

# EU's actions on endocrine disruptors: The untapped public health & economic opportunity

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Health and Environment Alliance

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018, European Parliament

“Endocrine disruptors: is the EU regulating in the right way?”

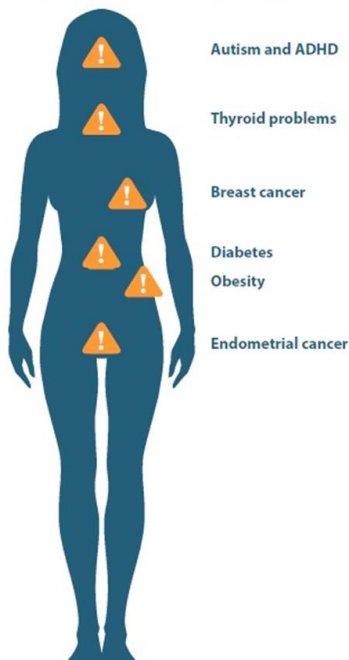
# Take away message

- EDCs are linked to **numerous health conditions** that weigh a heavy burden on the EU's **economy**
- Taking action to regulate them has major - yet **untapped** – public **health and economic benefits**
- Extraordinary **public health and civil society demand for action**
- **EU's response**: too slow, too narrow, too fragmented
- The **clock is ticking...**
  - Human exposure **keeps increasing**
  - Where is the **new EDC strategy**? What about yet **unaddressed critical areas** (toys, cosmetics, food packs)?

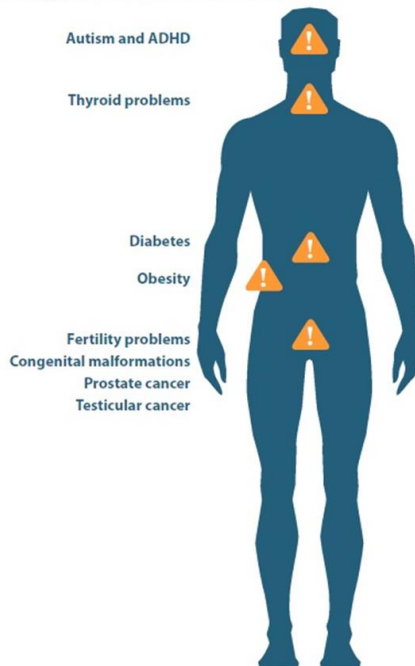


# Challenges & opportunities for health

The Endocrine System:  
Health problems for women related to EDCs?



The Endocrine System:  
Health problems for men related to EDCs?



## EDC-2: The Endocrine Society's Second Scientific Statement on Endocrine-Disrupting Chemicals

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Ob-gyns from 125 countries say...



"exposure to toxic chemicals is damaging your health."



Tell policymakers to listen.

#HealthNotToxics

## European Cancer Leagues

Wendy Tse Yared,

« Curbing exposure to endocrine disrupting chemicals should become a central part of cancer prevention strategy in Europe »



@HealthandEnv  
@AIM\_Healthcare

“

Reducing exposure to endocrine disrupting chemicals will benefit healthcare systems and economies as a whole.

CHRISTIAN ZAHN

PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MUTUAL BENEFIT SOCIETIES (AIM)



