



NEWSLETTER

Newsletter April 2026

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News from EWA

New Corporate Member

We are pleased to welcome **Danfoss** as a new Corporate Member.



Global leader in variable frequency drives, Danfoss Drives has been supporting players in the water and wastewater sector for over 50 years in optimizing their installations. Our solutions help improve energy efficiency, process reliability, and equipment performance, while reducing operating costs and environmental impact. Thanks to its recognized expertise and global presence, Danfoss Drives is a trusted partner in addressing the challenges of more sustainable water management.

You can learn more on their official [website](#).

New Corporate Member

We are happy to welcome **PASEPPE** as a new Corporate Member.



The Panhellenic Association of Environmental Protection Enterprises (PASEPPE) is a Greek organization that represents more than 90 Greek companies active in environmental protection and sustainability. It aims to promote environmentally responsible business practices, support the development of circular economy and advocate for policies that protect natural resources.

More information is available on their official [website](#).

New Corporate Member



We are also pleased to welcome **Watercircle.be** as a new Corporate Member.

Watercircle.be (since 2003) is the Flemish/Belgian network of companies active in water technology. Together we are building a sustainable and water-resilient future. As a catalyst for cooperation, innovation, and knowledge sharing, we bring together actors who contribute to a circular water system, in which water, energy, and resources are maximally recovered.

Our members are technology companies, suppliers, and service providers who work together on solutions for water challenges in industry, agriculture, and society. Whether it concerns water reuse, digital monitoring, or innovative purification techniques — Watercircle.be connects and strengthens.

Want to learn more? You can read more on their official [website](#).

Please join us in welcoming **Danfoss, PASEPPE and Watercircle.be** in the EWA Network. We look forward to the collaboration!

Interreg Alpine Space MARGIN Partners gather in Milan

Interreg
Alpine Space



Co-funded by
the European Union

MARGIN

Project Steering Group Meeting



18 & 19 March 2026



Milan, Italy



Following productive gatherings in Munich, Vienna, and Ljubljana, the **Interreg Alpine Space MARGIN** partners met in Milan this March, hosted by the Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca.

The two-day event marked the project's official midpoint, offering an opportunity to review progress and plan next steps.

Arthur Guischet, General Secretary of the European Water Association (EWA), and **Carolyne Herten**, Communications Officer, joined partners to assess achievements, discuss remaining tasks, and strategize for the project's second half.

A highlight of the meeting was the announcement of an upcoming series of YouTube Shorts, where partners will introduce themselves and their work.

As the project advances, the team remains focused on delivering impactful results.

Stay tuned for more updates on MARGIN's progress!

You can learn more about the MARGIN project [here](#) and follow us on Youtube [here](#).

IFAT Munich 2026 - Secure your FREE Ticket!



Secure a FREE ticket to IFAT Munich 2026
Use the code EWA_2026



IFAT Munich 2026 is approaching, don't forget to secure your tickets!

Each ticket includes **free public transportation** in Munich, so be sure to take advantage of it. The code below is open to everyone—feel free to share it widely within your network.

The EWA Booth will be waiting for you at the entrance of Hall West—we can't wait to welcome you there!

Use the code "**EWA_2026**" to redeem your day ticket in the [IFAT Ticket Shop](#).

You can book as many tickets as you need—whether you plan to attend for one day or all four, simply use the code each time you book a daily ticket.

Joint call for a thorough economic assessment of the Water Framework Directive revision



To: Ms Jessica Roswell
European Commissioner for Environment, Water
Resilience and a Competitive Circular Economy
European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
1040 Brussels

Cc: Ms Teresa Ribera,
Executive Vice-President for a Clean, Just and
Competitive Transition
Mr Stéphane Séjourné,
Executive Vice-President for Prosperity and
Industrial Strategy
Mr Christophe Hansen,
European Commissioner for Agriculture and Food

Brussels, 1 April 2026

Subject: Europe's economy depends on water quality: the need for a thorough economic assessment of the Water Framework Directive revision

Dear Commissioner Roswell,

The undersigned organisations represent several sectors that rely on raw water to provide products and services (including services of general interest) that are essential both to citizens' daily lives and to other economic activities. These sectors include drinking water services, food production, beverages and other water-dependent activities.

