



CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK EUROPE

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

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"CAN OPENS DOORS OF EU INSTITUTIONS"

DENIS ŽIŠKO, CEE BOSNIA

"WE KNOW THE POWER OF SYNERGIES"

PETRA ANDRIĆ, DOOR

MEMBERSHIP

"HIGHLY KNOWLEDGEABLE AND
COMMITTED - WE ARE A PROUD MEMBER!"

TON SLEDSSENS, MILIEUDEFENSIE

"ADVOCATING FOR MORE CLIMATE ACTION
WITH LIKE-MINDED ORGANISATIONS"

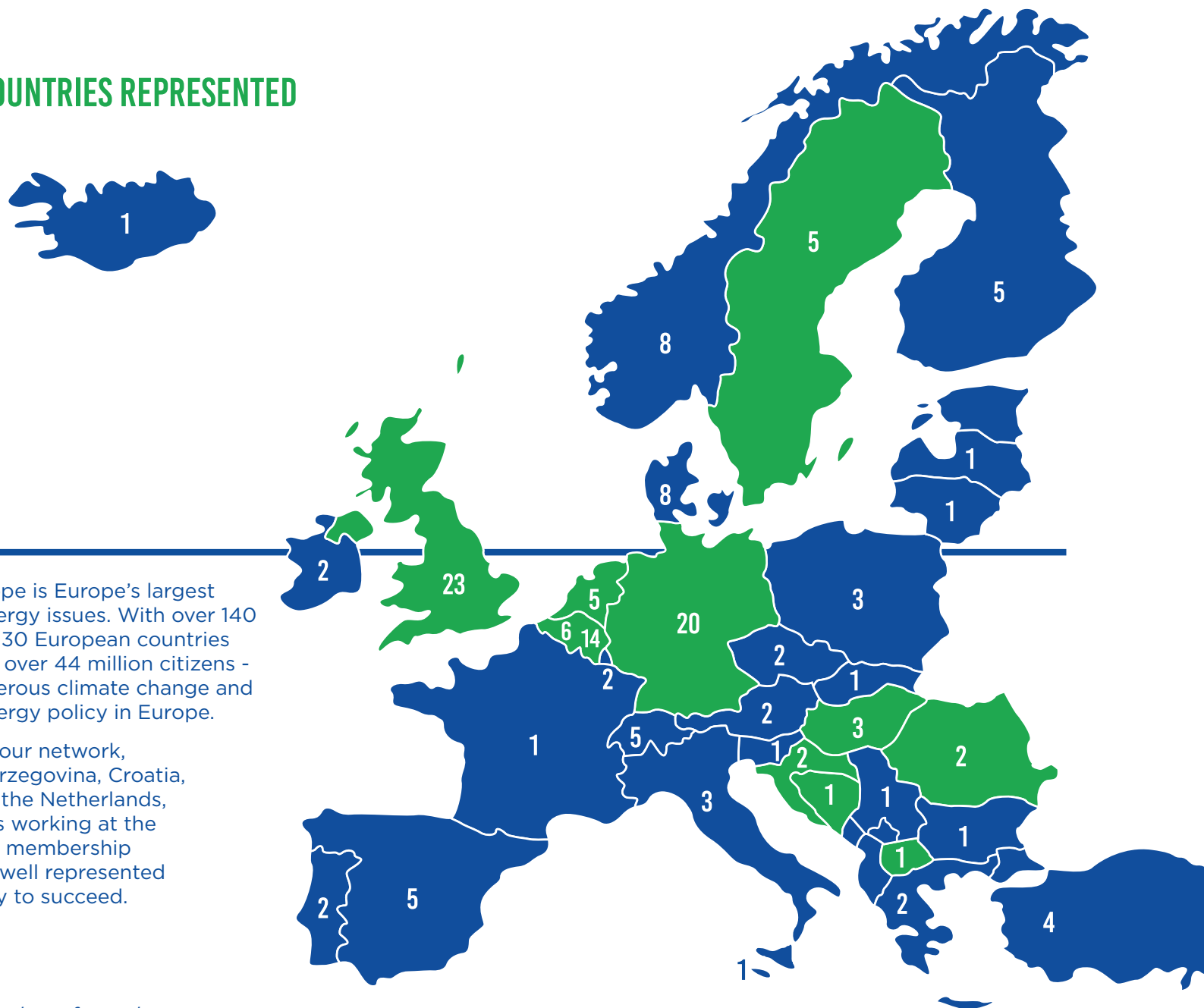
EAMON O'HARA, ECOLISE

13 NEW MEMBERS, 2 NEW COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

- + *Bosnia and Herzegovina: CEE Bosnia*
- + *Croatia: DOOR*
- + *EU: Ecolise, Health Care Without Harm, FERN*
- + *Hungary: WWF Hungary*
- + *Germany: Energy Watch Group*
- + *FYR Macedonia: Go Green*
- + *Netherlands: Milieudefensie*
- + *Romania: 2 Celsius*
- + *Sweden: PUSH*
- + *UK: Environmental Justice Foundation, InfluenceMap*

Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe is Europe's largest coalition working on climate and energy issues. With over 140 member organisations in more than 30 European countries - representing over 1,600 NGOs and over 44 million citizens - CAN Europe works to prevent dangerous climate change and promote sustainable climate and energy policy in Europe.

