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by Gordana Pehnec, EFCA President

Dear readers,

As we present the new edition of the EFCA
Newsletter, I would like to draw your attention to
some important activities of EFCA and its members
in 2025.

First of all, we are pleased to announce the EFCA
session “*Methane Time*”, which will be held as part
of the International Conference and the 14th
Croatian Scientific and Professional Meeting, “*Air
Protection 2025*”, organized by CAPP October 21-
25, 2025, in Zadar, Croatia. Methane is a powerful
greenhouse gas and a short-lived climate pollutant
that significantly contributes to global warming.
Although considerable efforts have already been
made at both global and local levels to implement
effective measures and programmes aimed at
reducing methane emissions, further action is
needed to achieve satisfactory results. The goal of
the EFCA session is to bring together scientists and
professionals working in this field and to present
examples of how countries and organizations are
addressing the methane challenge. You can read
more in the article written by Dr Andrzej
Jagusiewicz.

This edition of the Newsletter also introduces
EFCA’s new associate member: the *Environmental
Radioactivity & Aerosol Technology for Atmospheric
and Climate Impact Laboratory (ENRACT)*, part of
the *Institute of Nuclear & Radiological Sciences &
Technology, Energy & Safety (INRASTES)* at the
National Centre for Scientific Research (NCSR)
“*Demokritos*”, Greece. We warmly welcome them
to our community!

Among other topics, we highlight the report from the **63rd Session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review**, held from May 26-28, 2025, in Geneva, as well as updates from our member associations.

We hope you enjoy reading this Newsletter before the summer break!

Warm regards,
Gordana Pehnec

EFCA session „Methane time” at the CAPPA international conference AIR PROTECTION 2025 to be held in Zadar (Croatia) 22-25 October 2025

by Andrzej Jagusiewicz, EFCA Past President

Methane, the main ingredient of natural gas, is a very powerful greenhouse gas and short lived climate pollutant (**SLCP**). It has more than 80 times the warming power of carbon dioxide over the first 20 years after it reaches the atmosphere. The concentration of methane in the atmosphere has more than doubled over the last centuries and is increasing particularly fast since the 1980s. Over 60 % of global methane emissions come, mainly from agriculture then from fossil fuels mining and processing and from wastes generation and utilization.

According to climate scientists methane is responsible for almost 30% of climate warming, but it has also indirect effects on human health and crop yields as a precursor of tropospheric ozone formation together with nitrogen oxides and other volatile organic compounds. That's why **EFCA** approach **ONE ATMOSPHERE** integrating action for cleaner air and climate protection is at stake. Acting at all levels from global to local now to reduce methane emissions will have multipole benefits to the climate that reductions in carbon dioxide cannot provide on their own and to improve our health and crops.

UNEP/WHO Integrated Assessment of Black Carbon and Tropospheric Ozone from 2011 advocated measures targeting methane and black carbon

(typical UfP) rich sources of PM 2,5, while Global Methane Assessment from 2021 identified commercially available measures to reduce methane emissions by 45 % by 2030. Shortly before, in 2020 the Global Methane Pledge (**GMP**) was launched by EU and US. Today 159 countries participate in this program aimed at reducing methane emissions by at least 30 % below 2020 levels by 2030. Climate and Clean Air Coalition (**CCAC**) assumes the funding and secretariat function to support to GMP target.

A part the global effort, the ongoing revision of the Amended Gothenburg Protocol may also contribute at regional level UNECE, to cut the methane emissions provided the emission commitments decision will include this short-lived climate pollutant and ozone precursor.

The aim of the **EFCA** session would be to provide a few concrete examples how the countries and/or organizations e.g. **IUPPA** attending the international conference **AIR PROTECTION 2025** deal with this challenging problem. Particularly it would be interesting what mitigating measures they practice to lower emissions of methane from the main polluting sectors.

News from EFCA

New EFCA member ENRACT

by Gordana Pehnec, EFCA president

After the UFP Symposium in Brussels, the 35th EFCA Assembly meeting was organized in hybrid mode on 5th July. Dr Konstantinos Eleftheriadis, Research Director of the Institute of Nuclear and Radiological Science & Technology, Energy & Safety, which is part of the National Centre for Scientific Research (N.C.S.R.) "Demokritos", Greece, attended the meeting. Dr Eleftheriadis expressed the intention to join EFCA as an associate member. Based on his request, voting was carried out and the Institute was accepted as a new member of EFCA.



