# Public Consultation to inform the Fitness Check of the EU Ambient Air Quality Directives (2008/50/EC, 2004/107/EC)

Fields marked with \* are mandatory.

# 1 Introduction

This public consultation is part of the fitness check of the EU Ambient Air Quality Directives (2008/50/EC, 2004/107/EC) undertaken by the European Commission. These Directives establish criteria on how to monitor and assess air quality, require public information, set air quality standards and mandate action where these standards are not met. This consultation aims to solicit views on whether they do so in a relevant, effective, efficient, coherent manner with clear value added by EU legislation.

This consultation aims to collect views from stakeholders on:

- the level of awareness of air quality challenges in general and knowledge of the Ambient Air Quality Directives' provisions in particular;
- whether and how the Ambient Air Quality Directives have contributed to improved air quality in Europe;
- whether the provisions of the Ambient Air Quality Directives continue to be relevant, effective, efficient and coherent with other EU and national policies, as well as what their EU value-added is.

Your responses, along with those from other citizens and stakeholders, will be taken into account in the evaluation. It is therefore important that you complete this questionnaire as fully as possible. Responses can be provided in any EU official language. Some questions require more in-depth knowledge of the Directive's provisions (e.g. from question 5.1 onwards) and you are welcome to answer only some of the questions included, depending on how familiar you are with the topic.

It should take about 20 minutes to complete this questionnaire and you may pause the questionnaire at any time and continue later. Once you have submitted your answers, a copy of your completed responses can be downloaded. It will be available online for twelve weeks starting from 2018-05-08 and closing on 2018-07-31

## 2 Background

Air quality has improved across Europe over the past decades, as emissions of many pollutants have successfully been curbed. Nevertheless, significant compliance gaps for some key pollutants still exist – the most noteworthy exceedances being for particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide and, to some extent, the ozone target values.

This fitness check is looking at the performance of the two complementary EU Ambient Air Quality (AAQ) Directives (Directives 2008/50/EC and 2004/107/EC). These Directives set air quality standards and requirements to ensure that Member States adequately monitor and/or assess air quality on their territory, in a harmonised and comparable manner. It is also considering the corresponding Implementing Decision 2011/850/EC and Commission Directive EU/2015/1480.

The fitness check complements and builds on the extensive analysis developed as part of the 2013 air policy review (COM (2013) 918) which informed the Clean Air Programme for Europe and the revised national emission reduction targets established under Directive 2016/2284/EU.

The findings of the fitness check will be used to inform further reflections on whether the AAQ Directives are fit for purpose and continue to provide the appropriate legislative framework to ensure protection from adverse impacts on, and risks to, human health and the environment.

Your responses will be used exclusively to help the European Commission assess the EU legislation on Ambient Air Quality. Please note the specific privacy statement linked to this consultation and available on the consultation website.

# **3 Personal Information**

Throughout this questionnaire, a red asterisk \* denotes a question that requires an answer before the consultation response can be submitted.

## \*3.1 Please select the statement that best applies to you

- You are an interested citizen or representative of an organisation with only a general interest in the Ambient Air Quality Directives
- You have specific knowledge about, and an interest in, the Ambient Air Quality Directives or Air Quality monitoring and assessment

### \*3.2 How would you prefer your consultation response to be published?

- In full you consent to us publishing any information in your completed form, including your identity (your name / the name of your organisation; your e-mail will not be published
- Anonymously you consent to us publishing any information in your completed form apart from your name / the name of your organisation and your email

Respondents should not include personal data in documents submitted in the context of the consultation if they opt for anonymous publication. Please note: regardless of the option chosen, your contribution may be subject to a request for access to documents under Regulation 1049/2001 on

public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents. In such cases, the request will be assessed against the conditions set out in the Regulation and in accordance with applicable data protection rules.

#### 3.3 Please provide your email address in case further details on the submitted information are required

caroline.heilpern@efanet.org

#### \*3.4 In what capacity are you replying to this questionnaire?

- As an individual in a personal capacity
- As an individual in a professional capacity
- On behalf of an organisation or institution

#### \*3.5 Is your organisation registered in the EU Transparency Register?

If your organisation is not registered, you have the opportunity to register now.

