



**Pesticide
Action
Network**
Europe

Why become a member
of PAN Europe ?



Who are we ?

Pesticide Action Network (PAN) was founded in 1982 and is a network of over 600 non-governmental organisations, institutions and individuals in over 60 countries worldwide. PAN Europe is the regional centre in Europe founded in 1987.

"PAN is working from a local, national and regional base to place pesticide concerns in the broad political and economic context. PAN encourages pro-poor, democratic and transparent development strategies which benefit communities in their day-to-day lives. Being involved in PAN activities local, national, regional or global level can really make a change".

Carina Weber, Executive Director, PAN Germany and member of the Steering Committee of PAN International

"The PAN network keeps alive the legacy of pioneering scientist, Rachel Carson, who first alerted the world to the harmful effects of pesticides on wildlife and human health almost 50 years ago. PAN Europe has played a hugely valuable role in recent years in getting EU policy to address this legacy too. As a national member, we rely on PAN Europe to help our advocacy by sharing good examples and providing a strong voice at European level".

Stephanie Williamson, International Project Officer, PAN UK, and PAN Europe Board Member

PAN Europe members

PAN Europe brings together 31 consumer, public health, and environmental organisations and other non-governmental groups in 19 countries.

Logos of all national organisations already members of PAN

	Danmarks Naturfredningsforening Copenhagen, Denmark		Milieudefensie Amsterdam, Netherlands		Natuur en Milieu Utrecht, Netherlands
	MDRGF Paris, France		SNC Stockholm, Sweden		ECH-o Domava, Slovenia
	Bond Beterleef Milieu Brussels, Belgium		Greenpeace Germany Hamburg, Germany		GAWI asbl Visé, Belgium
	CEPTA Zvolen, Slovakia		PAN Germany Hamburg, Germany		Eco Council Copenhagen, Denmark
	Friends of the Earth, EWNI London, United Kingdom		AEGU Vienna, Austria		Legambiente Rome, Italy
	MNGM Bunnik, Netherlands		Centre for Environ- mental Studies Budapest, Hungary		PAN UK London, United Kingdom
	Levegő Munkacsoport / Clean Air Action Group Budapest, Hungary		AWHHE Yerevan, Armenia		Inter-Environnement Wallonie Namur, Belgium
	FWFF Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria		WECF Utrecht, Netherlands		Social Ecological Institute Warsaw, Poland
	VOICE Dublin, Ireland		Friends of the Earth, Bulgaria Sofia, Bulgaria		Green Doctors Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine
	PKE Gliwice, Poland		Global 2000 Vienna, Austria		Foundation for Realization of Ideas Minsk, Belarus
					MADE Kumanovo, Macedonia



**WE INVITE YOU TO
JOIN US TOO**

Our mission

PAN works to replace the use of harmful pesticides with ecologically sound alternatives (where possible practices but also products).

Why the fight on pesticides and biocides is important?

All of us are exposed directly or indirectly to pesticides and other agrochemicals- farm workers and their families most of all, but every consumer will be exposed to dozens of different pesticides every day through food, especially worrying for young children and the unborn.

Many pesticides are known for their risk to cause cancer, change DNA or being harmful to reproduction¹. For many pesticides there is good evidence for endocrine disrupting properties. The health effects of these risks (cancer, cognitive and sexual disorders, mental disorders) are rising in society² and a contribution of pesticides to these effects is likely³. Pregnant women and children are especially vulnerable to pesticide exposure.

Pesticides are products designed to kill or repel undesired living organisms. Although each pesticide is meant to target a certain pest, most can have negative side effects on non-target species, including humans. When used in agriculture, they often contaminate the air, water, sediments, wildlife and beneficial insects (like bees and predators of insect pests), soil micro-organisms and end up in our food too.

¹ European Parliament study PE 408.559 ,the benefits of strict cut of criteria on human health in relation to the proposal for a regulation concerning plant protection products (2008).

² Theo Colborn, *Environm. Health Perspect.* 112 (9):944, (2004).

³ Theo Colborn, *Environm. Health Perspect.* 114 (1): 10 (2006).