In 2017, 13 new organisations joined our network, including NGOs from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, FYR Macedonia, the Netherlands, Romania, Sweden, the UK and NGOs working at the European level. Having a committed membership base that is informed, engaged and well represented is at the core of CAN Europe's ability to succeed.



Numbers on the map refer to the number of members per country. Countries marked green are those with new members.

FACTS AND FIGURES



32 LETTERS TO POLICY MAKERS



4 SUBMISSIONS TO CONSULTATIONS



8 POSITION PAPERS



22 BRIEFINGS & REPORTS



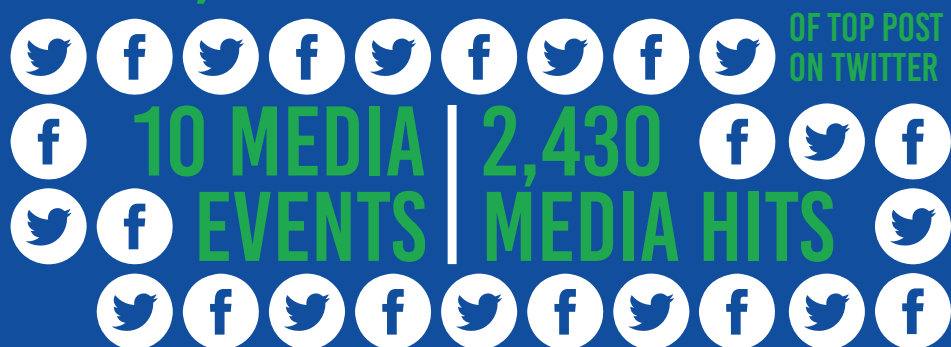
12,500 FOLLOWERS UP 20% FROM LAST YEAR



ALMOST

4,000 FOLLOWERS

33,000 IMPRESSIONS



13 EVENTS FOR THE NETWORK

735 SUBSCRIBERS TO OUR NEWSLETTER





OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Driven by the knowledge that the Earth keeps on warming to record-shattering levels, the CAN Europe network and its secretariat remain vigilant to use every opportunity to improve climate action in Europe.

We have engaged in EU climate and energy policy processes to improve what is on the table. We continue to support campaigns against coal and fossil fuel subsidies where solutions must be found at national, regional or local level.

While we do not shy away from telling the truth about how Europe is moving too slowly away from its addiction to fossil fuels, we have also been actively and successfully supporting solutions: renewable energy, energy savings, an effective price on carbon and shifting financial flows to support them.

