



NEWSLETTER

Newsletter October 2026

Content of EWA Newsletter Issue 05/2026

► **News from EWA**

Selected stories of what happened since the last issue

► **EWA Events**

Learn more about our future events and save the dates!

► **News from Brussels**

Abstracts with links to download the full length articles

► **List of other events**

► **Until we meet again**

News from EWA

New Corporate Member

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



KLINGER Portugal, part of the global KLINGER Group, provides engineering solutions for industrial and municipal water and wastewater applications. Through its specialized brand LiberAqua, KLINGER offers a portfolio of modular equipment for wastewater treatment, including DAF systems, sludge dewatering presses, sludge thickeners, polymer preparation units and mobile treatment SKIDs.

Combining proven technologies with technical expertise, KLINGER Portugal supports customers throughout the entire project lifecycle, from equipment selection and engineering integration to commissioning, installation and maintenance.

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

**Please join us in welcoming KLINGER Portugal to the EWA Network.
We look forward to the collaboration!**

EWA Joins the Launch of the European Water Academy in Brussels

On 21 September 2026, the European Water Association (EWA) joined the launch of the **European Water Academy** in Brussels. Launched by the European Commission as a key element of the **European Water Resilience Strategy**, the Academy will **help build the knowledge, skills and expertise needed to make Europe more water-resilient**.

Representing EWA as one of the Academy's First Champions, EWA Vice-President **Elisabeta Poci**, highlighted that Europe's water resilience depends not only on infrastructure, finance and technology, but also on the people working across the sector.

EWA has been supporting the concept of a European platform for water skills and capacity building since the early discussions that led to the Academy's creation. The Academy will help connect professionals, bridge policy and practice, and build on the training already provided by national associations, utilities, universities and professional organisations.

As part of its contribution, EWA will offer its **Introduction Course to EU Water Policy and Legislation**, supporting professionals in understanding how European water policies are developed, adopted and

implemented.

The launch event also brought together many members of the EWA network, reflecting the Association's strong engagement in advancing water skills and professional development across Europe.

Earlier that day, **Arthur Guischet** participated in the first meeting of the **Water Resilience Stakeholder Platform**, contributing to discussions on the implementation of the European Water Resilience Strategy.

EWA looks forward to supporting the European Water Academy and helping turn knowledge into action for a more resilient and sustainable water future.

Learn more [here](#).



EWA Workshop at IWA 2026 Explores Evolving Water Regulations



On 6 October 2026, EWA hosted the workshop **"Regulatory Developments as Moving Targets for the Water Sector"** during the **IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition 2026** in Glasgow.

The session explored the evolving European regulatory landscape, including developments in **Drinking Water, Urban Wastewater and Water Reuse**.

Following an introduction and overview by EWA, participants heard from Jan Goossens, who shared a utility perspective on adapting to changing regulatory requirements.

The workshop concluded with interactive group discussions on the challenges and opportunities associated with implementing new regulations across the water sector.

EWA would like to thank the speakers and participants, including Harsha Ratnaweera, Elisabeta Poci, Thomas Wintgens and Jan Goossens, for contributing to this valuable exchange of knowledge and experience.

MARGIN Partners met in Linz, Austria

Interreg
Alpine Space

Co-funded by
the European Union

MARGIN

Project Steering Group Meeting

22 & 23 September 2026
Linz, Austria



On **22 and 23 September 2026**, the partners of the **MARGIN** project met in **Linz, Austria**, to review progress and discuss the next steps towards the successful completion of the project.

Now well beyond its halfway point, the project is moving steadily towards delivering practical solutions to support cities in addressing groundwater management challenges. The two-day meeting provided an important opportunity to align on priorities, coordinate upcoming activities, and strengthen collaboration among project partners.

The European Water Association was represented by **Carolyn Herten, Communication Officer** at the EWA, who contributed to discussions on project communication, dissemination, and stakeholder engagement.

The consortium extends its sincere thanks to **LINZ AG** for hosting the meeting and for their excellent organisation. Participants also had the opportunity to visit the Froschberg drinking water reservoir, gaining valuable insights into local water resource management practices.

Together, we are turning knowledge into solutions for more resilient and sustainable cities.

[Subscribe](#) to the **MARGIN YouTube channel** to stay updated.

You can learn more about the MARGIN project [here](#).

EWA Events

Register now! 20th EWA Brussels Conference



Europe's water sector is under increasing pressure from water scarcity, floods, pollution, climate change, ageing infrastructure and growing skills shortages. At the same time, ambitious EU policies must be translated into effective action on the ground.

The **20th EWA Brussels Conference**, taking place on **24 November 2026** at **VIVAQUA, Brussels**, will bring together representatives from European institutions, water utilities, national associations, academia and industry to discuss how Europe can strengthen water security and resilience.

Under the theme "**Water Security in a Europe Under Pressure**", the conference will explore four key topics:

[Session 1: Delivering Europe's Water Policy](#)

During this session, we will discuss the EU Water policy direction and its vision for the future of the water sector in Europe but also its impact on the environment and economical actors.

