 January 2013

**IN 2013 –
'The Year of air'**

First WHO Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health



Health Topics ▾

Countries ▾

Newsroom ▾

Emergencies ▾

About Us ▾

First WHO Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health, 30 October – 1 November 2018

Improving air quality, combatting climate change – saving lives

Conference aims and outcomes

The conference recognized the need for an aspirational goal of reducing the 7 million deaths a year due to air pollution by 2030, as a contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Countries, urban mayors, and civil society were invited to make commitments to the global advocacy campaign [BreatheLife2030](#) to meet *WHO's Air Quality Guidelines* and reduce climate emissions.

The conference underlined the links between air pollution and the global epidemic of NCDs and positioned the health sector to catalyse actions for health-wise policies on clean household energy





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Key sessions

- The Current European and US Regulatory Contexts
- How Low Should We Go? New Health Research on Low-level Air Ambient Pollution
- Recent Reviews Regarding the Health Effects of Ambient Air Pollution: What do They Tell Us?
- Air Quality Improvements and Climate Mitigation: Key-Co-Benefits for Public Health
- Health burden assessments for informing environmental policy in Europe: challenges and opportunities
- Meeting Closing Session and Panel Discussion



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Before we start – A big thanks to:

- WHO – Nathalie Roebbel, Sophie Gumy, Dorota Jarosinska
- ISEE – Mark Nieuwenhuijsen, Bert Brunekreef, Francesco Forastiere
- ERS – Roberta Sadauskaite, Brian Ward
- HEI – Dan Greenbaum, Robert O’Keefe, Katy Walker, Annemoon van Erp
- DG Environment – Francois Wakenhut, Thomas Henrichs
- All Presenters and Chairs
- Audience
- And...everybody we forgot!



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European
Commission

Home > The Commissioners > Virginijus Sinkevičius

COMMISSIONER (2019-2024)

Virginijus Sinkevičius

Environment, Oceans and Fisheries



First Session