**COUNTRIES FIRE UP
SUPPORT FOR HIGHER
CLIMATE TARGETS**



**THE PARIS AGREEMENT
SET INTO MOTION**



**EU TOUGHENS UP
ITS CLIMATE POLICIES**



**EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
BOOSTS THE ENERGY
TRANSITION**



**UPPING THE PRESSURE
TO END FOSSIL FUEL
SUBSIDIES IN EUROPE**



**MORE MONEY FOR
CLIMATE ACTION IN
EUROPE AND BEYOND**



**EU GOVERNMENTS
FINALLY AGREEING TO
SLASH DEADLY AIR
POLLUTION FROM COAL**



**STRENGTHENING
ADVOCACY FOR
EUROPE BEYOND COAL**



**THE WESTERN BALKANS:
SHADOWING PROGRESS
TOWARDS EU ACCESSION**

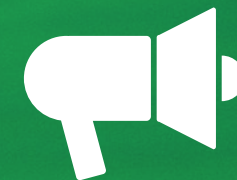


**BUILDING BRIDGES
BETWEEN THE EU
AND CHINA**



**EUROPEAN BUSINESSES,
CITIES AND NGOS ARE
UNITED CALLING FOR
AMBITIOUS CLIMATE
AND ENERGY POLICIES**





COUNTRIES FIRE UP SUPPORT FOR HIGHER CLIMATE TARGETS

Since the Paris Agreement was adopted in 2015, we have worked tirelessly to ramp up Europe's climate targets to fulfil the global ambition of keeping warming to 1.5°C. 2017 was a political watershed moment, when after years of campaigning by the CAN Europe network, countries have finally started to speak up for higher ambition.

**“THERE IS AN URGENCY TO DO MORE...
WE ARE NOT ON TRACK TO IMPLEMENT
THE PARIS AGREEMENT.”**

WENDEL TRIO, CAN EUROPE, BLOOMBERG

Several European leaders have finally grasped the reality that the EU's current climate commitments are nowhere close enough to save us from severe and irreversible consequences of climate change. We were thrilled to see that France, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Sweden all announced that they will fight to raise the bar. The Netherlands made a truly bold statement in line with our demands, calling upon the EU to raise its 2030 climate target from at least 40% to 55% emission reductions. The European Parliament injected momentum into the debate, by calling on the EU to review and increase its 2030 climate target, align its policies with a 1.5°C compatible carbon budget and introduce a target to reduce emissions to net zero by 2050.

At the same time, countries recognised their responsibility to do the job at home. Iceland, Portugal and Sweden now have their own net zero targets. France, Sweden, Ireland, Norway, Spain and the Netherlands have already turned or are in the process of turning their climate commitments into national laws.

This sea change shows that true leaders are serious about the commitments they made in Paris. They also understand that climate action bolsters the economy. The growing political momentum for higher commitments is the result of strategic, determined campaigning from our network across Europe. And this is only the beginning. In 2018, other European countries will have to get on board. European citizens expect nothing less.

**“THE EU’S CLIMATE LEADERSHIP
SHOULD GO BEYOND LIP
SERVICE. IT REQUIRES MAKING
ALL EU DOMESTIC POLICIES
PARIS-PROOF.”**

WENDEL TRIO, CAN EUROPE, THE GUARDIAN



THE PARIS AGREEMENT SET INTO MOTION

At last year's COP23¹ climate conference in Bonn, all countries agreed on the structure and design for the Talanoa Dialogue. It is a process that was established to examine the adequacy of climate action and explore how to bridge the emissions gap between current targets and the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.

¹ COP23 is the 23rd Conference of Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN BRUSSELS AND BEIJING TO SUPPORT VULNERABLE COUNTRIES WILL BE “ONE OF THE INTERESTING BREAKTHROUGHS” AND GOES “BEYOND THE TRADITIONAL DIVIDE” ON CLIMATE CHANGE BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING NATIONS.

