

news



Winter
2022

Dear reader,

The fight for a pesticide free Europe is gearing up. News from the EU level and several countries. Stay tuned for breaking news on our website and social media: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) & [Instagram](#). Please share our posts and raise awareness in your network. You can also [get involved](#) & [support us](#)!

The PAN Europe Team

News from the team

EU pesticide regulation and Green Deal under heavy attack



the Save Bees and Farmers EU Citizens Initiative. What is going on? [Read more](#).

The EU Pesticide Reduction proposal SUR is under heavy attack. This could derail the complete EU Green Deal and Farm to Fork strategy. While the EU delegation at COP15 in Montreal is discussing ambitious global pesticide reduction targets, the EU is quietly setting the course to sideline its own legislative proposal. Lobbyists from pesticide industry group CropLife and industrial farming group Copa-Cogeca developed a strategy to delay and possibly derail the proposal. That would be a slap in the face of the 1,1 million Europeans that filed an official request to drastically reduce pesticide use in

1 Million EU citizens tell EU Commission: end the war against nature

On Friday 25 November, representatives of the European Citizens Initiative Save Bees and Farmers delivered a clear message to Vice-President Jourová and Commissioner Kyriakides: *we want an end to the war against nature*. To restore biodiversity and protect citizens' health, the use of synthetic pesticides has to be strongly reduced by 2030 and completely phased out by 2035. The EU should support farmers to achieve these goals. This comes at an important moment when the legislative proposal from the European Commission is under heavy attack. A hearing in the EU Parliament is set for January 24. [Read](#) here what we told the EU Commission.



EU Commission gives green light for another deadly Glyphosate year



The EU Commission has decided to extend authorisation of glyphosate for an extra year. Earlier sufficient EU Member States blocked the Commission's proposal in the Appeal Committee. Pesticide Action Network Europe and many other organisations are convinced there is enough scientific evidence regarding the unacceptable risk of glyphosate use to human health and the environment. We call for an immediate ban on the harmful herbicide. [Read more](#).

Court Case in Belgium to ban beekiller product

With our member Nature & Progrès we have jointly asked the Belgian Council of State to immediately suspend the authorisation of two Cypermethrin-based insecticides. These authorisations are not in line with the European regulation on pesticides. They did not look for an alternative, which is required by EU law. The Belgian authorities are systematically and unjustifiably exposing citizens and the environment to many particularly toxic substances for which alternatives exist. Read more in [FR](#) or [NL](#).



Toxic pesticide co-formulants are not inert: EU Commission proposal too weak

The European Commission has published a proposal for a regulation on co-formulants. It will not enable proper protection of citizens and the environment against these - yet non-regulated - chemicals. The Commission is trying to transfer the burden of assessing their toxicity onto the shoulders of Member States, while not ensuring they receive sufficient information from the industry to carry out the work. PAN Europe considers this proposal will lead to chaos among Member States and to more legal uncertainty. PAN Europe published a [Position Paper on co-formulants](#) with solutions to strongly improve the proposal. [Read more](#).



Conferences

Symposium in Slovenia - Solutions for the transition to agroecology



On 20 October 2022, PAN Europe, together with IBMA (International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association), IOBC (International Organisation for Biological / Integrated Control) and the National Council of the Republic of Slovenia, hosted an international symposium titled "Ecological transition starts with agronomy, increasing Integrated Pest Management uptake with biocontrol, and significant pesticide dependency reductions". [Read more](#).

European Commission's promise on hazardous chemical exports ban

Ahead of the 3rd of December Global No Pesticides Day, more than 326 civil society organisations from across the globe, institutions and trade unions published a [Joint Statement](#) demanding a ban on the export of hazardous chemicals that are forbidden in the EU. They urge the European Commission not to postpone the promised legislative proposal to achieve this. [Read more](#).



Highlights from Members

Far too many pesticides in Spanish food, report by Ecologistas en Acción



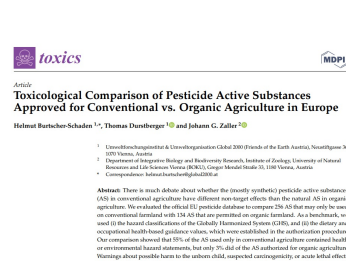
A lot of food sold in Spain is contaminated with pesticides. Some 125 pesticides were found in 35% of the samples analyzed (57 endocrine disruptors, 64 unauthorized, and 13 candidates for substitution and 4 are on our Toxic 12 list). Fruit and vegetables are the group where the highest number of pesticide residues have been detected with 41% of the samples contaminated. The report 'Straight to your hormones' was carried out by our member Ecologistas en Acción. It denounces that Spain is the European state with the worst official controls on pesticides in food, with 3 samples per 100.000 inhabitants, compared to the European average of 17. [Read more](#) (in Spanish).

Conventional apples - not recommended for babies and children, report by PAN Netherlands

Non-organic apples sold in supermarkets in the Netherlands are not fit for consumption by babies and children. This is the conclusion of our member PAN Netherlands after testing 17 samples of the most popular hand apples, Elstar and Jonagold, from five different supermarkets in different locations. They had them tested for pesticide residues in a certified laboratory. [Read more](#) (in Dutch).



Toxicological Comparison of Pesticide Active Substances Approved for Conventional vs. Organic Agriculture in Europe, study by Global 2000



Study shows that pesticide active substances, approved for use in conventional and integrated agriculture, are clearly more hazardous to humans and the environment than the naturally occurring active substances approved for use in organic agriculture. [Read more](#).

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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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