

Sign up to our monthly newsletter!

View it in your browser



## Has Europe betrayed its founding values?

Defining a new vision which puts people, planet and prosperity first

*By Genevieve Pons, Director, WWF European Policy Office*

The outcome of the UK referendum is the latest and most serious crisis to have hit the European Union. Not only was the Brexit vote a serious blow for the EU as a political construct, but it also put into question many of the **very values the EU was founded on: pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality, and – last but not least – a strong commitment to sustainable development.**

The Brexit vote has set alarm bells ringing throughout the EU, and a vital debate must now follow on how we can get back to and even strengthen these shared values in the face of rising nationalism, populism and anti-European sentiment.

**Leaders must now set to work on a new, positive vision of Europe**, in order to regain trust and re-engage with European citizens of all ages, social backgrounds and nations.

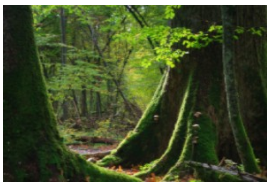
We need to ensure that **Europe moves to embrace transformational change**, guided by the global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris climate agreement. These inspirational commitments, in which **people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnerships** play centre stage, now have to result in a decisive shift in political emphasis and direction.

[Read more](#)

---

## More WWF News

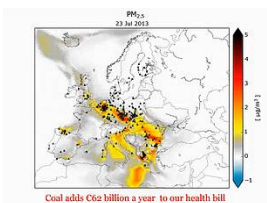
[Overall ambition of EU climate proposals too low - loopholes risk further weakening](#)



WWF: World Heritage Committee fails to protect threatened natural sites in Europe



UK referendum must not derail EU climate policy



Coal-burning EU countries make their neighbours sick



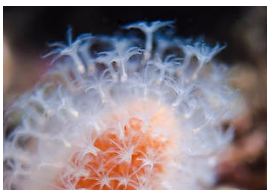
EU Nature Directives are 'Fit for Purpose', concludes European Commission expert study



Holzindustrie Schweighofer FSC certificate suspended after NGO complaint



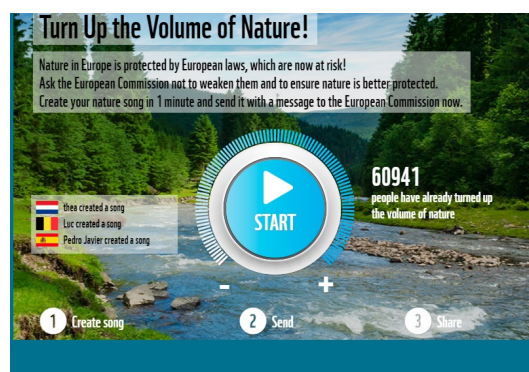
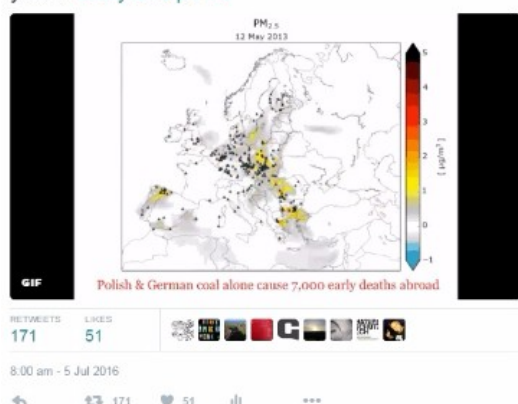
'Pension Fund' Directive: An important step forward to integrate sustainability



Protection of the North Sea's largest sandbank in question: WWF concerned about political drawback

Take action

Coal pollution knows no borders, shows new report. EU #endcoal to save 22,900 lives a year! [bit.ly/29bpTYu](http://bit.ly/29bpTYu)



More info: [what we do](#) - [campaigns](#) - [media centre](#)



Twitter



Website



YouTube



Email

This newsletter is produced by WWF European Policy Office.

*The WWF European Policy Office contributes to the achievement of WWF's global mission by leading the WWF network to shape EU policies impacting on the European and global environment.*

EU Transparency Register Nr: 1414929419-24

*You receive this newsletter as you are representing citizens, governments or public institutions making important decisions on the future of the planet's natural environment, or you signed up directly via our website.*

Copyright © 2016 WWF European Policy Office, All rights reserved.

[Sign up](#) - [unsubscribe to this newsletter](#)