"PAN's efforts to inform the public about the health issues linked to the use of pesticides in agriculture and public health, and inform policies on their sale and use are very important to safeguard people, animals and the environment from their potentially serious deleterious effects. With the misguided promotion of insect resistance and herbicide tolerance of GM crops, agri-business is, in fact, not solving a problem at its roots, rather it is promoting the use of more chemicals as seen in most statistics, since the early effects on the pests tapers out quickly and farmers reach for more chemicals to compensate for their lower impact and resistance development. To avoid this treadmill, there is a need to promote both biological control and Integrated Pest Management in the framework of sound agronomic practices, such as agroecology and organic agriculture, and deal with the causes of the pest problems. This will further impact positively the role of agriculture as part of the climate change solution, using less fossil energy in form of pesticides and their application".

Hans R Herren, co-Chair, International assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD) and President, Millennium Institute



Changing the EU agenda is possible

PAN Europe is the focal point for NGO advocacy and public participation in EU pesticide policy and our activities started by constantly reminding EU decision-makers about pesticide problems, proposing sustainable solutions.

“While the Commission was elaborating a framework Directive on the sustainable use of pesticides, a PAN Europe members group of experts elaborated in 2002 a “suggested text for a Directive on measures for reduction of the use and of impacts to health and environment of pesticides” as well as the accompanying explanatory memorandum. These texts served as a very credible lobby tool at European as well as at National levels. An additional conference entitled “Reducing pesticide dependency in Europe to protect health, environment and biodiversity” was organised in Copenhagen in 2003 with the contribution of key scientists and experts. Designed for and attended by numerous Member States officials it was a symbol of a culture of resistance. Still of actuality it contributed to influence Member States positions and to argue for a precautionary approach in the following lobby work”.

Catherine Wattiez, Pesticide Use Reduction in Europe (PURE) campaigner



WHY **BECOME A MEMBER**
OF PAN EUROPE

How PAN Europe helps to make a difference at national levels

PAN Europe assists members, as much as possible, in spreading the word about pesticide issues at national level. We disseminate information on pesticide problems, regulations and alternatives; organising workshops and conferences and promoting dialogue for change between government, private sector and civil society stakeholders

"PAN Germany's coordinating of the EU lobbying on biocides is extremely useful and allowed us to make a real change on the final result".

Valérie Xhonneux, Chargée de mission politique des produits, substances chimiques et pesticides, Fédération Inter-Environnement Wallonie, Belgium

"According to yearly monitoring of food and water, Slovene consumers eat the highest amount of pesticide residues by consuming apples and strawberries. These are two fruits we usually offer our kids and they love them. Because of their undeveloped immune system they are at risk at early age. ECHO is therefore focused on promoting organic farming as, at the moment, the best alternative to high pesticide use intensive agriculture practice. PAN Europe is important source of information, expertise and knowledge we use on daily basis".

Mojca Langerholc Zgec, ECHO (Slovenia)

What PAN Europe is currently working on

We address a range of health, environmental and agricultural topics in relation to the EU policy agenda, food supply chains and non-agricultural pesticides. Our technical work is developing proposals for defining endocrine-disrupting pesticides and lobbying for more transparency and greater use of new scientific findings in government risk assessment procedures.

We currently focus on threats to bees from neonicotinoid pesticides, joining coalitions with bee keepers, and we collaborate with other environmental groups on proposing changes to the Common Agriculture Policy that will reward farmers for conserving wildlife and farming in a climate-friendly way via organic and Integrated Production approaches. We look for allies to push for widespread uptake of non-chemical alternatives in European farming and we promote similar alternatives for managing pests, diseases and weeds in parks, homes and gardens.

"If we lose the bees, we lose the fight for a greener and more diverse environment. We simply cannot afford to lose. The work of PAN Europe is crucial for the future of our environment and provides important examples of how to promote a green Europe of tomorrow".

Dan Jørgensen, Member of the European Parliament and vice chair of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

"I have been following the work of PAN and its campaigns against the unwise use of pesticides at global level since I was a student and they have motivated my professional choices. Today working in biological control allows me to work towards the reduction of pesticide dependency in our agricultural system".

Andrea Sala, working in Bioplanet and chairman of IBMA Italy

"PAN Europe through it's activities with other players including IBMA is helping to ensure innovative alternatives are being made available for use in sustainable agriculture".

David Cary, Executive Director of IBMA

Contact coordinator@pan-europe.info, if you are interesting in knowing more about how to become a member of PAN Europe, or call us...

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