EFCA is pleased to welcome a new associate member: **the Environmental Radioactivity & Aerosol Technology for Atmospheric and Climate Impact Lab (ENRACT)**, part of the Institute of Nuclear & Radiological Sciences & Technology, Energy & Safety (INRASTES) at the National Centre for Scientific Research (NCSR) “Demokritos”, Greece.

Established in 1959 as a founding unit of NCSR “Demokritos”, ENRACT specializes in environmental radioactivity and aerosol research, focusing on air pollution, radiation protection, and climate impact. It conducts advanced studies, develops novel measurement techniques, and provides training, scientific advice, and compliance monitoring. Accredited under ISO standards, it supports air quality management and contributes to international networks and projects. Since 2007 ENRACT has operated the Demokritos Regional Research Aerosol Station, member of the Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW) and ACTRIS networks. Since 2016, it has also managed the Helmos Mt Free Troposphere Aerosol and Climate Change Station in Western Greece, located at 2,314 meters above sea level.

ENRACT belongs to the Institute of Nuclear & Radiological Sciences and Technology, Energy & Safety (INRASTES), an interdisciplinary R&D establishment engaged in basic, translational and applied research, addressing pressing scientific and socioeconomic challenges across a broad range of fields.

ENRACT's activities in the field of air quality include:

A comprehensive research programme covering atmospheric composition, greenhouse gases and climate change, long-range air pollution transport, urban and industrial pollution, the environmental

fate of toxins, ecological and economic impacts, health effects, particulate matter and aerosols, ozone depletion, and UV radiation.

Monitoring of climate change, global air quality and air pollution transport pathways through observatories in Greece by long term operation of two supersite aerosol properties and greenhouse gases monitoring stations, located at Demokritos in Athens and at Helmos Mountain top. The data produced on a wide spectre of pollutants, climate gasses and climate forcing agents are submitted to and are made publicly available at international open-access databases.

To find out more about ENRACT and its work, visit: <https://inrastes.demokritos.gr/laboratories/environmental-radioactivity-aerosol-air-quality-climate-change-technologies-laboratory-enract/>

We are proud to welcome ENRACT to the EFCA community!



63rd Session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review, 26-28 May 2025, Geneva

by Andrzej Jagusiewicz

The most interesting agenda item of the session was that devoted to the progress in the implementation of the 2024-2025 work plan (Item2), particularly on technical and non-technical measures supporting the future emission reduction commitments. Task Force on Technical and Economic Issues (TFTEI) presented a draft revised guidance document (RGD) on control techniques for emissions from stationary sources substantiated by two informal documents facilitating the identification of the best abatement options with reference to the Best Available Techniques (BAT). Moreover, the Task Force presented a draft informal document on potential options (POs) for

technical annex (TA) for stationary sources containing three implementation ambition levels (LOW, HIGH and TAILORED) and providing concrete emission limit values for 41 industrial sectors. LOW means the obligations from the present TA, HIGH is aligned with the current EU regulation, while TAILORED is custom-oriented and exclusively devoted to NON-PARTIES of the present Amended Gothenburg Protocol.(AGP) After extensive discussion RGD and its informal documents should be seen as living documents and be rather considered as information source-text book (outside the text of the revised AGP). All changes suggested at the session and send by Parties afterwords by 30 June will be incorporated by TFTEI in the updated informal documents for consideration by incoming EB session in December. The second document (POs) contained the proposed scope on the new TA on stationary sources. It mentions inter alia new activities as compared to TA from AGO e.g. Medium Combustion Plants (MCPs) and provided a full scope of emission limit values (ELVs). Including TA into the text of the revised Protocol has its pros and cons. During the discussion voices were for a mandatory nature of it as TA is a tool to follow the progress in implementing Emission Reduction Commitments (ERCs) but also for its recommended value only. The latter concerns those NON-PARTIES, which have not yet established the effective emission management system. The discussion will certainly continue for some time as the deadline to present the final solution on technical measures supporting the ERCs is December 2026.