[Session 2: Water Security in a Changing Climate](#)

This session will focus on water security in the context of climate change and its growing impacts across Europe. It will offer a forum for policymakers and practitioners to exchange views on current water challenges, evaluate the EU's legal and policy framework, and discuss pathways towards a more resilient and secure water future.

[Session 3: UWWTD: From Policy to Practice](#)

How is the revised Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive being translated into action across Europe? After an update from a European Commission representative, EWA members will present their national and local implementation experiences. A concluding panel discussion will examine the challenges, opportunities and lessons emerging as Member States move from EU legislation to practical delivery

[Session 4: Building the Future Water Workforce](#)

As the water sector is facing several challenges, one of them is the ageing workforce. We will dive into the upcoming EU Water Academy and the expectations from water actors about it.

Through keynote presentations, panel discussions and practical case studies, participants will exchange experiences and identify solutions to help deliver Europe's water ambitions.

The full program will be available soon.

Register now on our [website](#).

REGISTER HERE

Thank you to our Gold Sponsor VEOLIA for supporting the conference once again!



Veolia group aims to be the benchmark company for ecological transformation. Present on five continents with nearly 215,000 employees, the Group designs and deploys useful and concrete solutions for water, waste, and energy management that contribute to radically changing the game. Through its three complementary activities, Veolia helps to develop access to resources, preserve available resources, and renew them. In 2024, Veolia Group supplied 111 million inhabitants with drinking water and 98 million with sanitation, produced 42 terawatt-hours of energy, and recovered 65 million tons of waste. Veolia Environnement (Paris Euronext: VIE) generated a consolidated turnover of 44,7 billion euros in 2024.

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. EU Court case raises uncertainty over financing micropollutant removal
2. Proposed EU Public Procurement Act: New Rules for Water-Sector Contracts
3. Water Security Moves Higher on the EU Political Agenda
4. European Water Academy Launched to Strengthen Skills and Knowledge
5. Building Awareness of the Urban Water Cycle, One Brick at a Time
6. Commission Acts Over Delayed Industrial Emissions Rules
7. Germany and European Commission agree stronger action on water resilience
8. Upholding the law
9. European Parliament, water-related Parliamentary questions

1. EU Court case raises uncertainty over financing micropollutant removal

An Opinion issued by Advocate General Juliane Kokott in Case C-193/25 has raised questions about the financing of micropollutant removal under the revised Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive. While the obligation to introduce quaternary treatment would remain unaffected, the provisions requiring pharmaceutical and cosmetics producers to cover at least 80% of the associated costs could be annulled. This article outlines the case and its potential implications for wastewater utilities, municipalities and public authorities.

Full article:

► [EU Court case](#)

2. Proposed EU Public Procurement Act: New Rules for Water-Sector Contracts

The European Commission has proposed a new Public Procurement Act that would consolidate the EU rules governing public contracts, utilities procurement and concessions into a single regulation. For the water sector, the proposal promises simpler procedures, more digitalised procurement and greater emphasis on quality, sustainability, innovation, resilience and security of supply. This article outlines the principal changes and their potential implications for water utilities, technology providers and service suppliers.

Full article:

► [EU Public Procurement Act](#)

3. Water Security Moves Higher on the EU Political Agenda

Water security featured prominently in the 2026 State of the Union Address, in which Ursula von der Leyen announced a new European Water Initiative. By linking water scarcity and infrastructure leakage to agriculture, energy, industry and supply-chain resilience, the Address reinforces water's strategic importance to Europe. This article considers the announcement and its significance for investment, innovation and

climate-resilient water services.

Full article:

► [Water Security on the EU Political Agenda](#)

4. European Water Academy Launched to Strengthen Skills and Knowledge

The European Water Academy has been launched as a flagship initiative of the European Water Resilience Strategy to strengthen skills, knowledge exchange and collaboration across Europe's water sector. As one of the Academy's eight First Champions, the European Water Association will contribute its expertise and training activities, including its Introduction Course to EU Water Policy and Legislation. The initiative provides an important platform for connecting research with practice and equipping water professionals with the knowledge and skills required for a more resilient European water future.

Full article:

► [European Water Academy Launches](#)

5. Building Awareness of the Urban Water Cycle, One Brick at a Time

A proposed LEGO Ideas model brings the complete urban water cycle to life, from raw water abstraction and drinking water production to wastewater treatment and discharge. Featuring key infrastructure and seven water-sector professions, the model offers a creative opportunity to improve public understanding of water services and inspire interest in water-related careers. EWA invites the European water community to discover and support the initiative.

Full article:

► [Building Awareness](#)

6. Commission Acts Over Delayed Industrial Emissions Rules

The European Commission has launched infringement proceedings against all EU Member States for failing to fully transpose the revised Industrial and Livestock Rearing Emissions Directive by the 1 July 2026 deadline. The updated legislation strengthens pollution-prevention requirements and extends the scope of EU industrial emissions rules. For the water sector, effective implementation will be important for protecting water resources and limiting industrial pollution before it reaches aquatic environments and wastewater treatment systems.

