



NEWS

2024

HAPPY NEW YEAR

We wish you a pesticide-free year !

JANUARY 2024

Dear reader,

We wish you a pesticide-free year. May your food become free of synthetic chemicals and your tap water free from PFAS. We promise you to keep working hard to protect health, food security and biodiversity. Soon we will tell you more about our court case against glyphosate and will continue to expose the loopholes in the regulations.

In December, 3 dangerous pesticides were banned but 15 more were kept on the market. We exposed that “closed” greenhouses leak pesticides and launched 2 new court cases against the EU Commission. Our French member Générations Futures challenged the prolongation of 5 pesticides in EU Court. We asked the EU to take action against Romania’s new illegal derogations for beekiller pesticides. Meanwhile we expressed our support to pesticide opponents in the Netherlands who were subject to a very vicious attack. Stay tuned and support our Great Glyphosate Court Case.

The PAN Europe Team

News from the team



27 organisations ask Belgium to prioritise our health and biodiversity

Belgium is now presiding over the EU council for 6 months. With 27 Belgian NGOs we ask them to give priority to an effective Pesticide Reduction Regulation. This is urgent for our health, biodiversity, water, soil and food security. The EU Parliament sidelined itself by voting NO to the proposed SUR, but the discussion between Member States in the EU Council and the Commission continues. [Read more>>](#)

2 new legal actions before the General Court of the EU

We have initiated 2 new legal actions before the General Court of the EU. One against the (non) regulation of co-formulants in pesticide products. The other against the very toxic insecticide abamectin for use in greenhouses. Both EU Commission and Member States are well aware that pesticides leak from greenhouses and put at risk health and the environment. [Read more>>](#)



Attack on pesticide opponents in the Netherlands

The discussion about very toxic lily fields in the Netherlands took a nasty turn during the Christmas break. The car of local pesticide opponents was heavily damaged by a firework bomb on the night of Boxing Day. These people received threats before, after they won a court case. This prohibited a lily grower to use 33 pesticides in weekly sprayings on a field next to their house. The verdict was adjusted in an appeal, where the judges allowed the lily grower to use 1 fungicide and 3 herbicides to finish the growing season. The discussion and court cases continue and the opponents won't let themselves be intimidated by aggression. We visited them with a Christmas gift to express our support. More background on the court case [here](#) (English) and about the attack in a local newspaper (in Dutch) [here](#).



New report: pesticides are leaking from greenhouses

We tested rain and surface water samples for greenhouse areas in Belgium, Netherlands, Spain and Germany. The results are alarming: we found 62 different pesticide residues and a cocktail of up to 35 pesticide residues in a single sample. So there is no basis for the EU to make exceptions to use very toxic pesticides in greenhouses. [See our report>>](#)

EU will ban three problematic pesticides only to continue 15 more

The EU Commission will ban three problematic substances because they disrupt the hormone system and can cause harm at very low doses. The herbicide Asulam sodium and the fungicides dimethomorph and mepanipyrim are all proven endocrine disruptors. At the same time the EU will prolonging the approval of 15 other very harmful substances for another year. [Read more>>](#)



Highlights from Members

5 NEW COURT CASES TO BAN VERY TOXIC PESTICIDES

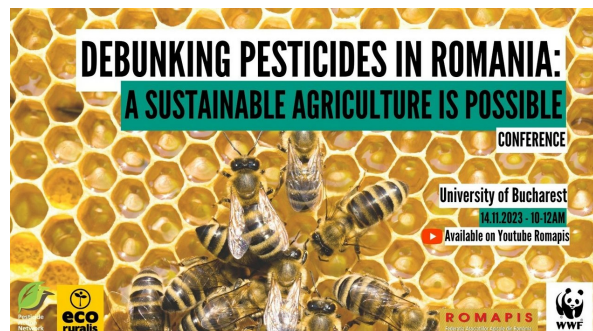


Générations Futures fights prolongation of 5 highly toxic pesticides in EU Court

Our member Generations Futures contests the prolongation of 5 highly toxic pesticides in EU Court. The legal procedures are a statement against the EU re-approval system. This keeps hazardous pesticides on the market for many years, even when research already shows damage to health and environment. The system is already subject of a court case started by PAN Europe. [Read more>>](#)

Romania disrespects EU law with new derogations for beekiller pesticides

Romania has issued new derogations to allow the use of beekiller neonicotinoid coated seeds in the upcoming growing season. This practice was declared illegal in a [verdict by the EU Court of Justice](#) in January 2023. The Romanian government clearly thinks they're above EU law and does not respect the ruling. So together with Beekeeper organisation Romapsis we have asked the EU Commission to take action against this unlawful act. In November we co-organised an event in Romania to expose the problem. Watch the very interesting introduction by bee specialist professor Dave Goulson [here](#).



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