- Yes
- 🔘 No
- I don't know

In the interests of transparency; organisations, networks, platforms or self-employed individuals engaged in activities aimed at influencing the EU decision making process have been invited to provide the public with relevant information about themselves, by registering in the Transparency Register and subscribing to its Code of Conduct.

**Please note:** If an organisation is not registered, its submission will be published separately from those which are. During the analysis of replies to this consultation, contributions from respondents who choose not to register will be treated as individual contributions (unless the contributors are recognised as representative stakeholders through Treaty provisions, European Social Dialogue, Art. 154-155 TFEU).

#### 3.6 Please provide your EU Transparency Register ID number

28473847513-94

#### 3.7 Please provide your full name

Caroline Heilpern

#### 3.8 Please provide the name of the organisation which you represent

European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients' Associations

# \*3.9 Please specify in which country you reside, or - if you are a business or an organisation - in which you are established.

Austria

- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- 🔘 Latvia
- 🔘 Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovak Republic
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Onited Kingdom
- Other

### \*3.11

If you represent a business or an organisation that is established in a country other than that in which you operate, please specify in which countries you operate.

- 🔽 Austria
- **Belgium**
- **I** Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- **V** Czech Republic
- 🔽 Denmark
- 📃 Estonia
- 📝 Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- 1

Ireland

🚺 Italy

- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Portugal
- 🔲 Romania
- Slovak Republic
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- **W** United Kingdom
- Other

#### 3.12 Please specify.

EFA has members from 25 countries in Europe, of which 22 specified above and 3 non-EU countries: Iceland, Norway and Switzerland

#### \*3.13 Please specify which sector you represent

- A Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing
- B Mining and Quarrying
- C Manufacturing
- D Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply
- E Water Supply; Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities
- F Construction
- G Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles
- H Transportation and Storage
- I Accommodation and Food Service Activities
- J Information and Communication
- K Financial and Insurance Activities
- L Real Estate Activities
- M Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities
- N Administrative and Support Service Activities
- O Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security
- P Education
- Q Human Health and Social Work Activities
- R Arts, Entertainment and Recreation
- S Other Service Activities
- T Activities of Households as Employers; Undifferentiated Goods- and Services-Producing Activities of Households for Own Use
- U Activities of Extraterritorial Organisations and Bodies

This section of the questionnaire seeks to gather information on the general level of knowledge of air quality in Europe and its evolution over time. It seeks to gather information about knowledge of the effects of air quality on people and the environment, as well as knowledge of related EU air policy in broad terms.

This section does not require an in-depth knowledge of the ambient air quality directives.

### 4.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	l don't know
I feel sufficiently informed about air quality in the area where I live	0	0	۲	0	0	۲
Air quality has improved in the last decade in the area where I live	0	0	۲	0	0	۲
Poor air quality is an issue of concern in Europe	۲	0	0	0	0	O
Poor air quality is an issue of concern in my country	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Poor air quality is an issue of concern where I live	۲	0	0	0	0	۲

### 4.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about poor air quality?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	l don't know
It has a negative impact on my health or the health of those around me	۲	O	0	O	O	O
It has negative impacts on the wellbeing of the population in my country	۲	O	0	O	O	0
It has negative impacts on the health of the overall population in the EU	۲	0	0	0	0	0
It has negative impacts on the environment	۲	0	O	0	0	0

## 4.3 How well informed are you about the following initiatives?

	Very well informed	Moderately informed	Somewhat informed	Little informed	Not at all informed
EU Clean Air policies	۲	0	0	0	0
EU Ambient Air Quality Directives	0	۲	0	0	0
National-level air quality policy and plans	0	0	۲	0	0
Local and/or regional-level air quality plans	O	O	۲	O	0

## 4.4 Which level of government is the most appropriate to address air quality problems?

## between 1 and 4 choices

- EU level authorities
- National level authorities
- Regional level authorities
- Local authorities
- I don't know

## 4.5 To what extent has EU policy and legislation on air quality helped to ...

	To a very large extent	To a large extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	l don't know
improve air quality across Europe?	0	۲	0	$\odot$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
ensure consistent rules across Europe on the maximum levels of air pollution citizens are exposed to?	۲	O	0	0	O	0
provide for consistent rules across Europe on how to monitor air pollution levels?	0	۲	0	0	0	0
ensure citizens are provided with comparable information on air pollution levels?	0	O	۲	0	0	0

### 4.6 To what extent do you agree that, without EU Policy and Legislation, air quality would be worse...

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	l don't know
in Europe?	۲	0	0	0	0	0
in my country?	۲	0	0	0	0	0
in my city or region?	۲	0	0	0	0	0

# 5 Views on the functioning of the Ambient Air Quality (AAQ) Directives

This section of the questionnaire focuses on gathering more in-depth views about the functioning of the Ambient Air Quality Directives. The questions are structured around the 5 evaluation criteria: relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and EU value added.