WENDEL TRIO, CAN EUROPE, THE FINANCIAL TIMES

We continuously reminded world leaders of their responsibility to fully implement the Paris Agreement, including by pursuing deeper emission cuts than currently planned. These efforts brought a great first step last year, with the launch of [The Talanoa Dialogue](#). This year-long process leading up to the next climate summit (COP24) in 2018, should help trigger more ambitious climate action. It sets the Paris Agreement into motion.

We also urged the EU to revive climate diplomacy to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement. We helped strengthen the EU's climate alliances, by setting out expectations for [EU security and foreign policies](#). CAN Europe also pushed for strong outcomes at the high-profile [EU-China](#) and [EU-Africa](#) summits and the new ministerial forum, Ministerial on Climate Action (MoCA), organised jointly by the EU, China and Canada.

“RAMPING UP EUROPEAN CLIMATE DIPLOMACY IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT NOW, WITH THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION DISTANCING ITSELF FROM GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION”

ULRIKKA AARNIO, CAN EUROPE, REUTERS



EU TOUGHENS UP ITS CLIMATE POLICIES

Our three year, relentless efforts to improve the redesign of the bloc's key climate policies paid off. We ensured that policies are on track to deliver steeper emission cuts, cleaner air, warmer homes and more competitive industries.





“THE PROPOSED MEASURES ARE PURELY COSMETIC. THE EMISSIONS CAP WILL ONCE AGAIN BE SET TOO GENEROUSLY — AND SO ALLOW LOW PRICES TO PERSIST.”

WENDEL TRIO, CAN EUROPE, POLITICO

The original proposals for emission cuts for the period 2021-2030, published by the European Commission in 2015 and 2016, fell way short of meeting the EU’s commitments under the Paris Agreement. Policy makers heard our message loud and clear: the proposals on the table were too weak to prevent devastating climate change.

We shifted mindsets and policies, thanks to our innovative digital communication campaign, including an online petition and infographics, targeted outreach to lawmakers and well-coordinated campaigns at the national level. One of our biggest victories is the fact that the reformed carbon market will almost entirely slash funding for coal. Instead, nearly all of the estimated value of €23 billion of future funds raised by the carbon market will go to projects that contribute to the clean energy transition.

But we are not there yet! Much more still needs to be done to align the EU’s climate policies with its international commitment under the Paris Agreement. Our network’s remarkable success is demonstrated by adopted EU legislation that encourages individual countries to scale up emission cuts at the national level and allows increased ambition through regular reviews over time.

**“EU MEMBER STATES SEEM
UNABLE TO MOVE FROM WORDS TO
DEEDS... TODAY’S LACK OF REAL
PROGRESS IS AT ODDS WITH THE
RECENT STATEMENTS ON THE EU’S
UNEQUIVOCAL COMMITMENT TO
THE PARIS AGREEMENT.”**

CAROLINE WESTBLOM, CAN EUROPE, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT BOOSTS THE ENERGY TRANSITION

In a critical year for Europe's energy transition, the European Parliament stepped up by calling for radical improvements to future energy legislation. After determined and concerted campaigning by our network throughout 2017, in January 2018 MEPs voted in favour of increasing the EU's 2030 renewable energy and energy efficiency targets to at least 35 percent.

***“IT IS BAFFLING THAT EU GOVERNMENTS COULD
EVEN CONSIDER UNDERMINING THEIR ENERGY
SAVINGS OBLIGATIONS, WHILE THE PARIS AGREEMENT
REQUIRES THEM TO DO THE EXACT OPPOSITE.”***

DORA PETROULA, CAN EUROPE, REUTERS

Last year the European Parliament and the Council were finalising their respective positions on the Clean Energy Package - eight legislative proposals that will guide energy policy across Europe for the next decade and beyond. CAN Europe worked night and day to raise the level of ambition in these laws to bring Europe closer to meeting the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.