By the very nature of their operations, these sectors are inherently European: they depend directly on the water bodies of our continent and generate turnover that is largely reinvested in the European economy through infrastructure development, innovation, and stable employment, thereby contributing to local economic development.

The recently published Call for Evidence for an impact assessment on a targeted revision of the Water Framework Directive highlights the need to "address potential bottlenecks" in the current legislation in order to facilitate access to critical raw materials, in line with the ResourceEU strategy.

We support the EU's broader policy priorities aimed at strengthening European competitiveness and reinforcing strategic autonomy in key supply chains, including for critical raw materials. We also welcome the emphasis in the Call for Evidence that the revision will not compromise the

On 1 April 2026, the European Water Association, together with 8 partners from water-dependent sectors, addressed a joint letter to the **European Commission** calling for a **thorough assessment of the economic implications of the forthcoming revision of the Water Framework Directive**.

Why this matters:

A robust and stable water framework is not only an environmental safeguard, it is also a key condition for Europe's economy to invest, innovate, and remain competitive.

We welcome the Commission's Call for Evidence and its focus on:

- competitiveness and strategic autonomy
- identifying economic, social and environmental impacts

At the same time, any revision must continue to ensure high levels of environmental protection and human health. Changes to core principles (e.g., quality objectives and protection standards) can have unintended consequences across multiple sectors, including higher treatment costs and potential constraints on access to raw water resources.

[Read the letter.](#)

EWA Events

EWA overview activities at IFAT Munich

We're thrilled to share with you our schedule for the week!

Our booth will be open from **Monday to Thursday**, and we've lined up a series of exciting events for you.

Mark your calendar—we can't wait to welcome you and spend this time together!

More information about each event are available below or on our [website](#).

Tuesday 05.05

Wednesday 06.05

Thursday 07.05

09:30 - 10:20:
22nd EWA Symposium:
Session 1: Stormwater
Management
Blue Stage

10:30 - 11:20:
High Level Dialogue of the Water
Sector
Blue Stage

14:30 - 15:20:
Desalination in Europe:
Innovation, Integration, and
Sustainability
Blue Stage

15:30 - 17:00:
22nd EWA Symposium:
Session 2: Water Infrastructure
Management in a stressed
environment
Room B13 - Hall West

10:30 - 12:00:
22nd EWA Symposium:
Session 3:
Contaminants & Circular Recovery
Room B12 - Hall West

16:30 - 17:20:
From Scarcity to Solutions:
The Future of Water Reuse
in Europe
Blue Stage

10:30 - 11:30:
Harnessing AI for Water:
Lessons Learned and Future
Horizons & way forward
Room B12 - Hall West

Desalination in Europe: Innovation, Integration and Sustainability

05.05.2026 - 14:30 - IFAT Munich, Blue Stage

As freshwater resources face mounting pressure, desalination is emerging as a key solution in Europe's water resilience strategy. This session will explore the latest advancements in desalination technologies, their integration into regional water systems, and the environmental and energy challenges ahead. From coastal applications to inland innovations, the session will highlight how Europe is rethinking desalination to meet sustainability goals and secure its water supply.

Speakers:

- Verónica García Molina, Senior Director, Reuse /Food & Beverage, Xylem & IDRA Academic Dean
- Vincenzo Naddeo, Director of the Sanitary Environmental Engineering Division (SEED), University of Salerno
- Iñaki Zurutuza, Senior Manager Desalination & Water Reuse EMEA, Hach
- Moderation: Elisabeta Poçi, Executive Director of Water Supply and Sewerage Association of Albania (SHUKALB) and EWA Vice President

More information [here](#).

From Scarcity to Solutions: The Future of Water Reuse in Europe

06.05.2026 - 16:30 - IFAT Munich, Blue Stage

As freshwater resources face mounting pressure, desalination is emerging as a key solution in Europe's water resilience strategy. This session will explore the latest advancements in desalination technologies, their integration into regional water systems, and the environmental and energy challenges ahead. From coastal applications to inland innovations, the session will highlight how Europe is rethinking desalination to meet sustainability goals and secure its water supply.