- In relation to **relevance**, the questions seek to establish citizen and stakeholder views on the extent to which the AAQ Directives set appropriate objectives, address the most pressing air pollutants and set meaningful air quality standards to protect human health and ecosystems in accordance with the evolving scientific understanding.
- In terms of **effectiveness**, the questions seek to gather views as to the degree to which the AAQ Directives have acted as an incentive to implement effective and cost-effective measures to improve air quality, and thus reduce the adverse impacts of air pollution. They also seek to gather evidence as to the extent to which factors influencing the observed achievements in air quality can be linked to the EU intervention (the Directives).
- In terms of **efficiency**, the questions seek to gather views on the benefits of improved air quality, the costs associated with implementing the provisions of the Directives, the necessary abatement measures to meet its objectives and whether there have been significant differences in costs (or benefits) between Member States and, if so, what is causing them.
- In terms of **coherence**, the questionnaire seeks to gather views on the extent to which the Directives are coherent internally (i.e. within each Directive), between each other, as well as with the overarching EU air quality policy approach (including with the national emission limits via Directive 2016/2284 and emission standards established for key pollution sources), other EU legislation (e.g. on transport, energy, agriculture or nature protection) and international commitments.
- In terms of **EU value added**, the questions seek to gather views on the degree to which common EU air quality standards and comparable monitoring, reporting and assessment regimes have enabled Member States to take successful action to improve beyond what would have been possible without EU action. Further, the questions seek to gather views on whether the current distribution of responsibilities between EU, Member States, regional and local levels is a useful one.

## 6 Relevance

In relation to **relevance**, the questions seek to establish citizen and stakeholder views on the extent to which the AAQ Directives set appropriate objectives, address the most pressing air pollutants and set meaningful air quality standards to protect human health and ecosystems in accordance with the evolving scientific understanding.

#### 6.1 To what extent does air pollution pose a concern to public health and the environment?

	To a very large extent	To a large extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	No opinion

Public Health	۲	0	0	٢		۲
Environment		۲	©	O	0	O

	Very important	Important	Moderately important	Of little importance	Of no importance	No opinion
Defining and establishing objectives and common EU standards for ambient air quality	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Assessing air quality on the basis of common measurement and monitoring methods and criteria	۲	۲	0	0	0	0
Obtaining accurate information on air quality	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Ensuring that information on air quality is made available to the public	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Maintaining air quality where it is good and improving it in other cases	۲	۲	۲	0	۲	0
Promoting increased cooperation between Member States to reduce air pollution	0	O	0	۲	0	0

### 6.2 In your opinion, to what extent are the following provisions of the Ambient Air Quality Directives important in delivering air quality improvements?

6.3 To what extent do you agree that it is important that the Ambient Air Quali	ty Directives address the following pollutants?
0.0 To what extent do you agree that it is important that the Ambient An edun	biconves address the following politicants.

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	l don't know
Particulate matter (PM10)	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Fine particulate matter (PM2.5)	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Nitrogen dioxide (NO2)	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Sulphur dioxide (SO2)	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Ozone (O3)	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Carbon monoxide (CO)	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Benzene (C6H6)	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Lead (Pb)	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Arsenic (As)	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Cadmium (Cd)	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Nickel (Ni)	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, including Benzo(a)Pyrene (BaP)	۲	0	0	0	0	0

# 6.4 Which pollutants currently not addressed by the Ambient Air Quality Directives would you suggest be included within their scope and why?

300 character(s) maximum

Black carbon and ultrafine particles should be included because of their negative health impact. Pollen should be included due to its negative impact for allergy patients.