WGSR also has thoroughly discussed A guidance document on NTMs covering structural and behavioural measures as well as policy options at furthering such changes. The most important sectors in terms of potential benefits and targeted in the document are energy for domestic appliances, local transport and food and/or dietary changes. Better fuel, friendly transport and healthy diet could prove to be more cost-effective than end-of-pipe techniques (RGD and TA by TFTEI) provided low-income group are considered. WGSR

requested TFIAM/CIAM to develop scenario analysis BEFORE and AFTER all technological measures are implemented showing its conviction to NTMs equally important as technical ones.

WGSR also discussed how to include and/strengthen obligations on mitigating emissions of Methane (first time), Black Carbon (BC) and Ammonia. For that purpose, an informal meeting of HEADS of DELEGATIONS (HoD) will be held in Denmark from 20 to 23 October to discuss and find relevant modalities to do so. Moreover, the meeting is expected to start negotiations on ERCs based on scenario modelled by CIAM. The latter is based on 50 % reduction of premature deaths from pollutants covered by AGP and possibly could take also into integrated account targets on ecosystems protection.

The agenda of the incoming EB (8-11 December 2025) will be very charged and discussion interesting and intense provided the number of documents (TFTEI, HoD report etc.) to examine and give them a follow-up.

News from EFCA Members



News from CAPP

by Ranka Godec; CAPP

The deadline for abstract submission for the international conference and the 14th Croatian Scientific and Professional Meeting “**AIR PROTECTION 2025**”, **October 21 to 25, 2025, Zadar, Croatia, has been extended.**

The new deadline for abstract submission is **June 9, 2025.**

The conference is organized by the **Croatian Air Pollution Protection Association (CAPP)**, in partnership with the **Institute for Medical Research**

and Occupational Health (IMI), the Croatian Meteorological and Hydrological Service (DHMZ), the European Federation of Clean Air and Environmental Protection Associations (EFCA), and in cooperation with the International Union of Associations for Air Pollution Prevention and Environmental Protection (IUAPPA).

We warmly invite you to take advantage of the extended deadline and contribute your work to this important gathering of experts and professionals in the field of air quality and environmental protection.

Additionally, we are pleased to announce two special sessions:

- the **EFCA session on methane**, introduced at the beginning of this Newsletter
- the **special IUAPPA session**

Both sessions will take place on **Thursday, October 23, 2025**.

For more information on abstract submission and conference details, please visit the official conference website: <https://zastitazraka.imi.hr/en/>

We warmly invite you to join us at the Conference!



News from PIGE: EU Presidency from Poland

by Andrzej Jagusiewicz, past president of EFCA

I attended the 44th session of the Executive Body (EB) to the Air Convention in December last year as EFCA delegate. Having almost continuous presence at this policy meetings since many years I was invited by the Polish delegation from the Ministry of Climate and Environment to join the air pollution team under the incoming Polish Presidency of the EU on a voluntary basis. Needless to add that I

accepted the offer, which was fully in line with my commitments at EFCA: first as Vice-chair then twice as its Chair and now Past-President or Honorary one. Due to this offer I represented both EU and Poland inter alia at the 63rd session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review (WGSR) held traditionally in the Palais of Nations in Geneva from 26 to 28 of May 2025. For the outcome of that session see my contribution under the UNECE above.



Cercl'Air

Schweizerische Gesellschaft der Lufthygiene-Fachleute
Société suisse des responsables de l'hygiène de l'air
Società svizzera dei responsabili della protezione dell'aria

Cercl'Air Newsletters

Cercl'Air publishes three newsletters per year. They contain the highlights on air pollution control in Switzerland and the cantons. Links to them you find under [Newsletter - Cercl'Air \(cerclair.ch\)](https://cerclair.ch)



VDI/DIN Commission on Air Pollution Prevention (KRdL)

by Nicole Perschau, KRdL

Published CEN Standards KRdL (CEN/TC 264) May 2024 to May 2025:

EN 14211:2024-12

Ambient air – Standard method for the measurement of the concentration of nitrogen dioxide and nitrogen monoxide by chemiluminescence

EN 14385:2024-12

Stationary source emissions – Determination of the total emission of As, Cd, Cr, Co, Cu, Mn, Ni, Pb, Sb, Tl and V

EN 14625:2024-12

Ambient air – Standard method for the measurement of the concentration of ozone by ultraviolet photometry

EN 14626:2024-12

Ambient air – Standard method for the measurement of the concentration of carbon monoxide by non-dispersive infrared spectroscopy

FprEN 16339:2024-11

Ambient air – Method for the determination of the concentration of nitrogen dioxide by diffusive sampling

EN 16976:2024-06

Ambient air – Determination of the particle number concentration of atmospheric aerosol

CEN/TS 17660-2:2024-12

Air quality – Performance evaluation of air quality sensor systems – Part 2: Particulate matter in ambient air

CEN/TS 18040:2024-05

Stationary source emissions – Determination of the mass concentration of formaldehyde – Automatic method

CEN/TS 18044:2024-07

Ambient air – Determination of the concentration of levoglucosan – Chromatographic method

CEN/TS 18073:2024-09

Ambient air – Determination of lung deposited surface area (LDSA) concentration using aerosol monitors based on diffusion charging

CEN/TR 18076:2024-06

Ambient air – Equivalence of automatic measurements of elemental carbon (EC) and organic carbon (OC) in PM

prEN 18168:2025-03

Ambient air – Biomonitoring with higher plants – Method of the standardised grass exposure

ISO Draft international standards during January 2025 and May 2025 (ISO/TC 146):

ISO/DIS 6868:2025-02 (E)

Workplace air – Quantitative determination of quartz and cristobalite in bulk materials by X-ray powder diffraction methods, ISO/TC 146/SC 2

ISO/DIS 8932-2:2025-03 (E)

Meteorology – Radiosonde – Part 2: Laboratory test method for errors in radiosonde humidity sensor calibration, ISO/TC 146/SC 5

ISO/DIS 8932-3:2025-03 (E)

Meteorology – Radiosonde – Part 3: Laboratory test method for solar radiation error of temperature sensor in radiosonde, ISO/TC 146/SC 5

ISO 12219-11:2025-05 (E)

Interior air of road vehicles – Part 11: Thermal desorption analysis of organic emissions for the characterization on non-metallic materials for vehicles, ISO/TC 146/SC 6 (in co-operation with ISO/TC 22)

ISO/FDIS 12219-12:2025-03 (E)

Interior air of road vehicles – Part 12: Artificial leather made from PVC or Polyurethane – Specification and methods for the determination of fogging characteristics of trim materials in the interior of automobiles, ISO/TC 146/SC 68 in co-operation with ISO/TC 22)

ISO/DIS 13977-1:2025-03 (E)

Workplace atmospheres – Assessment of dermal exposure – Part 1: Framework for Dermal exposure assessment, ISO/TC 146/SC 2

ISO 16000-22:2025-02 (E)

Indoor air – Part 22: Detection and quantification of fungal biomass by fungal β -N-acetylhexosaminidase enzyme activity, ISO/TC 146/SC 6

ISO 16000-43:2025-02 (E)

Indoor air – Part 43: Standard method for assessing the reduction rate of culturable airborne fungi by air purifiers using a test chamber, ISO/TC 146/SC 6

ISO/DIS 28902-4:2025-01 (E)

Air quality – Environmental meteorology – Part 4: Ground-based remote sensing

of meteorological parameters – Particle backscatter lidar, ISO/TC 146/SC 5

ISO/FDIS 30011:2025-05 (E)

Workplace air – Determination of metals and metalloids in airborne particulate matter by inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry, ISO/TC 146/SC 2

News about Air Quality



EEA Published: What are the impacts of PFAS polymers on our health and the environment?

EEA, 29 April 2025

The widespread use of PFAS polymers in everything from consumer products to green technologies can lead to contamination of water, air, soil, food and people. A European Environment Agency (EEA) assessment, published today, says that these chemicals can also contribute to global warming and ozone depletion.