Speakers:

- Dr. Michael Ahmadi, Water and Wastewater Solutions Expert, Siemens
- Kris Lambert, Senior Vice President Sales Europe, VEOLIA
- Oliver Ringelstein, CEO, INTEWA GmbH
- Moderation: Nora Pankow, Chair of Urban Water Management and Waste Technology, University of the Bundeswehr Munich

More information [here](#).

Harnessing AI for Water: Lessons Learned and Future Horizons & way forward

07.05.2026 - 10:30 - IFAT Munich, Room B12

AI is transforming the water sector—from leak detection to climate resilience. This session explores how utilities are using AI today, shares real-world feedback, and highlights the importance of clean data and regulatory alignment. Join us for a forward-looking discussion on how AI is shaping the future of smart, sustainable water management.

Speakers:

- Mathieu Lamotte, Head of Sales Hubgrade Wastewater & Sewer Performance Water Tech, Veolia
- Marija Morosanova, MedEco Test
- Iain Naismith, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Underground Infrastructure (IKT)
- Pedro Pina, Senior Director Sales, Xylem VUE
- Moderation to be confirmed

More information [here](#).

22nd EWA International Symposium: Advancing the Water Resilience Strategy – Efficiency, Innovation & Recovery

05.05 & 06.05 - IFAT Munich, Blue Stage and Room B12

Europe's water systems are under pressure—from climate-driven storm surges to aging infrastructure and emerging contaminants. At IFAT 2026, the European Water Association will take the European Water Resilience Strategy and its Water Efficiency Principle, as base to discuss these challenges head-on.

This three-part symposium delivers sharp insights and actionable solutions:

- **Session 1: Stormwater Management:** Confront the rising tide of stormwater overflow with smarter urban planning and adaptive infrastructure. Learn how climate-resilient cities are redesigning drainage systems to handle extreme weather events.

The Session is planned on May 5th at 09:30 at the Blue Stage.

- **Session 2: Water Infrastructure Management** in a stressed environment: Detect leaks, inspect pipes, and unlock investment strategies to future-proof water networks. Explore how digital monitoring and predictive maintenance are transforming utility operations. This session also highlights successful stories driving infrastructure renewal across Europe.

The Session is planned on May 5th at 15:30 in room B13.

- **Session 3: Contaminants & Circular Recovery.** Discover how emerging contaminants—from pharmaceuticals to microplastics—are being tackled with advanced technologies. Learn how phosphorus and nitrogen recovery is closing the loop in wastewater treatment and fueling the circular economy.

The Session is planned on May 6th at 10:30 in room B12.

The program will be shared soon.

Introduction Course to EU Water Policy and Legislation

10 & 11 June 2026 - Online

We are happy to share with you that our next Introduction Course to EU Water Policy and Legislation will take place in June.

Program and registration is available [online](#). The course is almost full, make sure to sign up quickly.

INTRODUCTION COURSE TO EU WATER POLICY AND LEGISLATION



10 & 11.06.2026
10:30 AM - 01:00 PM



Join us!



with **Arthur Guischet**
EWA Secretary General

News from Brussels

Topics covered in the News from Brussels

The articles in the News from Brussels section here below cover the following topics:

1. ECHA's Socio-Economic Analysis Committee agrees its draft opinion on PFAS restriction proposal
2. Europe's Waterways Under Threat from Mining Lobby
3. New WFD revision: Call for Evidence published
4. Final agreement on the WFD-GWD-EQSD revision
5. Urban wastewater treatment rules' impact on pharmaceutical sector
6. European Water Academy – First Town Hall event
7. European Parliament, water-related Parliamentary questions.
8. Upholding the law

1. ECHA's Socio-Economic Analysis Committee agrees its draft opinion on PFAS restriction proposal

The European Chemicals Agency's Committee for Socio-Economic Analysis (SEAC) has agreed its draft opinion on the universal restriction proposal on all per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The draft opinion will be published soon for a 60-day consultation.