# 6.5 What is your view on the level of the air quality standards set in the Ambient Air Quality Directives and why?

- Far too strict
- Somewhat too strict
- Appropriate level
- Somewhat too lenient
- Far too lenient
- I don't know

	Far too strict	Somewhat too strict	Appropriate level	Somewhat too lenient	Far too lenient	l don't know
Particulate matter (PM10)	0	0	0	0	۲	0
Fine particulate matter (PM2.5)	۲	0	۲	0	۲	0
Nitrogen dioxide (NO2)	۲	0	۲	۲	0	0
Sulphur dioxide (SO2)	0	0	0	۲	0	0
Ozone (O3)	0	0	0	0	۲	0
Carbon monoxide (CO)	0	0	0	۲	0	0
Benzene (C6H6)	0	0	0	۲	۲	0
Lead (Pb)	0	0	۲	0	0	0
Arsenic (As)	0	0	۲	0	0	0
Cadmium (Cd)	0	0	۲	0	۲	0
Nickel (Ni)	0	0	۲	0	۲	۲
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, including Benzo(a) Pyrene (BaP)	O	©	0	©	۲	0

### 6.6 What is your view about the level of the ambient air quality standards set in the Ambient Air Quality Directives for the following pollutants?

6.7 To what extent have the Ambient Air Quality Directives been flexible to adapt to new circumstances as regards...

	To a very great extent	To a great extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	No opinion
advances in scientific knowledge?	0	0	O	۲	0	0
advances in technical capacities?	0	O	0	۲	0	O

# 7 Effectiveness

In terms of **effectiveness**, the questions seek to gather views as to the degree to which the AAQ Directives have acted as an incentive to implement effective and cost-effective measures to improve air quality, and thus reduce the adverse impacts of air pollution. They also seek to gather evidence as to the extent to which factors influencing the observed achievements in air quality can be linked to the EU intervention (the Directives).

### 7.1 To what extent have the Ambient Air Quality Directives been effective in achieving the following outputs?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	l don't know
A representative, high quality monitoring and assessment of air quality in all Member States?	0	۲	0	0	0	O
Clean air quality standards established across the European Union?	۲	0	0	0	0	O
Relevant information on air quality made available across the European Union?	0	۲	0	0	0	0
Coherent action taken to avoid, prevent, or reduce the effect of poor air quality?	0	0	0	۲	0	0

# 7.2 To what extent have the following factors related to provisions of the Directives (at EU level) contributed to better air quality in your country?

	To a very large extent	To a large extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	l don' t know
Ambition and stringency level of the standards established in the Ambient Air Quality Directives	0	۲	0	0	0	0
Cooperation between Member States as regards transboundary pollution	0	0	0	۲	0	0
Enforcement action by the Commission (including infringement procedures)	0	©	۲	O	0	0

# 7.3 To what extent have the following factors related to provisions of the Directives (at Member State Level) contributed to better air quality in your country?

	To a very large extent	To a large extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	l don' t know
Effective air quality plans and/or measures	0	۲	O	0	O	0
Short-term action plans drawn up when there is a risk of exceeding an alert threshold	0	O	۲	0	0	0
Immediate steps taken when the alert thresholds are exceeded	0	0	۲	0	0	0
Coordination at the different governance levels in a Member State	0	0	0	۲	۲	0
Penalties put in place by Member States	0	0	0	0	O	۲

# 7.4 To what extent have the following factors external to the Directives (at Member State level) contributed to better air quality in your country?

	To a very large extent	To a large extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	l don' t know
Legal authority at the different governance levels in Member States	©	۲	0	۲	0	©
						1

Access to justice via national court cases	O	0	۲	٢	0
Availability of adequate national funding	O	O	۲	O	۲

# 7.5 To what extent have the following factors external to the Directives (at EU level) contributed to better air quality in your country?