Cheers to the MEPs! Together with our allies from green businesses, we successfully made the case that higher ambition for renewable energy and energy savings leads to greater benefits for people and the economy. By backing targets of at least 35%, the European Parliament made a better choice for our shared climate and health, employment opportunities and wallets as the price of green energy drops.

With its position, the European Parliament sent a strong signal on the need to scale up clean energy to EU governments, who have opted for far less ambitious proposals. The urgency of the climate crisis, the economic case for green energy that becomes less and less expensive and the enormous benefits of renewables and energy efficiency should prompt the EU to move even faster and adopt 45% renewables and 40% efficiency targets.

***“EU GOVERNMENTS PROPOSE TO
STIFLE AND POSTPONE THE BLOC’S
RENEWABLE ENERGY REVOLUTION.”
A TARGET OF AT LEAST 45 PERCENT
IS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS
OF THE PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT.***

CAN EUROPE, DEUTSCHE PRESSE-AGENTUR



UPPING THE PRESSURE TO END FOSSIL FUEL SUBSIDIES IN EUROPE

Synergising with our member groups and international partners, our relentless exposure of fossil fuel subsidies and pressure to phase them out all over Europe brought governments' financial support for fossil fuels closer to an end.

Will Europe meet its commitment to end harmful subsidies by 2020?

Time is ticking to phase out **€112 billion** a year in fossil fuel subsidies.

Subsidies include: fiscal support; domestic, EU and international public finance; and state-owned enterprise investment (SOE)

To find out more about Europe's subsidies to fossil fuels go to odi.org/Europe-fossil-fuel-subsidies #PhaseOut2020



“THE €4BN SPENT BY THE EU ON FOSSIL FUELS, MOST OF WHICH GOES TO GAS INFRASTRUCTURE, LOCKS EUROPE INTO FOSSIL FUEL DEPENDENCY FOR THE DECADES TO COME. THIS VIOLATES THE PARIS AGREEMENT’S REQUIREMENT TO MAKE FINANCES WORK FOR THE CLIMATE.”

WENDEL TRIO, CAN EUROPE, THE GUARDIAN

We developed new and innovative communication and outreach tools like our monthly Fossil Fuel Subsidies Newsletter and our members’ map of fossil fuel subsidies in Europe. The European fossil fuel subsidies awards and the launch of the report “Phase-out 2020” triggered huge media coverage in both mainstream and specialised media.

Our concerted advocacy efforts contributed to making this topic prominent on the European policy agenda: fossil fuel subsidies have become a growing concern in other European policies such as the Emissions Trading System, Capacity Mechanisms, and in particular the Governance regulation with its National Energy and Climate Plans, which require commitments from Member States to phase-out financial support to dirty energy.

**“THE EU HAS TO SET PRECEDENTS
AND LEAD THE WAY, SHOWING THAT
FOSSIL FUEL SUBSIDIES HAVE NO
ROOM IN THE NEXT EU BUDGET.”**

MARKUS TRILLING, CAN EUROPE, DEUTSCHE WELLE



MORE MONEY FOR CLIMATE ACTION IN EUROPE AND BEYOND

Our active lobbying to make European public finance more climate-friendly has paid off both internally and externally, resulting in greater portions of the Juncker Plan and the External Investment Plan being dedicated to climate action.

Joining forces with many NGO colleagues, we ensured a 40% climate action target in the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), also known as 'Juncker Plan', for its extension until 2020. This target needs to be the benchmark for all EU public financing after 2020 and will ensure EU funding is serving higher climate ambition than it currently is.

Beyond European borders, the EU also agreed to increase its support for climate action in its External Investment Plan. Due to strong collaboration with development NGOs, the recently adopted plan increases climate action spending from 20% to 28%, with a focus on renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable transport. We also worked hard to improve the Plan's transparency and accountability and its contributions to environmental sustainability, the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement.