Full article:
▶ See EWA Website

2. Europe's Waterways Under Threat from Mining Lobby

The EU's Water Framework Directive has become a focus of increased engagement from mining sector stakeholders. According to analysis by DeSmog, meetings between the sector and EU officials tripled in the

year preceding the European Commission's strategy document indicating an intention to "review and revise" the Directive.

Published in December, the Commission's "ResourceEU Action Plan" outlines measures to address "potential bottlenecks" for new mining projects that aim to source critical raw materials—minerals considered strategically important for energy, technology, and defence.

Full article:

▶ See EWA Website

3. New WFD revision: Call for Evidence published

The Commission published its Call for Evidence on the the Water Framework Directive. This text is the heart of EU water policy. Critical raw materials are vital for competitiveness, but the EU is still heavily dependent on undiversified imports. The RESourceEU action plan aims to address such dependencies to speed up the diversification of supply. To address specific challenges faced by critical raw materials projects under the Directive, the initiative will promote access to these materials in the EU, while protecting the environment and human health.

The deadline for contributions is 14 April.

Full article:

▶ See EWA Website

4. Final agreement on the WFD-GWD-EQSD revision

On Thursday last week, MEPs gave the final green light to new measures aimed at reducing groundwater and surface waters pollution and improving EU water quality standards.

The legislation updates the lists of pollutants that need to be monitored and controlled, by adding PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, also known as "forever chemicals"), pharmaceuticals (such as painkillers), industrial substances and pesticides. Several pollutants already included will now be subject to tighter environmental quality standards.

Full article:

▶ See EWA Website

5. Urban wastewater treatment rules' impact on pharmaceutical sector

On Thursday last week, MEPs quizzed the Commission on the implementation of the EU's urban wastewater treatment law and its potential impact on security of supply of medicines.

A resolution will be put to a vote during the 27-30 April plenary session.

Full article:

▶ See EWA Website

6. European Water Academy – First Town Hall event

On 18 December 2025, the Court of Justice of the EU ruled that Spain repeatedly breached the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive, citing serious deficiencies in wastewater collection, treatment, and monitoring across roughly 50 agglomerations, notably in Andalusia and the Canary Islands.

The judgment highlights missing secondary treatment in at least 34 agglomerations and the failure to apply more stringent treatment in 19 discharging to sensitive areas, urging authorities to accelerate nationwide compliance

Full article:

▶ See EWA Website

7. European Parliament, water-related Parliamentary questions.

Members of the European Parliament show a regular interest in water issues in their Parliamentary questions. In the period between January 30th, 2026, and March 30th, 2026, 39 water-related questions were tabled, from Water Framework Directive to Extended Producer Responsibility under the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive and many more.

EWA News provides you with the link to the questions, their authors, registration numbers and dates in each edition. Details of the questions as well as the answers are easily available [here](#) (just insert the number and the year of the question and click at 'search'). Note: Text in italics in the following are explanatory comments e.g. on the geographical location or the content of the question posed, but not part of the question by the MEP

Full article:

► See EWA Website

8. Upholding the law

The European Union is constitutionally designed as a Union of Law. According to the Treaties (Treaty on European Union, Treaty on Functioning of the European Union), Member States are obliged to comply with EU legislation adopted by the legislator (European Parliament and Council), and the Commission has the right and the obligation to scrutinise such compliance and where appropriate take legal action.

In recent weeks, the European Commission initiated a series of infringement procedures concerning various water-related issues. These range from the correct transposition of the Drinking Water Directive to matters related to water permits and the implementation of the Waste Framework Directive. The following countries are involved:

Austria,
Belgium,
Czech Republic,
Denmark,
France,
Germany,
Greece,
Italy,
Latvia,
Lithuania,
Luxembourg,
Poland,
Portugal,
Romania,
Spain,
And Sweden,

The Commission is also closing 72 cases where the issues with the Member States concerned have been solved. In these cases, the Commission does not have to pursue the infringement procedure further.