	To a very large extent	To a large extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	l don' t know
Adequate use of EU funding opportunities	O	O	O	0	$\odot$	۲
Cooperation between the European Commission and the Member States	0	۲	0	0	0	0
Exchanges of good practices between Member States	©	O	۲	O	O	0

### 7.6 To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	l don't know
Sufficient criteria for the monitoring and assessment of air quality are defined at the EU level	0	۲	0	0	0	0
Measurement techniques are sufficiently standardised across Member States	0	0	0	0	0	۲
There are sufficient sampling points and measurements to assess air quality	0	0	0	0	۲	0
There are sampling points in locations and areas representative of the highest pollutant exposure experienced by the public	0	0	0	O	۲	0
There are sampling points in locations and areas representative of the pollutant exposure experienced by the general population	0	0	0	0	۲	0

7.7 To what extent have the monitoring and reporting regimes under the Ambient Air Quality Directives helped deliver on...

	To a very large extent	To a large extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	l don' t know
reliable and accurate air quality information across the EU?	O	۲	O	0	$\odot$	۲
comparable (e.g. through the use of standardised forms) air quality information across the EU?	0	0	۲	0	0	0
alert information about pollution peaks being made available to the public?	0	0	۲	0	0	0

# 8 Efficiency

In terms of **efficiency**, the questions seek to gather views on the benefits of improved air quality, the costs associated with implementing the provisions of the Directives, the necessary abatement measures to meet its objectives and whether there have been significant differences in costs (or benefits) between Member States and, if so, what is causing them

### 8.1 To what extent have the Ambient Air Quality Directives led to significant benefits as regards ...

	To a very large extent	To a large extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	l don' t know
protecting human health?	0	0	۲	0	0	0
protecting the environment?	0	0	۲	0	0	0
reducing economic costs linked to air pollution (for example, health costs, lost working days, reduced crop yields)?	۲	0	۲	0	0	۲
boosting competitiveness and innovation and / or supporting the development of new EU industrial sectors?	0	0	0	0	۲	۲

#### 8.2 To what extent do you agree with the following statement?

"The following groups have benefited from the Ambient Air Quality Directive implementation:"

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	l don't know
All citizens	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Vulnerable citizens (in socio- economic terms)	0	0	۲	0	0	0
Vulnerable / sensitive citizens (in health terms)	0	0	0	۲	0	0
Citizens living in urban areas	۲	0	0	0	0	۲
Citizens living in rural areas	0	۲	0	0	0	0

#### 8.3 To what extent do you agree with the following statement?

"The following sectors have benefited from the Ambient Air Quality Directive implementation:"

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	l don't know
Innovative industries (all sectors)	0	۲	0	0	0	۲
SMEs (all sectors)	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Transport	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Transport: Personal mobility service providers	0	O	©	©	©	۲
Transport: Logistic service providers	0	۲	0	0	0	۲
Manufacturing industry (incl. vehicles manufacturers)	0	O	©	©	©	۲
Energy providers	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Agriculture sector	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Waste sector	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Construction	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Mining and quarrying	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Healthcare sector	0	۲	0	0	0	0
Competent public authorities	0	۲	0	0	0	0
Other sector(s)	0	0	0	0	0	۲

# 8.4 In your opinion, which <u>five</u> sectors have benefited the most from the implementation of the Ambient Air Quality Directives?

between 1 and 5 choices

- Innovative industries (all sectors)
- SMEs (all sectors)
- Transport sector
- Transport: Personal mobility service providers
- Transport: Logistic service providers
- Manufacturing industry (incl. vehicles manufacturers)
- Energy providers
- Agriculture sector
- Waste sector
- Construction
- Mining and quarrying
- Healthcare sector
- Competent public authorities
- Other sector(s)

# 8.13 Within the Waste Sector, which sub-sectors and/or specific activities have benefited the most from the implementation of the Ambient Air Quality Directives?

50 character(s) maximum

8.16 Within the Healthcare Sector, which sub-sectors and/or specific activities have benefited the most from the implementation of the Ambient Air Quality Directives?

50 character(s) maximum

Reduction of costs for health sector

8.17 Within Competent Public Authorities, which sub-sectors and/or specific activities have benefited the most from the implementation of the Ambient Air Quality Directives?

50 character(s) maximum

#### 8.19 To what extent do you agree with the following statement?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	l don't know
equipment costs for monitoring and measurements of pollutants	0	0	۲	0	0	0
administrative costs for reporting	0	0	0	0	0	0
costs of informing the public	0	0	0	0	۲	0
costs associated with preparation and adoption of air quality plans	0	0	0	0	0	0
administrative Cost of coordination with other Member States	0	0	0	0	0	0

### "The Ambient Air Quality Directives have led to significant costs as regards ... "

### 8.20 To what extent do you agree with the following statement?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	l don't know
National government	0	0	۲	0	0	0
Regional authorities	0	0	۲	0	0	0
Local authorities	0	0	۲	0	0	0

"The costs above have been primarily borne by..."