EU GOVERNMENTS FINALLY AGREEING TO SLASH DEADLY AIR POLLUTION FROM COAL

In April EU Member States agreed to set new air pollution standards (LCP BREF) which will force the coal industry to reduce their toxic fumes and save more than 20,000 lives every year.

***“WE WELCOME THE FACT THAT EUROPEAN
GOVERNMENTS HAVE FINALLY TAKEN UP THEIR
RESPONSIBILITY AND THUS PROTECT THEIR
CITIZENS AND THE ENVIRONMENT”***

JOANNA FLISOWSKA, CAN EUROPE, MONDIAAL NIEUWS

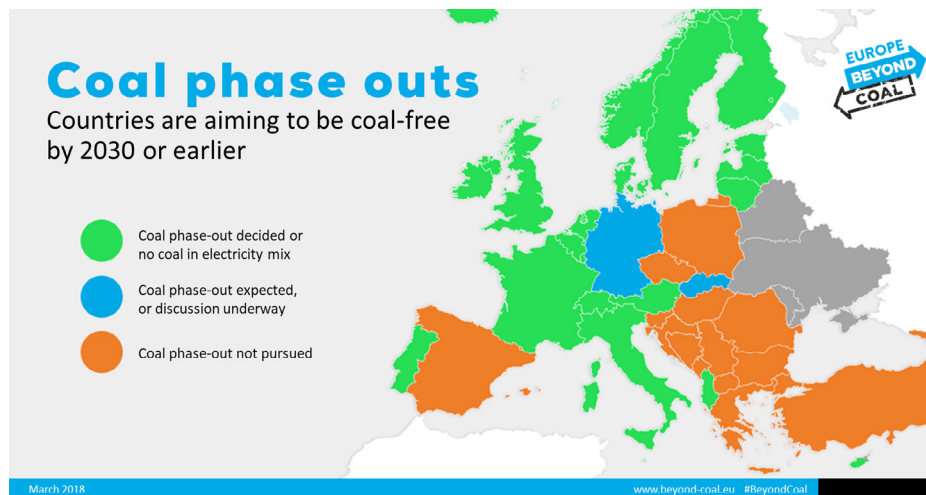
For more than two years we have been advocating to set stricter air pollution limits on coal plants, which would help save lives and push utilities toward closures. Before Member States took their final vote on whether to adopt new standards, CAN Europe and partner NGOs had organised and delivered a European online [petition](#) that was signed by more than 125.000 European citizens calling for that.

Thanks to our joint efforts, coal plants across the EU will now have to modernise to comply with much stricter standards by mid-2021. This set of actions will result not only in substantial reductions of health and environmental impacts, but will also cause many utilities to question the profitability of keeping their coal plants operational.



STRENGTHENING ADVOCACY FOR EUROPE BEYOND COAL

Our efforts in the last five years leading a Europe-wide civil society coalition for phasing out coal transformed into a structured, ambitious, open-source, pan-European campaign in 2017: the Europe Beyond Coal campaign was launched during COP23 in Bonn.



“EU ENERGY COMPANIES PLEDGING NO NEW COAL PLANTS FROM 2020 IS THE BEGINNING OF THE END FOR COAL.”

WENDEL TRIO, CAN EUROPE, THE GUARDIAN

Since 2016, Europe Beyond Coal groups have helped retire 16 coal plants, and shelve more than 40 gigawatts (GW) of planned coal capacity in the EU, the Balkans and Turkey. Guided by CAN Europe, civil society organisations across Europe partnered up to increase action on the European coal phase out, following in the footsteps of the successful Beyond Coal campaign in the United States.



THE WESTERN BALKANS: SHADOWING PROGRESS TOWARDS EU ACCESSION

In Serbia, Coalition 27, a group of 11 leading environmental advocacy organisations, published a report that outlines the progress made by the country in relation to chapter 27 of its EU accession journey, which covers the environment.