EWA NEWS provides you the key elements of the cases, an overview of the system of infringement procedures and links to environmental cases where the Court imposed financial sanctions.

Full article:

► See EWA Website

Other events

IE expo China

13 - 15 April - Shanghai

An almost inexhaustible market, China is an economic powerhouse and a growing nation with a high demand for innovative solutions from the field of environmental technologies. IE expo China in Shanghai—Asia's leading trade fair for environmental technologies—reflects the demand for products and services in the fields of water, waste, air, and soil.

Key Facts from IE expo China 2025:

Exhibitors: 2,279 from 22 countries

Visitors: 90,571 from 72 countries

Exhibition space: 187,000 m²

Website: [IE expo China](#)



IFAT Delhi

22 - 24 April - Delhi, India

India's rapid growth across industries and infrastructure sectors have also put the spotlight on the environment impact of this growth. Against this backdrop, IFAT Delhi is set to debut in the nation's capital from April 22–24, 2026, at Bharat Mandapam, marking a new chapter in India's sustainability movement.

Website: [IFAT Delhi](#)



IFAT Munich 2026

04-07 Mai 2026- Munich, Germany

IFAT Munich is the World's Leading Trade Fair for Water, Sewage, Waste and Raw Materials Management.

Here you can successfully present your strategies and new solutions from the fields of water, wastewater, waste and raw materials management. So that in future even more resources can be preserved in intelligent cycles in the long term and with the greatest possible efficiency.

More information about the fair on the [official website](#).



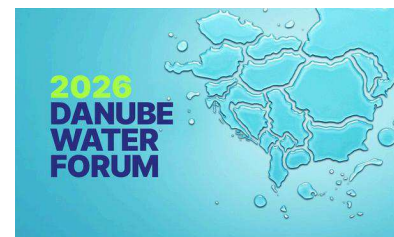
2026 Danube Water Forum

20-22 May 2026 - Sofia, Bulgaria

The 2026 Danube Water Forum "From Vision to Action: Building a Water-Resilient Danube Region" will convene from 20 to 22 May, 2026 in Sofia, Bulgaria. The event is organised by IAWD under the Danube Water Program, run by IAWD and the World Bank, and co-funded by the Austrian Government. Local hosts of the event are IAWD members, i.e. the Bulgarian Water Association (BWA) and Sofia Water.

Themed "From Vision to Action: Building a Water-Resilient Danube Region," the event will bring together more than 150 stakeholders to explore the EU Water Resilience Strategy and what its emerging priorities mean in practice for water and wastewater utilities across the region.

More information about the fair on the [official website](#).



IE expo Chengdu

10 - 12 June - Chengdu

Since 2019 Messe München has been represented with another IFAT event in China. As solution platform for the western region of China, IE expo Chengdu is held at the Western China International Expo City in the 15-million city of Chengdu.

Key Facts from IE expo Chengdu 2025:

Exhibitors: 350

Visitors: 25,000

Exhibition space: 30,000 m²

Website: [IE expo Chengdu](#)



Novatech 2026

29 June - 3 July - Lyon, France

For over 30 years, the Novatech conference has established itself as an international benchmark in the promotion of strategies and solutions for integrated and sustainable urban water management and planning. For five days in Lyon, Graie, in partnership with the Metropole of Lyon and OTHU, brings together French and international scientists, decision-makers, facilitators, managers and designers, to exchange and share their experiences and develop a common culture of urban water management.

Learn more about the conference [here](#).



CleanAIR and Climate 2026

10-11 December 2026 - Napoli, Campania, Italy

This event is organised by the Sanitary Environmental Engineering Division (SEED) of the University of Salerno (Italy) together with the Campania Region, with support from the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Energy Security. It offers an important opportunity to advance dialogue across air quality, climate change, environmental monitoring, emission control, sustainability and public health.



Learn more [here](#).

Until we meet again...

The next EWA Newsletter will be sent out June 2026.



Until then, please visit us at:

- ★ [LinkedIn](#) (European Water Association)
- ★ [Youtube](#): EWA Online

Any suggestions, comments or content from the members to the next issue may be send to this [email](#).

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