



## **Policy Outlook: Strengthening disease prevention through clean air measures**

**Location:** European Parliament, Brussels

**Date & time:** January 28, 2025, 12:00 – 14:00 CET

### **About the event:**

Air pollution remains the top environmental risk to health in Europe, resulting in hundreds of thousands of premature deaths and hundreds of billions of euros of costs annually. The recently revised EU Ambient Air Quality Directive with updated clean air standards offers unique opportunities to prevent health impacts across the EU and reduce the significant health economic burden from poor air quality.

The EU Healthy Air Coalition (EUHAC), is organising a high-level event in the European Parliament on Tuesday 28 January 2025. The event, co-hosted by [MEP Javi Lopez](#), will bring together Brussels-based organisations representing diverse constituencies of the health sector, including doctors and other health care professionals, scientists, public health experts and groups, respiratory or cancer patients and health insurance funds.

Join representatives from the EUHAC, civil society, scientists and policy-makers to hear first-hand experience from people most at risk, to learn about the latest air pollution science and to discuss ways forward for clean air policies.

# Final Agenda

## 12:00 Light lunch

### 12:30 Welcome and opening remarks

- Javi Lopez, S&D, hosting MEP
- Anne Stauffer, Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL) - Deputy Director and EUHAC coordination

### 12:40 Keynote speeches

- Dr. Maria Neira, World Health Organization (WHO) - Director of Environment, climate change and health
- Veronica Manfredi, European Commission - Director for Zero Pollution, Directorate-General for the Environment

### 13:00 Session 1: The health and economic burden of air pollution

- Christine Strous, European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients' Associations (EFA) - Board member
- Ludo Vandenthoren, Independent Health Insurance Funds – Expert on scientific and economic matters
- Dr. Ina Kelly, Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) – Chair of Working Group on Environmental Health

### 13:15 Session 2: Connecting the dots: latest science on air pollution, climate resilience and public health

- Dr. Ulrike Gehring, European Respiratory Society (ERS) - Chair of the Environment and Health Committee
- Ian Marnane, European Environment Agency (EEA) - Head of Unit for Pollution and Health'
- Raymond Gemen, European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) - Head of Policy

### 13:30 Session 3: Discussion on the way forward for policies in the EU

#### Kick-off by

- Patient intervention from Greece, European Lung Foundation (ELF)
- Miriam Weber, city of Utrecht / WHO Healthy cities network

#### Q&A

### 13:55 Closing remarks

Anne Stauffer, Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL) - Deputy Director and EUHAC coordination



*The EUHAC secretariat is hosted by the Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL).*

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