

Public consultation on the EU Action Plan “Towards a Zero Pollution Ambition for air, water and soil”

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

The European Green Deal announced that to protect Europe’s citizens and ecosystems, the EU needs to move towards a zero pollution ambition, and better prevent and remedy pollution from air, water, soil, and consumer products. To address these interlinked challenges, in 2021 the Commission will adopt a Zero Pollution Action Plan.

Pollution causes multiple physical and mental diseases. In the EU, despite important improvements over the last decades, every year over 400 000 premature deaths (including from cancers) are attributed to ambient air pollution, and 48 000 cases of ischaemic heart disease as well as 6.5 million cases of chronic sleep disturbance to noise, next to other diseases attributable to both. Pollution’s most harmful health impacts are typically born by vulnerable citizens, notably children, people with certain medical conditions, the elderly and people living in socio-economic deprivation.

Pollution of air, water and soil is also one of the five main drivers of biodiversity loss and contributes largely to the current 6th species extinction. It comes at a high price for society and ecosystems, including health-related costs (healthcare, lost workdays, lost productivity), reduced yields (e.g. in agriculture, fisheries and tourism), remediation costs (e.g. water treatment, soil decontamination, marine depollution) and loss of ecosystem services (e.g. pollination). Pollution is also strongly interrelated with other environmental, social and economic risks for businesses and citizens.

The purpose of this open public consultation (OPC) is to gather the perception and views of Europeans on a range of issues that the Action Plan may address, including:

- How pollution affects citizens and the environment
- How well current policies address pollution
- What actions should be taken on pollution in the future
- How to monitor pollution in the future
- What potential there is for digital solutions to address pollution

The consultation is divided into three parts:

- Part I: The first part asks for some information about you (such as which country you come from).

- Part II: The second part is directed towards the general public. You do not need any specialist knowledge to reply to this.
- Part III: The third part (Expert section) is mainly directed towards specialists and interested experts and includes a set of questions on specific issues

Finally, there is an opportunity to share documents and provide complementary information, such as position papers, more detailed reports or studies on the issues mentioned, as well as examples, practical cases, etc

About you

* Language of my contribution

- Bulgarian
- Croatian
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- English
- Estonian
- Finnish
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hungarian
- Irish
- Italian
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Maltese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Slovak
- Slovenian
- Spanish
- Swedish

* I am giving my contribution as

- Academic/research institution
- Business association
- Company/business organisation
- Consumer organisation
- EU citizen
- Environmental organisation
- Non-EU citizen
- Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
- Public authority
- Trade union
- Other

* First name

Axel

* Surname

STEINBERG

* Organisation name

255 character(s) maximum

WKO, Wirtschaftskammer Österreich, Austrian Federal Economic Chamber

* Organisation size

- Micro (1 to 9 employees)
- Small (10 to 49 employees)
- Medium (50 to 249 employees)
- Large (250 or more)

Transparency register number

255 character(s) maximum

Check if your organisation is on the [transparency register](#). It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

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* Email (this won't be published)

* Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Afghanistan | <input type="radio"/> Djibouti | <input type="radio"/> Libya | <input type="radio"/> Saint Martin |
| <input type="radio"/> Åland Islands | <input type="radio"/> Dominica | <input type="radio"/> Liechtenstein | <input type="radio"/> Saint Pierre and Miquelon |
| <input type="radio"/> Albania | <input type="radio"/> Dominican Republic | <input type="radio"/> Lithuania | <input type="radio"/> Saint Vincent and the Grenadines |
| <input type="radio"/> Algeria | <input type="radio"/> Ecuador | <input type="radio"/> Luxembourg | <input type="radio"/> Samoa |
| <input type="radio"/> American Samoa | <input type="radio"/> Egypt | <input type="radio"/> Macau | <input type="radio"/> San Marino |
| <input type="radio"/> Andorra | <input type="radio"/> El Salvador | <input type="radio"/> Madagascar | <input type="radio"/> São Tomé and Príncipe |
| <input type="radio"/> Angola | <input type="radio"/> Equatorial Guinea | <input type="radio"/> Malawi | <input type="radio"/> Saudi Arabia |
| <input type="radio"/> Anguilla | <input type="radio"/> Eritrea | <input type="radio"/> Malaysia | <input type="radio"/> Senegal |
| <input type="radio"/> Antarctica | <input type="radio"/> Estonia | <input type="radio"/> Maldives | <input type="radio"/> Serbia |
| <input type="radio"/> Antigua and Barbuda | <input type="radio"/> Eswatini | <input type="radio"/> Mali | <input type="radio"/> Seychelles |
| <input type="radio"/> Argentina | <input type="radio"/> Ethiopia | <input type="radio"/> Malta | <input type="radio"/> Sierra Leone |
| <input type="radio"/> Armenia | <input type="radio"/> Falkland Islands | <input type="radio"/> Marshall Islands | <input type="radio"/> Singapore |
| <input type="radio"/> Aruba | <input type="radio"/> Faroe Islands | <input type="radio"/> Martinique | <input type="radio"/> Sint Maarten |
| <input type="radio"/> Australia | <input type="radio"/> Fiji | <input type="radio"/> Mauritania | <input type="radio"/> Slovakia |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Austria | <input type="radio"/> Finland | <input type="radio"/> Mauritius | <input type="radio"/> Slovenia |
| <input type="radio"/> Azerbaijan | <input type="radio"/> France | <input type="radio"/> Mayotte | <input type="radio"/> Solomon Islands |
| <input type="radio"/> Bahamas | <input type="radio"/> French Guiana | <input type="radio"/> Mexico | <input type="radio"/> Somalia |
| <input type="radio"/> Bahrain | <input type="radio"/> French Polynesia | <input type="radio"/> Micronesia | <input type="radio"/> South Africa |
| <input type="radio"/> Bangladesh | <input type="radio"/> French Southern and Antarctic Lands | <input type="radio"/> Moldova | <input type="radio"/> South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands |

- Barbados
- Belarus
- Belgium
- Belize
- Benin
- Bermuda
- Bhutan

- Bolivia
- Bonaire Saint Eustatius and Saba
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Bouvet Island
- Brazil
- British Indian Ocean Territory
- British Virgin Islands
- Brunei
- Bulgaria

- Burkina Faso
- Burundi

- Cambodia

- Cameroon

- Canada
- Cape Verde
- Cayman Islands
- Gabon
- Georgia
- Germany
- Ghana
- Gibraltar
- Greece
- Greenland

- Grenada
- Guadeloupe

- Guam

- Guatemala
- Guernsey
- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau

- Guyana

- Haiti
- Heard Island and McDonald Islands
- Honduras
- Hong Kong

- Hungary

- Iceland

- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Monaco
- Mongolia
- Montenegro
- Montserrat
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Myanmar /Burma
- Namibia
- Nauru

- Nepal

- Netherlands
- New Caledonia
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua

- Niger

- Nigeria
- Niue

- Norfolk Island
- Northern Mariana Islands
- North Korea

- North Macedonia
- Norway
- Oman
- Pakistan
- South Korea
- South Sudan
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- Sudan
- Suriname
- Svalbard and Jan Mayen
- Sweden
- Switzerland

- Syria

- Taiwan
- Tajikistan
- Tanzania
- Thailand

- The Gambia

- Timor-Leste
- Togo

- Tokelau
- Tonga

- Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia

- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
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- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Chile
- China
- Christmas Island
- Clipperton
- Cocos (Keeling) Islands
- Colombia
- Comoros
- Congo
- Cook Islands
- Costa Rica
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Croatia
- Cuba
- Curaçao
- Cyprus
- Czechia
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Denmark
- Iraq
- Ireland
- Isle of Man
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Jersey
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kiribati
- Kosovo
- Kuwait
- Kyrgyzstan
- Laos
- Latvia
- Lebanon
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Palau
- Palestine
- Panama
- Papua New Guinea
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Pitcairn Islands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Puerto Rico
- Qatar
- Réunion
- Romania
- Russia
- Rwanda
- Saint Barthélemy
- Saint Helena Ascension and Tristan da Cunha
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Turks and Caicos Islands
- Tuvalu
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States
- United States Minor Outlying Islands
- Uruguay
- US Virgin Islands
- Uzbekistan
- Vanuatu
- Vatican City
- Venezuela
- Vietnam
- Wallis and Futuna
- Western Sahara
- Yemen
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

* Publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

Anonymous

Only your contribution, country of origin and the respondent type profile that you selected will be published. All other personal details (name, organisation name and size, transparency register number) will not be published.

