

## **PESTICIDE ACTION WEEK 2017 NEWSLETTER**



**2017 marked the 12th annual edition of Pesticide Action Week held between March 20th-30th. 10 full days of action!**

**Over 1000 events**

**60 participating organizations**

**18 countries**

Launched in 2006 by **Générations Futures**, PAN Europe member organisation in France, and **ACAP** - a group of 170 organizations Citizen Action for Alternative to Pesticides - Pesticide Action Week has been a powerful force for awareness-raising and action for a pesticide free Europe.

A wide range of events took place including open doors of farms or agricultural schools, exhibitions, workshops on how to garden without pesticides, seed-barter, conferences, organic markets, film screenings among many others. From what we heard, the audience was there, as well as nice weather!

## Here is what happened at PAN Europe and some of our National Members



### PAN Europe

#### *10 days of action for a pesticide free Europe!*

[PAN Europe](#) kicked off Pesticide Action Week by opening an exhibition, "Nature in Towns," in collaboration with Natagora and Bruxelles Environnement. The exhibition offered citizens a vision of the city Brussels without pesticides, imagined through art. In addition to this exhibition, PAN Europe has

- launched the [Italian and Croatian versions](#) of the [Pesticide Free Towns campaign website](#) together with its members and partners in Italy and Croatia. This has made the website available in 7 EU languages in total! This website is part of PAN Europe's campaign on Pesticide Free Towns, serving as a tool guide and showcasing towns that are pesticide-free.
- sent out a **Press Release** "[Time for a change in the CAP?](#)" highlighting the serious problems

with the current EU Common Agricultural Policy.

- sent out a **Press Statement** "[50% Pesticide Use Reduction is Possible!](#)" announcing [a video series of inspiring stories](#) of conventional French farmers who have seriously reduced pesticide use through integrated agriculture.
- supported and [participated](#) in the **conference on [the victims of pesticides](#)**, organized by its Spanish members Fundacion Vivo Sano and the Fundacion Alborada at the Spanish office of the European Parliament, in Madrid, with a lot of success and media attention.

Meanwhile, PAN Europe inspired individuals and organizations across Europe to take part in the action week through [social media](#) the whole ten days!



## Génération Futures

### ***Showing Europe we can do without chemicals!***

Generations Futures continued to lead the charge of Pesticide Action Week by communicating to the media and general public, and by hosting a dedicated website [www.semaine-sans-pesticides.fr](http://www.semaine-sans-pesticides.fr) and by organizing many events across France, including

- [national drawing contest](#) for classes (pupils from 2 to 8 years old) on the theme “My natural garden” raised awareness among the youngest and the drawing above won the contest!
  - launched a documentary named [“Zéro phyto 100% bio”](#) made by Guillaume Bodin which shows examples of French towns that are exemplary on using alternatives to pesticide for their public spaces. The documentary was shown in more than 40 cinemas in preview during the Pesticide Action Week
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## **Adalia**

### ***Spring Without Pesticides***

Since 10 years, PAN Europe member Adalia, with the inspiration of the Minister of Environment of Wallonie, has been organising a full [Springtime without Pesticides](#) from 20 March to 20 June. The extended time period has allowed Adalia to promote many more activities in cooperation with local municipalities, associations, and citizens over a period of 3 months and to take advantage of better weather.

Celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the campaign “[Springtime without Pesticides](#)”, Adalia has taken the opportunity to mobilize the whole Wallonie region to discuss a future without pesticides through a wide range of events: movie screenings, conferences, photo contest, animations, demonstrations, shows, nature walks and open doors among many others.



## **Institute for Sustainable Development**

### ***“EAThink2015 – eat local, think global”***

PAN Europe member in Slovenia, Institute for Sustainable Development joined forces with primary and secondary schools from Ljubljana within the project [EAThink2015](#).

With help of permaculture experts students learned which plants can be planted together, how to prune lavender, plant currants, gooseberries, primroses and other plants. The students were so enthusiastic with digging, grabbing, planting, trimming and watering that they finished the work an hour earlier than planned!

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## **Quercus**

### ***Glyphosate/Herbicides Free Municipalities***

Part of a campaign to promote an herbicide-free approach in public spaces, Quercus organised a national seminar in Lisbon, [“Alternatives to Herbicides: exemples and testimonies”](#), debating alternatives to herbicides and inviting all stakeholders , notably in the area of urban planning, public health services, green spaces, and civil society.

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## **Pan Italy**

### ***“An agriculture that promotes healthiness”***

On the occasion of the Pesticide Action Week, PAN Italy's Annual General Meeting, entitled "[An agriculture that promotes healthiness](#)" took place on the 25th of March in Verona . Members from all the country gathered at this event highlighting the important role of organic agriculture and proposing the future actions of the organisation.

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## **Fundación Alborada and Fundación Vivo Sano**

### ***"The voices of the victims of pesticides"***

[The voices of the victims of pesticides](#) were heard in the event held at the Office of the European Parliament in Spain last April, 18th. The organizers, Fundación Alborada, Fundación Vivo Sano, Ecologistas en Acción and WeMove.EU invited the victims to share their overwhelming experiences with pesticides at their work and at home. A group of lawyers, journalists, scientists, doctors and representatives of NGOs spoke about different aspects of the problem. Two MEPs, Florent Marcellesi and Paloma López Bermejo, showed their support to the victims and their commitment to work for a stronger regulation of pesticides in Spain and in the EU. Major nationwide media (TV, radio, newspapers and internet) covered the event.

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## **Pan Germany and Global 2000**

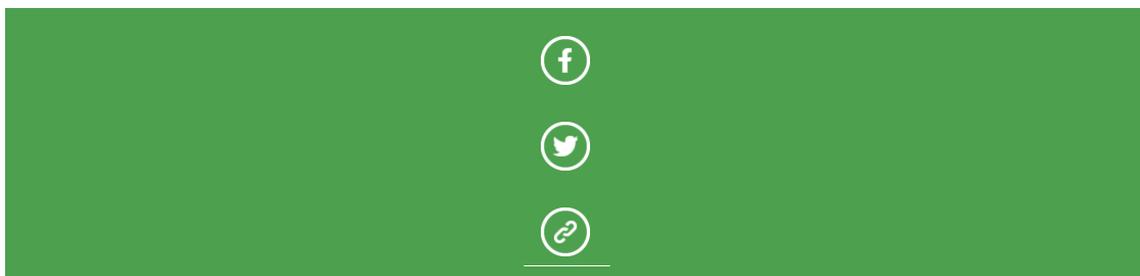
### ***"Buying Science"***

The new report, "[Buying Science](#)," was released by PAN Europe members PAN Germany and Global 2000, with the support of Avaaz, BUND, Campact, CEO, GMWatch, PAN Europe, and Umweltinstitut München, showing that Monsanto and other glyphosate manufacturers appear to have distorted scientific evidence on the public health impacts of glyphosate in order to keep the controversial substance on the market.



Last but not least, PAN Europe members in Spain, France, Belgium and Italy took advantage of these ten days to circulate [the European Citizens' Initiative on glyphosate](#) aiming collect one million signatures across Europe.

[SIGN NOW TO STOP GLYPHOSATE](#)



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