

**Question for written answer E-005264/2020
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Cindy Franssen (PPE)

Subject: Impact of air pollution on public health

According to a recent study¹ of the European Environment Agency, air pollution is the biggest environmental threat to the health of Europeans. Every year more than 400 000 people die prematurely as a result of air pollution.

In particular, people in a difficult socio-economic situation are among those hardest hit by poor air quality. They often live in places where there is more air and noise pollution. Moreover, it is clear from the study that there is a clear geographical difference between East and West Europe.

In the Green Deal, the Commission stated its wish to improve air quality in Europe drastically, among other things by focusing on less polluting transport in cities, clean public transport and stricter air pollution limit values.

1. Will the Commission adopt the WHO standards on air pollution? Will these standards then be monitored and made compulsory?
2. What concrete measures will the Commission implement to close the socio-economic gap in relation to exposure to air pollution and all its consequences?
3. Does the Commission have any measures ready to tackle air pollution while emphasising more nature, such as more green spaces in towns and cities?

¹ <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/healthy-environment-healthy-lives>