Public

Your personal details (name, organisation name and size, transparency register number, country of origin) will be published with your contribution.

I agree with the [personal data protection provisions](#)

Part II

1. General awareness of pollution and related policies

This section of the questionnaire seeks to gather information on the general level of knowledge of EU environmental pollution and related policies in Europe, and their evolution over time. It seeks to gather information about knowledge of the effects of pollution on people and the environment, and about knowledge of related EU policy in broad terms.

1.1 To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the impact of pollution through air, water and soil?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	I don't know
* Current levels of pollution have a negative impact on my health or the health of those immediately around me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Pollution has negative impacts on the wellbeing of the population in specific locations in the EU	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Current levels of pollution have negative impacts on the health of the overall population in the EU	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Currently, pollution has negative impacts on the environment and particularly biodiversity in my immediate surroundings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Currently, pollution has general negative impacts on the environment and particularly biodiversity	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Current levels of pollution have general negative impacts on the economy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

1.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	I don't know
* Pollution is an issue of concern worldwide	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Pollution is an issue of concern in the EU	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Pollution is an issue of concern primarily outside of the EU	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Pollution is an issue of concern in my country	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Pollution is an issue of concern in my municipality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* I feel sufficiently informed about pollution where I live	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* I feel sufficiently informed about health consequences of pollution where I live	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Pollution has been reduced in the last decade where I live	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

1.3 To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the impact of pollution on different population groups?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	I don't know
* People living in cities are more exposed to pollution than in rural areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* People living in rural areas are the most exposed to pollution than in urban areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* People living in poverty/at risk of poverty are the more exposed to pollution than others	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Everyone in our society is equally exposed to pollution	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Children and the elderly suffer more from pollution than others	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Other	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If other please specify

300 character(s) maximum

More reasons for higher impacts of pollution on certain population groups:

- Adverse private behaviour: Unsafe products or product use, unhealthy personal lifestyle
- Place of residence, e.g. geographic and climate conditions
- Unknown pollution (e.g. buildings: asbestos, chemicals, mould)

1.4 Have you heard about the following EU initiatives addressing pollution? If so, how much do you know about them?

	Very well informed	Moderately informed	Not well informed	Not at all informed	No opinion

* EU Clean Air policies such as the Ambient Air Quality Directives and the National Emission reduction Commitments (NEC) Directive	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* EU Water policies such as the Water Framework Directive, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive, the Drinking Water Directive and the Bathing Water Directive, the Nitrates Directive	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* EU Soil policies such as the Soil Thematic Strategy or the Sewage Sludge Directive	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* EU Noise policies such as the Environmental Noise Directive	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* EU policies on industrial emissions, notably the Industrial Emissions Directive	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* EU policies on chemicals, such as the REACH Regulation and regulation on pesticides	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* EU policies on medicines (also known as medicinal products), such as directives or regulations, and the 2019 EU Strategic Approach to Pharmaceuticals in the Environment	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Farm to Fork Strategy	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Biodiversity Strategy	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* EU policies limiting air pollution at source, such as Euro standards for cars, buses and trucks, or eco-design rules for heating appliances	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* EU policies addressing pollution from waste, such as from persistent organic pollutants (POPs)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Other EU policies on pollution	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If other please specify

300 character(s) maximum

2. Views on the state of pollution and related policies

This section of the questionnaire seeks to gather views about the state of pollution and the importance of pollution in the wider context of environment policy.

2.1 How important is it to address the following pathways (the way pollution moves from its source once it has been released into the environment) and depositories (the eventual recipients of pollution, where it then accumulates) of pollution at the EU level?