# Health savings from regulating EDCs

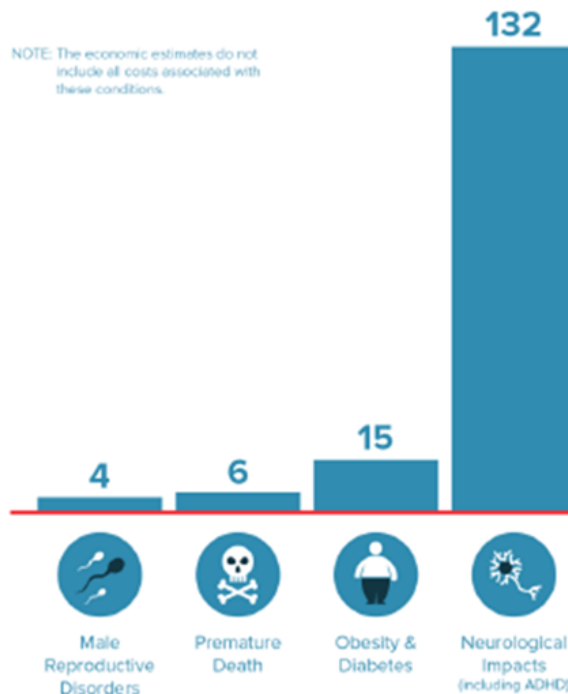


## HEALTH EFFECTS FROM ENDOCRINE DISRUPTING CHEMICALS COST THE EU 157 BILLION EUROS EACH YEAR.

This is the tip of the iceberg: Costs may be as high as €270B.

Updated  
figure:  
163 BN

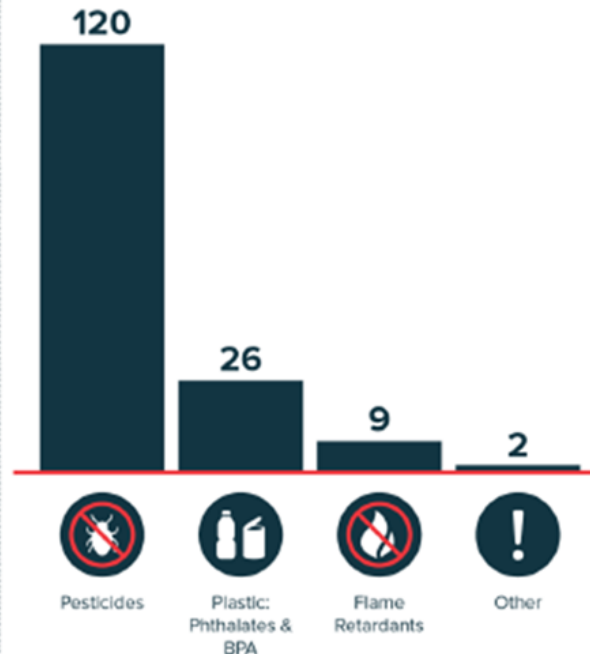
### €157B Cost by Health Effect



#### SOME EDC-RELATED HEALTH OUTCOMES NOT INCLUDED:

- Breast Cancer
- Prostate Cancer
- Immune Disorders
- Female Reproductive Disorders
- Liver Cancer
- Parkinson's Disease
- Osteoporosis
- Endometriosis
- Thyroid Disorders

### €157B Cost by EDC Type



#### SOME EDCs NOT INCLUDED:

- Atrazine
- 2, 4-D
- Styrene
- Triclosan
- Nonylphenol
- Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons
- Bisphenol S
- Cadmium
- Arsenic
- Ethylene glycol



Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDCs) interfere with hormone action to cause adverse health effects in people.

### "THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG"

The data shown to the left are based on fewer than 5% of likely EDCs. Many EDC health conditions were not included in this study because key data are lacking. Other health outcomes will be the focus of future research.



# The EU's inadequate response

- Too little, too late, inconsistent
- Pesticides/Biocides
  - Delay: lobbying, ECJ court case
  - Burden of proof too high
  - Application under question
- REACH
  - Case by case identification
  - BPA identified ED human health... in June 2017...

- Obvious gaps



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"The EU Commission's proposed criteria on EDCs will likely fail to identify those chemicals that are currently causing human harm"

The Endocrine Society

European Society for Endocrinology

European Society for Paediatric Endocrinology



# Moving forward – Act NOW

- **Keep your promises – Bring your new strategy out now**
  - « *The adopted criteria will provide a stepping stone for further actions to protect health and the environment by **enabling the Commission to start working on a new strategy to minimise exposure of EU citizens to endocrine disruptors, beyond pesticides and biocides. The strategy will aim to cover for example toys, cosmetics and food packaging*** » Vytenis Andriukaitis, 4th July 2017
- Make pesticides/biocides criteria applicable: **finalise guidance in a health protective way**
- **Speed up REACH EDC identification**
- Learn from **MS strategies (FR, DK, and soon BE?)** and make EU regulations on EDCs **consistent** with each other





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**SAY NO TO HORMONE  
DISRUPTING CHEMICALS**

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**Questions - Info:**

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