## 8.21 To what extent do you agree with the following statement?

# "The costs from abatement measures taken to comply with the Ambient Air Quality Directives have been significant."

- Completely agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither disagree nor agree
- Somewhat disagree
- Completely disagree
- I don't know

#### 8.22 To what extent do you agree with the following statement?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	l don't know
All citizens	0	0	0	0	۲	0
Vulnerable citizens (in socio- economic terms)	0	0	0	۲	۲	0
Vulnerable / sensitive citizens (in health terms)	0	0	0	0	۲	0
Citizens living in urban areas	0	0	0	0	۲	0
Citizens living in rural areas	O	0	0	0	۲	0

#### "The following groups have borne costs (direct and indirect) from abatement measures taken to comply with the Ambient Air Quality Directives"

#### 8.23 To what extent do you agree with the following statement?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	l don't know
Innovative industries (all sectors)	0	0	0	0	0	0
SMEs (all sectors)	0	۲	0	0	0	0
Transport sector	0	۲	0	0	0	0
Transport: Mobility service providers	0	0	©	0	0	0
Transport: Logistic service providers	0	۲	©	0	0	0
Manufacturing industry (incl. vehicles manufacturers)	0	0	©	©	O	0
Energy providers	0	۲	0	0	0	0
Agriculture sector	0	۲	0	0	0	0
Waste sector	0	۲	0	0	0	0
Construction sector	0	۲	0	0	0	0
Mining and quarrying	0	۲	0	0	0	0
Healthcare sector	0	0	©	0	0	0
Competent public authorities	0	0	©	0	0	0
Other sector(s)	0	0	0	0	0	0

#### "The following sectors have born costs (direct and indirect) from abatement measures taken to comply with the Ambient Air Quality Directives"

# 8.24 In your opinion, which <u>five</u> sectors have born the highest costs from abatement measures taken to comply with the Ambient Air Quality Directives?

between 1 and 5 choices

- Innovative industries (all sectors)
- SMEs (all sectors)
- Transport sector
- Transport: Mobility service providers
- Transport: Logistic service providers
- Manufacturing industry (incl. vehicles manufacturers)
- Energy providers
- Agriculture sector
- Waste sector
- Construction sector
- Mining and quarrying
- Healthcare sector
- Competent public authorities
- Other sector(s)

## 9 Coherence

In terms of **coherence**, the questionnaire seeks to gather views on the extent to which the Directives are coherent internally (i.e. within each Directive), between each other, as well as with the overarching EU air quality policy approach (including with the national emission limits via Directive 2016/2284 and emission standards established for key pollution sources), other EU legislation (e.g. on transport, energy, agriculture or nature protection) and international commitments.

In the following questions, please keep in mind that Ambient Air Quality Directives refers only to the two Directives 2008/50/EC and 2004/107/EC

### 9.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	l don't know
The provisions of Directive 2008/50/EC (ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe) are internally coherent	0	۲	0	0	0	۲
The provisions of Directive 2004/107/EC (arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air) are internally coherent	0	0	۲	0	0	0
The Ambient Air Quality Directives successfully complement each other	0	0	۲	0	0	0
The Ambient Air Quality Directives are coherent with the 7th Environmental Action Programme and related environmental acquis	O	O	0	۲	O	0

9.2 To what extent do the following EU policies and pieces of legislation, aimed at reducing overall emissions, support or hamper the implementation of the Ambient Air Quality Directives?

	Strongly Support	Support	There is no interaction	Hamper	Strongly Hamper	l Don' t Know
National Emissions Ceiling Directive	۲	O	O	0	0	0
EU Directive on Sulphur Content of certain liquid fuels	۲	O	0	O	0	۲
Fuel Quality Directive	۲	0	0	0	0	0
EU Emissions Trading Scheme Directive	0	۲	0	O	0	0
Effort Sharing Decision on reduction of national greenhouse gas emissions	0	۲	0	0	0	0

9.3 To what extent do the following EU policies and pieces of legislation, aimed at reducing emissions from specific sources, support or hamper the implementation of the Ambient Air Quality Directives?