	Very important	Important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not a priority	Irrelevant	I don't know
* Ambient air pollution	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Indoor air pollution	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Pollution of rivers, lakes and ground water	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Marine pollution	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Soil and sediment pollution	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Noise pollution	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Other types of pollution	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If other please specify

300 character(s) maximum

Scientific evidence shows that "cross-border" transport leads to ubiquitous pollution: emissions from air to water (Hg, PCB or emerging pollutants) or from products to water/soil/groundwater (pharmaceuticals).

EU legislation must find a way to better manage cross-media mitigation measures.

2.2 How do you evaluate the impact of the following activities on pollution?

	Highly polluting	Somewhat polluting	No significant impact	Somewhat helps reducing pollution	Very much helps reducing pollution	I don't know
* Agriculture: animal farming	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Agriculture: crop production	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

* Fisheries	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Aquaculture	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Mining and extraction of raw materials	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Industrial production	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Road transport	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Rail transport	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Shipping	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Air transport	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Waste landfilling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Waste incineration	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Waste recycling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Energy production from fossil fuels	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Energy production from biomass	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Wind and solar energy production	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Accidental release of hazardous substances	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Littering	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Heating and cooling buildings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If other please specify

300 character(s) maximum

Evaluation of environmental effects is only a sub-aspect of assessing sustainability. As a social partner we, instead of generalizing things, promote balancing public interests, including health, safety, location safeguarding, jobs, global competitiveness of EU businesses. Same applies to 2.5.

2.3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	I don't know
* My consumption habits contribute to environmental pollution in my immediate surroundings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* My consumption habits contribute to environmental pollution in my country	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* My consumption habits contribute to environmental pollution in the EU	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* My consumption habits contribute to environmental pollution globally	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

2.4 Which level of government is the most appropriate to address pollution in the EU Member States?

	EU level authorities	National level authorities	Regional level authorities	Local authorities	I don't know
* Overall, the most appropriate level of government to address pollution is...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
* The most appropriate level of government to address ambient air pollution is...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
* The most appropriate level of government to address pollution of rivers, lakes and ground water is...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
* The most appropriate level of government to address marine pollution is...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
* The most appropriate level of government to address soil and sediment pollution is...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
* The most appropriate level of government to address noise pollution is...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2.5 In your opinion, is each of the following currently doing too much, enough, or not enough about pollution?

	Doing too much	Doing enough	Not doing enough	I don't know
* Product manufacturers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Service providers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Food producers (farmers, aquaculture producers, fisheries)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Energy producers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Banks and investors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Consumers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Your local or regional government	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Your national government	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* The European Union	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* International organisations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

* Social partners	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
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3. Ways forward to address pollution

This section of the questionnaire seeks to gather views on how pollution should be addressed in the future.

3.1 In your opinion, how effective would the following ways of tackling pollution be?

	Very effective	Somewhat effective	Neither effective nor ineffective	Somewhat ineffective	Completely ineffective	I don't know
* Greater powers to national authorities to sanction breaches to EU legislation on pollution	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Easier access to justice and other tools for civil society organisations to act against breaches to EU legislation on pollution	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Introducing heavier fines for breaches of pollution-related legislation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Securing an overall better implementation of pollution-related legislation	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Modernising existing EU law on pollution	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Additional EU law on pollution, e.g. on soil pollution	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Financial incentives to address pollution (e.g. taxes and subsidies favouring less-polluting activities by industry and consumers)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Ensuring a more positive impact of the banking and insurance systems on pollution	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* More research on pollution (e.g. to better understand sources and impacts of pollution, prevent and remediate it)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Better monitoring of pollution levels	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Better anticipating how pollution may develop in the future (e.g. using modelling)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Stepping up international action on pollution	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Enhancing cooperation between stakeholders	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* Increasing awareness on pollution, e.g. funding for clean-up/remediation activities with citizen involvement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Formal education: Integrating pollution-related issues more into education curricula, e.g. training activities on the interplay between pollution, climate change, and public health, on sustainable consumption of products and energy, on sustainable mobility	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Influencing behavioural change (e.g. through social media, culture, sports, ...) to shift to a 'zero pollution mentality', by informing citizens more, e.g. on the interplay between pollution, climate change and public health, on sustainable consumption of products and energy, on sustainable mobility	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Social innovation (e.g. shifting from physical to digital solutions, changes in work organisation)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Other	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If other, please specify

300 character(s) maximum

Further implementation of Aarhus Convention and stricter taxonomy rules could lead to a blockade of the Green Deal (e.g. neighbours vs. renewable energy installations & infrastructure; lack of financial means).