Entitled “Still Under Construction-One Year Later”, the report includes a contribution by CAN Europe and presents an inventory of stalled environmental policies, missing legislation and inconsistent enforcement of existing legal frameworks.

The publication of this year’s report, the 4th report of its kind to be released each year for the past four years, has earned the Coalition broad recognition in the field. This recognition includes acknowledgement from the Government of Serbia, which now will facilitate a more open debate about its policy priorities. This turn of events could hardly be timelier, given the expected start of Chapter 27 of membership negotiations between Serbia and the EU later this year.

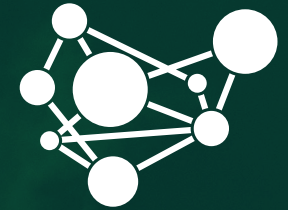


BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN THE EU AND CHINA

10 European and Chinese NGO professionals participated in the 2017 CAN Europe EU-China exchange programme. Its goal is to exchange experience across borders and improve understanding of the different approaches to working on climate change and zero-carbon development in these two distinctive regions.

The topics during last year's program ranged from sustainable urban planning to energy policies. The highlights of the exchange, highly valued by the participants, were the two capacity building workshops. During the European workshop the participants were invited to present their projects and the first results of their work at a global Civil 20 summit in Hamburg – a gathering of over 200 NGO representatives from 45 countries developing recommendations for the German G20 presidency.

During the Chinese workshop in Sanya City, the participants had a special brainstorming session through which they developed a joint vision for how to design a sustainable city. This discussion was of utmost importance, considering the fact that cities are responsible for most of global carbon emissions and many have become the new climate leaders, playing a growing role in helping reduce the emissions gap.



EUROPEAN BUSINESSES, CITIES AND NGOS ARE UNITED CALLING FOR AMBITIOUS CLIMATE AND ENERGY POLICIES

The Coalition for Higher Ambition, CAN Europe's platform that brings together a variety of progressive businesses, renewable energy and energy efficiency federations, trade unions, urban networks and NGOs, is filling the gap of cross-sectoral stakeholder initiatives advocating for bold climate action at the EU level.

In 2017, CAN Europe worked hard to strengthen the Coalition for Higher Ambition, both by increasing the number of participating organisations and by developing joint narratives to empower the involved stakeholders with the appropriate tools to affect change.

Amongst others, the Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC), the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) and the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) joined the ranks.

Addressing the EU's ambition gap through an alliance of non-state participants who work towards the same goal enables us to advocate for the system-wide changes we need. With a well-established coalition, CAN Europe is better positioned to embark on its most ambitious objectives.

FINANCE

€

EUROPEAN CLIMATE FOUNDATION	884 120
EUROPEAN COMMISSION	259 762
KANN RASMUSSEN FOUNDATION	225 583
MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS	99 343
EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS	86 136
OAK FOUNDATION	77 422
MERCATOR FOUNDATION	66 372
MINOR FOUNDATION FOR MAJOR CHALLENGES	23 993
OTHER INCOME	57 660
TOTAL INCOME	1 780 391

**BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

CAN Europe has a Board of Directors, which is appointed by its General Assembly.
As of April 2017, the Board is comprised of:

CELINE CHARVERIAT
(CHAIR)

Executive Director, Institute for
European Environmental Policy
(IEEP)

KARLA SCHOETERS
(TREASURER)

Independent

TORE BRAEND

Consultant, Norwegian Forum for
Development and Environment,
Norway

KLÁRA SUTLOVIČOVÁ

Climate and Energy Team Leader,
Glopolis, Czech Republic

NIKOS CHARALAMBIDES

Executive Director, Greenpeace
Greece

SVEN HARMELING

Climate Change Advocacy
Coordinator, Care International

BERND NILLES

Board member, CIDSE
International

CHRISTIANE AVERBECK

Director, Klima-Allianz, Germany

IMKE LÜBBEKE

Head of Climate and Energy Team,
WWF European Policy Office

We also gratefully thank two board members who guided us in our work for years:
Reinhold Pape and Petr Hlobil. In 2017, they left the board and were replaced by
Klára Sutlovičová and Tore Braend.