	Strongly Support	Support	There is no interaction	Hamper	Strongly Hamper	l Don't Know
Emission Standards ("EURO") for cars & vans	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Emission Standards ("EURO") for heavy duty vehicles	0	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$	۲
Emission Standards ("EURO") for motorcycles and mopeds	0	0	©	0	O	۲
CO2 emission performance standards for new cars and vans	$\odot$	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$	۲
Emission Standards for Non-Road Mobile Machinery	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)	0	۲	0	0	$\odot$	0
Renewable Energy Directive	0	0	O	0	$\odot$	۲
Energy Efficiency Directive	۲	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$	۲
Emission standards for energy using products (e.g. space heaters)	۲	۲	©	0	O	0
Energy Performance of Buildings Directive	0	۲	0	0	$\odot$	0
Industrial Emissions Directive	0	0	$\odot$	0	$\bigcirc$	۲
Medium Combustion Plants Directive	0	0	$\odot$	0	$\odot$	۲

9.4 To what extent do the following EU funding programmes & economic instruments support or hamper the implementation of the Ambient Air Quality Directives?

	Strongly Support	Support	There is no interaction	Hamper	Strongly Hamper	l Don' t Know
Common Agricultural Policy (direct and market support, rural development fund)	0	0	0	۲	0	0
Trans-European Networks-Transport (TEN-T)/Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Cohesion Policy (Cohesion Fund and European Regional Development Fund including Interreg)	0	۲	0	0	0	0
European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)	0	0	0	0	0	۲
LIFE programme	0	۲	0	0	0	0
Horizon 2020	0	۲	0	0	0	0
Energy Taxation Directive	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Road Charging Directive ('eurovignette')	0	0	0	0	0	۲
EU Public Procurement policy and legislation (e.g. Public Procurement Directives, Clean Vehicles Directive, Green Public Procurement)	0	۲	O	۲	0	۲

### 9.5 To what extent do the provisions of the Ambient Air Quality Directive support or hamper the following EU policies?

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	There is no interaction	Somewhat Hamper	Strongly Hamper	l Don't Know
Jobs, Growth and Investments	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Energy Union and Climate (Energy policy)	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Energy Union and Climate (Climate policy)	۲	0	0	0	0	0
Energy Union and Climate (low-emission mobility)	0	0	©	0	0	۲
Digital Single Market	0	۲	0	0	0	0
The Internal Market	0	۲	0	0	0	0
Research and innovation (e.g. Horizon 2020)	۲	0	O	0	0	0

9.6 To what extent have the Ambient Air Quality Directives contributed towards the achievement of the environmental and health objectives contained in the following global/international initiatives?

	To a very large extent	To a large extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	l don' t know
Sustainable Development Goals	0	0	۲	0		0
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and related agreements	0	O	۲	0	O	0
UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution	0	0	۲	0	O	۲
UN Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the ozone layer	0	0	0	0	0	۲
UN Convention on Biological Diversity	0	0	0	0	0	۲
UN Chemical Conventions (Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm, Minamata Conventions)	0	O	O	O	O	۲

9.7 To what extent are the objectives of the Ambient Air Quality Directives integrated within the following urban planning efforts in your city/area?

	To a very large extent	To a large extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	l don' t know
Spatial planning at urban level	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Spatial planning at regional level	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Urban mobility plans	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Local climate plans	0	۲	0	0	0	۲
Smart City plans	0	0	0	0	$\odot$	۲
Other urban planning schemes	O	O	O	0	O	۲

# 9.8 To what extent is the implementation of the AAQDs coherent with the following policies at a national level?

Taxation Policy	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Health Policy	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Energy policy	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Mobility/Transport policy	0	0	0	$\odot$	0	۲
Public Procurement	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$	0	۲
Urban Development	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation	0	0	0	0	0	۲
Industrial policy	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$	۲	۲

# 9.9 To what extent do you consider there to be adequate mechanisms in place to promote coordinated action in implementing the AAQDs...