3.2 In your view, how much should the following groups contribute (financially and by actions) to reducing pollution, compared to the current situation?

	Much more	Somewhat more	Same as currently	Somewhat less	Much less	I don't know
* Product manufacturers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Service providers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Food producers (farmers, aquaculture producers, fisheries)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Energy producers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Consumers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Taxpayers via public funding	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If other please specify

300 character(s) maximum

Fair burden sharing is necessary but difficult in some sectors:
 - Industry acting on a global market - no such costs for competitors
 - Tax payers/consumers – higher prices boosting the black market
 - Product manufacturers - SME disadvantages through economies of scale etc.

3.3 In your view, which lessons could be learned for zero pollution policies from recent developments, such as changes observed during Covid-19 related measures (e.g. changes related to less commuting and traffic)?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	I don't know
* More can and should be done to reduce ambient air pollution in cities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* More can and should be done to reduce noise pollution in cities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* More can and should be done to reduce pollution from food (from farmer to consumer)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* More can and should be done to reduce pollution from waste (from production to recycling/disposal)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* More can and should be done to reduce pollution in our seas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* More can and should be done to reduce the need for passenger and goods transport (e.g. adapting work organisation, more teleworking)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* More can and should be done to incentivise active and clean mobility (e.g. walking and cycling)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* More can and should be done to incentivise other alternatives to private car ownership, such as shared mobility solutions and public transport	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If other please specify

300 character(s) maximum

The scope of action in environmental policy is always (regional and EU-wide) based on principles, e.g. (lessons learned from the fitness checks) relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and added value. Local action always depends on local preconditions.

3.4 In your view, what impacts should be the most decisive for implementation of pollution related policies?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	I don't know
* Human and animal health impacts	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Environmental impacts	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Economic impacts	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Social impacts	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Other	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If other please specify

300 character(s) maximum

All impacts are important, but require the sustainable balancing of public interests.

Part III: Expert section

This part is dedicated to experts and specialised public. It includes two thematic sections which are cross-cutting in nature, namely the monitoring and digitalisation. Other thematic consultations have already taken place or are planned in the context of specific impact assessment or evaluation work (see introductory section). These dedicated consultations will also be considered in the zero pollution work. However, the focus here is on cross-cutting themes.

4. Towards an integrated zero pollution monitoring and outlook framework

This section of the questionnaire seeks to gather views of experts on the development of a more integrated and holistic zero pollution monitoring and outlook framework. Monitoring can describe the levels and impacts of pollution now and in the past, including the analysis of trends. An outlook can identify potential changes and (new) developments in the future either in a quantitative manner (e.g. through modelling and scenarios) or in a qualitative manner (through foresight and horizon scanning).

This section is particularly suited for respondents who do have an in-depth knowledge of monitoring and assessing pollution in a policy context.

4.1 What is your opinion about the following statements?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	I don't know
Existing pollution monitoring frameworks at EU and national level are sufficient.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Integrating (zero) pollution monitoring frameworks, such as on different pollutants or under different laws at EU level is an important initiative for the EU action plan .	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Developing an overarching 'Zero Pollution' monitoring framework at EU level is relevant for your own work .	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Communicating on health impacts from pollution at EU level needs to be improved.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Communicating on environmental impacts from pollution at EU level needs to be improved.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Communicating on socio-economic impacts related to pollution at EU level needs to be improved	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Linkages of health data with pollution data need to be improved	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Linkages of socio-economic data with pollution data need to be improved	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4.2 In your opinion, what should be the main purpose for a zero pollution monitoring and outlook at EU level?