Full article:

► [Commission Acts Over Delayed Industrial Emissions Rules](#)

7. Germany and European Commission agree stronger action on water resilience

Germany and the European Commission have signed a joint statement on strengthening the implementation of EU water legislation and improving national water resilience. The priorities include pollution prevention, sustainable abstraction, water efficiency, natural water retention, drought preparedness, ecosystem restoration and additional treatment for micropollutants. As the first completed structured water dialogue with an EU Member State, the agreement offers an early indication of how the European Water Resilience Strategy could support implementation at national level.

Full article:

► [Germany and European Commission agree stronger action on water resilience](#)

8. Upholding the law

Infringement procedures update as of October 1st, 2026

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. The following countries are involved:

All members states,

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:

► [Upholding the law](#)

9. 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 July 16th 2026 and October 1st 2026, 55 water-related questions were tabled, from the potable groundwater protection to water scarcity and many more.

EWA provides you with the link to the questions in the Newsletter including, their authors, registration numbers and dates in each edition. Details of the questions as well as the answers are easily available at

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/plenary/en/parliamentary-questions.html?tabType=all>

Full article:

► [Parliamentary Questions](#)

Other events

7th International Montenegro Water Conference and Exhibition

21-23 October 2026 - Budva, Montenegro

We are pleased to share information about the 7th International Montenegro Water Conference and Exhibition (MWC 2026), organised by the Association of Waterworks of Montenegro and the Union of Municipalities of Montenegro.

The conference will take place from 21–23 October 2026 in Budva, Montenegro.

Please note that the conference presentations and discussions will be held primarily in the local language; however, simultaneous interpretation will be provided, allowing international participants to fully engage in the programme.

More information [here](#).



14th Balkans Joint Conference and Exhibition

03-05 November 2026- Prishtina, Kosova

The Water Supply and Sewerage Association of Albania (SHUKALB) and the Water and Wastewater Works Association of Kosovo (SHUKOS) invite you to join the 14th Balkans Joint Conference and Exhibition.

The theme of the Conference, “**Water and Equal Opportunities**,” highlights the importance of building a water sector that is not only technically strong but also fair, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of communities.

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



14th BALKANS JOINT CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION



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](#).

21st Danish Water Conference

02 February 2027 - Horsens, Denmark

Mark 2 February 2027 in your calendar and join us at VIA University College in Horsens, Denmark, for the 21st Annual DWF Water Conference.

The first call for abstracts has now been released. We invite researchers, practitioners, and water professionals to share their knowledge and experiences with the water community.



Abstract submission deadline: 1 October 2026

Learn more [here](#).

Digital World Water Camp 2027

February to May- Online

Digital World Water Camp is an international online learning course and networking initiative designed to address some of today's most pressing water challenges. This year, the course focuses on the themes of Drinking Water, Health & Water Infrastructure, and Wastewater. The 2027 camp runs from February to May and combines self-paced e-learning modules with weekly live online sessions with the students and teachers. The course is hosted by VIA University College (Denmark) and created in collaboration

with international experts and partner institutions, including the University of Nicosia, the Ludovika University of Public Service, and the IHE Delft Institute for Water Education. Digital World Water Camp is sponsored by the Poul Due Jensen Foundation (Grundfos), DWF – Danish Water Forum, and IWA-DK – International Water Association, Danish Chapter.



Website and registration: [Digital WORLD WATER CAMP](#)

IE Expo Shanghai

20 - 22 April 2027, 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 Shanghai 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 Shanghai 2026:

Exhibitors: 1,987 from 20 countries

Visitors: 82,419 from 119 countries

Exhibition space: 170,000 m²

Website: [IE expo China](#)

IFAT Delhi

21 - 23 April 2027, Delhi

India's rapid growth across industries and infrastructure sectors have also put the spotlight on the environment impact of this growth. For almost 60 years, IFAT has served as the global launchpad for environmental innovation, and in India, its legacy is well established. 11 successful editions in Mumbai have proven that when the right people come together—technology experts, policymakers, municipal leaders—real, lasting change can follow. Now, Messe Muenchen India is bringing that momentum to Delhi.



[Learn more.](#)

IFAT Eurasia

5 - 7 May 2027, Istanbul

Launched in 2015, IFAT Eurasia provides a platform for the Eurasian environmental technology sector and has managed to get off to a successful start in a dynamic market. Since then, IFAT Eurasia has been able to assert its claim of being the leading business platform for environmental technologies in an emerging market.



Key Facts from IFAT Eurasia 2025:

Exhibitors: 239 from 14 countries

Visitors: 10,234 from 74 countries and regions

Exhibition space: 28,800 m²

Website: [IFAT Eurasia](#)

Until we meet again...

The next EWA Newsletter will be sent out in December 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 sent to this [email](#).

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European Water Association

Theodor-Heuss-Allee 17, 53773 Hennef
Germany

Tel.: +49 2242 872-189

www.ewa-online.eu

Contact

Tel.: +49 2242 872-189

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