OUR TEAM

CAN Europe staff retreat, February 2017

DIRECTOR



WENDEL TRIO
Director

POLICY



MARKUS TRILLING
Finance and
Subsidies Policy
Coordinator



ULRIIKKA AARNIO
International
Climate Policy
Coordinator



THEODORA PETROULA
Energy
Savings Policy
Coordinator



KLAUS RÖHRIG
EU Climate and
Energy Policy
Coordinator



CAROLINE WESTBLOM
EU Climate and
Energy Policy
Coordinator



ZANNA VANRENTERGHEM
Climate
Ambition Project
Coordinator

POLICY



RACHEL SIMON

Climate and
Energy Policy
Officer



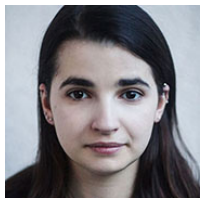
**JEAN-FRANÇOIS
FAUCONNIER**

Renewables
Policy
Coordinator



IGOR KALABA

Energy Policy
Coordinator
for Southeast
Europe



**JOANNA
FLISOWSKA**

Coal Policy
Coordinator



ELIF GÜNDÜZYELI

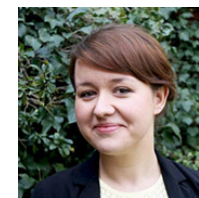
Turkey
Climate and
Energy Policy
Coordinator



MAEVE MC LYNN

Finance and
Subsidies Policy
Coordinator

COMMUNICATIONS



**ANIA
DRAŻKIEWICZ**

Head of
Communications



**NICOLAS
DEROBERT**

Communications
Coordinator

NETWORK



GOKSEN SAHIN
Communications
Coordinator



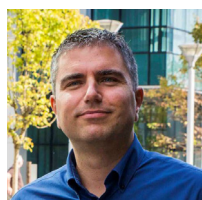
EDDY DE NEEF
Head of Network
Outreach



**MATHIAS CLAEYS
BOUUAERT**
Network
Outreach Officer



LIONEL DEHALU
Head of
Administration
and Finance



**STEVAN
VUJASINOVIĆ**
Communications
Coordinator
for Southeast
Europe



TOM BOYLE
Fundraising
and Network
Outreach
Coordinator



RACHEL SIMON
Climate and
Energy Policy
Officer



CINDA AYACHI
HR and Office
Coordinator

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE EUROPE BEYOND COAL



**REINHILDE
STINDERS**

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Coordinator



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**KATHRIN
GUTMANN**

Campaign
Director

MAHI SIDERIDOU

Managing
Director

GREG MCNEVIN

Communications
Coordinator

ELENA BIXEL

Campaign
Researcher

FELIX REITZ

Energy Analyst

BIANCA REMER

Project Manager

We also gratefully thank the following staff members that helped us implement our work in 2017, but have left us since: Anja Kollmuss, Dragana Mileusnić and Martin O'Brien.



Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe is Europe's largest coalition working on climate and energy issues. With over 140 member organisations in more than 30 European countries - representing over 1,600 NGOs and over 44 million citizens - CAN Europe works to prevent dangerous climate change and promote sustainable climate and energy policy in Europe.

CAN Europe is a regional node of Climate Action Network, a worldwide network of over 1100 Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in more than 120 countries, working to promote government and individual action to limit human-induced climate change to ecologically sustainable levels.

CAN members work to achieve this goal through information exchange and the coordinated development of NGO strategy on international, regional, and national climate issues.

CAN members place a high priority on both a healthy environment and development that "meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (Brundtland Commission). CAN's vision is to protect the atmosphere while allowing for sustainable and equitable development worldwide.



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