	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	I don't know
Providing a guidance ('compass') for the Zero Pollution ambition towards 2050 for the purpose of policy making and communication	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Being 'a driver for change' through better communication with and engagement of citizens	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Showing implementation progress ('what is the distance to target?') and effectiveness ('have the past measures worked?') of existing EU policies and legislation	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Monitoring progress towards benchmarks related to human health and well-being (e.g. on air or water pollution) and to planetary boundaries (e.g. on pollution from excess nutrients)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assessing the total pollution load (exposure) as well as the main impacts of pollution on humans and on ecosystems	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4.3 In your opinion, which pollutants should be addressed as a priority at EU level and therefore included in the monitoring framework?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	I don't know
Particulate matter in ambient air (PM10, PM2.5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other air pollutants (e.g. nitrogen dioxide, ozone, sulphur dioxide)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Excess nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus) in air, water and soil	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Heavy metals in air, water and soil	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pesticides / biocides	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pharmaceuticals and especially pharmaceutical substances representing a risk with respect to the development of antimicrobial resistances	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hydrocarbons including oil spills	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other industrial chemicals	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Marine litter, including plastics	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Microbiological and viral pollution	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Noise	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other physical pollution not listed above	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other pollutants not listed above	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If other physical pollution, please specify

100 character(s) maximum

If other pollutants, please specify

100 character(s) maximum

5. Digital solutions for zero pollution

This section of the questionnaire seeks to gather views of experts on the digital tools and services (such as the use of artificial intelligence or blockchain) and how they can be used for achieving the zero pollution ambition.

This section is particularly suited for respondents who do have an in-depth knowledge of digitisation ideally applied in the context of pollution prevention, reduction and remediation.

5.1 What is your opinion about the following statements?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	I don't know
Digital solutions offer a significant potential for reducing pollution.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Digital solutions are already widely applied by businesses for reducing pollution.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Administrations (in my country) are using digital tools to trace pollution and inform the public.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Administrations (in my country) are using digital tools to implement EU pollution legislation and enforce rules on the ground.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Significant investment is needed in innovation and digitalisation to help achieve the 'zero pollution ambition'	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Excessive data collection and storage risks contributing to pollution more than it reduces pollution	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5.2 In your opinion, what are the areas of digital application with the biggest potential for pollution prevention, reduction and remediation?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	I don't know
Data generation and monitoring of pollution (e.g. through remote sensing)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Data transmission and management	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Data analytics and artificial intelligence	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Blockchain and distributed ledger technology	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Internet of things (IoT)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Information about pollution for consumers and businesses (e.g. pollutants present in products through product passports)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3D printing or additive manufacturing	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Online platforms and cloud systems	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Digital twins and models	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Changing work organisation, shifting from physical to digital solutions (e.g. teleworking)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Can you give examples for digital solutions to reduce pollution in your area of work?

2000 character(s) maximum

Further comments

Do you have any other comments or any other issues that should be addressed in the context of the Zero Pollution Action Plan? Why?

2000 character(s) maximum

We welcome the initiative to establish a holistic approach and to find synergies for reducing pollution of air, water and soil. Shifting pollutants from one to another compartment or to non-EU countries should be a no-go.

In this context we draw the attention to the fact that the proposed action plan could intensify the already ongoing movement of material- and energy-intensive production processes to other parts of the world. This would have a negative impact on the European economy and the environment.

The competitive advantages that derive from zero pollution and its recovering effects are not evident and up to further details. However, it is clear that a flourishing economy is a prerequisite for the path towards zero pollution.

Human life and economic activity will always have an impact on the environment, so zero pollution can only be seen as a symbolic objective. To avoid misleading interpretations, permitted emissions should be distinguished from non-compliant pollution.

Enforcement and individual behavior should be more in the focus. However, not through permanent infringement proceedings, but through a cooperative approach involving exchange of best practices, incentives, subsidies and, of course, a balanced further development of legal obligations in the sectoral policy areas.

The majority of EU legislative acts in the fields of air, water and nature protection has been considered 'fit for purpose' recently. However, at the same time, the EU Commission sees the necessity for further action and a zero pollution action plan. WKO, as social partner, responsible for almost 600,000 members, is urgently calling on the Commission to balance public interests, including health, safety, jobs and an attractive business location.

You may upload a document adding additional relevant observations. Please keep the contents short and focused on the subject of the consultation.

Please note that the uploaded document will be published in its entirety.

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Only files of the type pdf,txt,doc,docx,odt,rtf are allowed

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Contact

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