	To a very large extent	To a large extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	l don' t know
between the EU and the MS?	0	0	۲		$\bigcirc$	$\odot$
between different levels of government in my country?	0	0	۲	0	0	0
between different ministries in my country?	0	O	O	۲	O	0

#### 9.10 Please explain your answer to the previous question

300 character(s) maximum

Health ministries, agencies and local health bodies should be more involved in clean air efforts. There are too few possibilities for exchanges between cities, national ministries and the EU level.

# 10 EU Value Added

In terms of **EU value added**, the questions seek to gather views on the degree to which common EU air quality standards and comparable monitoring, reporting and assessment regimes have enabled Member States to take successful action to improve beyond what would have been possible without EU action. Further, the questions seek to gather views on whether the current distribution of responsibilities between EU, Member States, regional and local levels is a useful one.

#### 10.1 To what extent has the implementation of the Air Quality Directives resulted in...

	To a very large extent	To a large extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	l don' t know
positive change at a national level?	0	۲	0	0	0	0
positive change at local and/or regional level?	0	۲	0	0	0	0
a positive coordination at different governance levels (national/ regional/ local) in your country?	0	O	۲	©	O	O
increased public awareness of air quality?	0	۲	0	0	O	0
increased enforcement action at EU level?	0	۲	0	0	O	۲
increased enforcement action at national level?			۲		$\odot$	
successful development and implementation of related, complementary European legislation (e.g. on sustainable mobility, renewable energy, energy efficiency)?	0	0	۲	0	0	
successful implementation of relevant international commitments (e.g. the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution CLRTAP)?	0	0	0	0	0	۲

### 10.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	l don't know
EU level legislation is necessary to improve air quality at national, regional and/or local level.	۲	O	O	O	0	۲
National legislation could have achieved the same results as the Air Quality Directives in reducing air pollution	0	0	0	0	۲	۲
The Air Quality Directives are necessary to address transboundary air pollution	۲	0	0	0	0	0

10.3 To what extent have the following factors made the Ambient Air Quality Directives more effective than national legislation alone?

	To a very large extent	To a large extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	l don' t know
EU enforcement capacity, including through infringement procedures	۲	0	0	0	O	0
Effective coordination between the Member States	0	0	۲	0	O	0
Reporting and monitoring coordination by the European Environment Agency	۲	0	0	0	0	۲
Establishment of supporting networks (e. g. the AQUILA Network of Air Quality Reference Laboratories, FAIRMODE forum for air quality modelling in Europe)	0	۲	0	0	0	0

## **Final Open Question**

# 10.4 Do you think that the Directives have been fit for purpose to protect citizens' health and the environment from the harmful effects of air pollution? Why?

2000 character(s) maximum

Despite improving air quality in the EU overall, the current AAQDs do not fit for purpose to protect citizens' health and the environment from the harm of air pollution. The following challenges and considerable impacts on human health remain:

•87% of world's population live in countries (incl. the EU) with ambient pollution levels exceeding WHO Air Quality Guidelines;

•Air pollution contributes to respiratory diseases, breathing difficulties, reduces lung function, and aggravates symptoms of patients affected by these diseases;

•Patients with asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and lung cancer need more medication, visit the doctors, emergency rooms and hospitals more often, reducing productivity and leading to work and school absenteeism;

•Long-term exposure increases mortality from chronic cardio-respiratory diseases, the incidence and prevalence, and lung cancer and chronic changes in lung function;

•24% of EU citizens suffer from allergies, mainly caused by pollen or moulds, not covered by the AAQDs but monitored in the EU daily in sampling sites networks, mostly operated by privately funded, non-profit organizations, working with volunteers which might collapse due to lack of outside funding and volunteers. The daily matching activities and medication management with information from monitoring systems, allow patients to achieve a life free from symptoms;

•Member States lack political will, hampering the AAQDs' implementation. However, EU regions and cities do take clean air measures that directly benefit citizens, i.e. promoting use of electric or hybrid cars and charging stations, setting bike lanes and extending public transport. Despite these efforts, we need Member State and EU-level efforts.

EFA encourages the review of the AAQDs to limit health impacts on EU citizens and to protect people with allergy, asthma and COPD, by:

•addressing all sources of pollution

## **Background Documents**

Privacy statement

## Contact

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/quality/index.htm