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) have been in the spotlight for more than a decade due to their potential impacts on human health and the environment. This is especially true for certain compounds such as PFOS and PFOA, while the impacts associated with the chemical form of PFAS known as '**PFAS polymers**', which in simple terms consist of larger molecules, have been considered to be lower.

However, evidence now also suggests that PFAS polymers can lead to various types of impacts during their lifecycles according to the [EEA briefing 'PFAS polymers in focus: supporting Europe's zero pollution, low-carbon and circular economy ambitions'](#). The analysis provides the latest knowledge about the potential impacts on health, the environment and climate and provides background context to EU proposals to clarify the use of PFAS in Europe.

Link: [What are the impacts of PFAS polymers on our health and the environment? | European Environment Agency's home page](#)



Clean Sky published achievement report

CAJU, Brussels, May 2025

By 2035, Europe aims to introduce its next generation of lower emission aircraft. This represents a crucial step towards decarbonising aviation by 2050. Following its launch in 2014, the Clean Sky 2 programme played a pivotal role in driving Europe's competitiveness in aviation. As a strategic industrial sector, aviation directly supports 15 million European jobs and contributes over one trillion euros to Europe's economy. The importance of this contribution can be better understood as equalling to 3.6% of all employment in Europe and 4.4% of the European Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Having said that, aviation also accounts for approximately 4% of CO₂ emissions in the EU, making its decarbonisation essential in the fight against climate change. As the EU's flagship Public-Private Partnership for sustainable aeronautics, Clean Sky 2 delivered more than 581 patents and hundreds of breakthrough aviation technologies, thus playing a vital role in reducing CO₂ emissions by up to 30% and improving fuel efficiency. Over the course of its 10-year lifespan (2014-2024), the Clean Sky 2 programme brought together over 5,000 scientists/ engineers from all over Europe, from 1,000 entities throughout industry, research centres, universities and SMEs. It played a vital role in fostering a sector wide cultural shift towards environmental consciousness and further strengthened Europe's commitment to aviation sustainability.

[Clean-Sky-2-Achievement-report_FINAL.pdf](#)

Calendar



28th ETH Nanoparticles Conference, 16.-19. June 2025, ETH Zurich, Switzerland

We are happy to invite you to the 28th edition of the ETH Nanoparticle Conference (NPC-25). We will meet again in Zurich in person in the historic ETH building, just above the old town of Zurich. The NPC-25 is organized as a 3-day event from Tuesday June 17 to Thursday June 19, 2025.

The conference will be held under the auspices of the [ETH Zurich](#), [Federal Office for the Environment \(FOEN\)](#) and the [Swiss Chemical Society \(SCS\)](#). All contributions will be included in the [conference archive](#), which is an impressive record of the conference history with contributions from the past 27 NPC editions. Conference link: [ETH Nanoparticles Conference \(NPC\)](#)



The Environmental Radioactivity & Aerosol Technology for Atmospheric and Climate Impact Laboratory (ENRACT) of the **N.C.S.R Demokritos** is a host of the 9th Greek Metrology Conference, 20-21 June 2025, Athens, Greece. The Conference this time focuses on Environmental Protection, Air Quality and Climate Change. More at: <https://www.greekmetrology.gr/conferences/9th-metrology-conference/>



International Conference and the 14th Croatian Scientific and Professional Meeting, "Air Protection 2025" at the picturesque Hotel Kolovare in Zadar, October 22 to 25, 2025. The conference is being organized by the **Croatian Air Pollution Protection Association (CAPPA)** in partnership with the Institute for Medical Research and Occupational Health (IMI), the Croatian Meteorological and Hydrological Service (DHMZ), and the European Federation of Clean Air and Environmental Protection Associations (EFCA). First Announcement and the Call for Abstracts: www.zastitazraka.imi.hr, deadline for abstract submissions is May 2, 2025. www.huzz.hr



45th Session of the Executive Body to the Air Convention, 8-11 December 2025, Geneva

EFCA

President Gordana Pehnec (CAPPA, Croatia)

Vice President John Murlis (EPUK, UK)

Past Presidents Andrzej Jagusiewicz (PIGE, Poland)
Thomas Reichert (GUS, Germany)
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