

Dear reader,

Leaked documents show the EU Commission's plans to plans to swiftly reapprove glyphosate to avoid scientific and public debate. In addition, the EU Commission proposes to stop the safety control and labelling of new GMOs. However, two very toxic pesticides could and should be banned in Europe. Don't hesitate to share this newsletter with friends or spread the news on social media!

The PAN Europe Team

News from the team



Leaked: EU Commission plans to swiftly reapprove glyphosate to avoid scientific and public debate

The European Commission has acted behind closed doors and presented a draft glyphosate renewal report to Member States, according to a leaked document received by PAN Europe. A proposal for reapproval of glyphosate's license is now expected in September despite all the toxicity issues raised by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). Paradoxically, EFSA will publish the background documents that led to its conclusions only in October. In an attempt to avoid scientific and public scrutiny of EFSA's work, DG Sante is speeding up the decision-making procedure in secrecy with Member States. [Read more](#).

Will the EU prolong the use of a Toxic 12 and a PFAS pesticide?



Two very toxic pesticides could and should be banned in Europe. They are both highly toxic to humans and environment, listed among the most dangerous pesticides that should be substituted in the EU. Even worse, one of them is a 'Toxic12' and the other a PFAS, a very persistent 'forever chemical'. They are deliberately sprayed on fields contaminating our food, soil and water. Instead of a ban, the EU Commission intends to prolong its authorisation for another year. [Read more](#).



By deregulating new GMOs, the European Commission goes against the will of its own citizens

The European Commission published its new legislative proposal to deregulate new-generation GMOs, the so-called "New Genomic Techniques" (NGTs). PAN Europe considers that the "solutions" proposed by the industry through NGTs are merely wishful thinking. They are the same kind of deceptions as we observed earlier with conventional GMOs. The NGT patents that are in preparation are often herbicide-resistant crops, which would lead to a huge increase in pesticide use. This proposal goes against the will of citizens and violates the precautionary principle. It is not in line with the European Green Deal's (EGD) promises. The new techniques will only benefit the seed industry, leaving farmers, citizens and the environment unprotected. [Read more](#).

29 illegal new pesticide derogations, EU Commission closes eyes

Country	Derogation	Valid from	Valid until
Belgium	Derogation for the use of glyphosate in the agricultural sector	2023-01-01	2023-12-31
France	Derogation for the use of glyphosate in the agricultural sector	2023-01-01	2023-12-31
Germany	Derogation for the use of glyphosate in the agricultural sector	2023-01-01	2023-12-31
Italy	Derogation for the use of glyphosate in the agricultural sector	2023-01-01	2023-12-31
Spain	Derogation for the use of glyphosate in the agricultural sector	2023-01-01	2023-12-31
United Kingdom	Derogation for the use of glyphosate in the agricultural sector	2023-01-01	2023-12-31

In January the EU Court of Justice presented a very clear ruling on pesticide derogations. Approval to use banned pesticides can only be given in very special and unforeseen circumstances. As a result of this ruling, some countries withdrew derogations that allowed the use of highly dangerous pesticides. However, others did not. Six months after the ruling, the European Commission has still not officially published an official reaction. Since the beginning of the year, PAN Europe has identified that, from the derogations disclosed on the Commission database, no less than 29 derogations for EU-banned pesticides have been provided by 14 EU countries. [Read more](#).



FAO Director General urged to begin new term with action to end pesticide industry partnership, phase-out Highly Hazardous Pesticides

Today, 11 global civil society and Indigenous Peoples organizations representing small-scale farmers, agricultural workers, trade unions, and rights holders urged Mr. Qu Dongyu to begin his new term as Director General of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on a positive note by ending a controversial partnership with the pesticide industry signed during his previous term, and taking leadership on global action to phase-out Highly Hazardous Pesticides. [Read more](#).

Stop the export of EU-banned and hazardous pesticides



We support the European Commission's intention to present legislative measures aimed at prohibiting the production and export of chemicals that have been banned in the European Union due to their hazardous properties. This is in line with its commitment under the European Green Deal and specifically the Chemical Strategy for Sustainability, towards a toxic free environment, where Europe shows global leadership in the protection from hazardous chemicals and promotion of sustainable practices. [Read more](#).

Highlights from Members

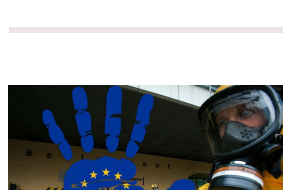
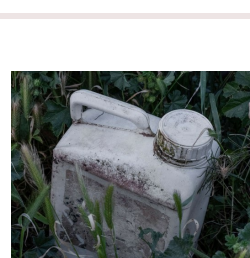


Belgian organisations call for a glyphosate ban

A coalition of 46 organisations is calling on the Flemish, Walloon and Belgian federal governments to impose a total ban on glyphosate. They want to protect citizens, farmers and the environment from exposure to the risky substance. [Read more](#) (in Dutch).

A plague of pesticides

Our Spanish member Ecologistas en Accion calls on their government to use the Spanish EU Presidency to establish an ambitious policy on the use and impact of pesticides. In a manifesto, they describe the plague of pesticides contaminating the planet. Here is the English translation of the text. [Read more](#) (in Spanish).



Everything you want to know about glyphosate

We are part of the coalition that is campaigning against the renewal of glyphosate. Together we have launched a new website. It shows all problems and concerns with glyphosate and links to relevant scientific studies. [Visit the Website](#).

Please support our work!

Our work to eliminate the use of toxic pesticides is more important than ever before! With your support, we can change policies and practices for the better protection of our health and environment.

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Interesting further reads

- Joint statement: [Proposals to Improve the EU Soil Law](#)
- Letter: [EU Court of Justice ruling on emergency authorisations not implemented](#)
- Letter: [Sustainable Use of Pesticides Regulation \(SUR\) - IPM and crop-specific rules](#)
- Letter: [Oppose to the fast-track renewal of glyphosate and prioritise the protection of human health and the environment](#)

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