Parliamentary Network
for a healthy environment

Réseau parlementaire
pour un environnement sain

10 KEY MESSAGES FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

2026-2027



1. **Establish the right to a healthy environment as a human right**
   Recognise the right to a healthy environment at national level and develop a legally binding instrument at Council of Europe level.
2. **Recognise the crime of ecocide**
   Make ecocide a criminal offence in all member States and ratify the Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law.
3. **Safeguard the rights of future generations**
   Place biodiversity and intergenerational equity at the heart of public policies and advance environmental standards and practices from a less anthropocentric perspective.
4. **Guarantee the human right to food**
   Ensure autonomous access to healthy, adequate and sustainable food and strengthen the resilience of agri-food systems.
5. **Protect seas and oceans**
   Respect international treaties aimed at combating marine pollution, the loss of marine biodiversity and ocean acidification, and integrate human rights into maritime policies.
6. **Invest in a sustainable and socially just energy transition**
   Phase out public subsidies for fossil fuels, invest in sustainable energy sources and eradicate energy poverty.
7. **Improve climate disaster prevention and response**
   Ensure a human rights-based approach at every stage of prevention and response, with particular attention to the most vulnerable people.
8. **Establish mechanisms for effective public participation**
   Enable citizens, particularly young people, to contribute on an informed basis to the development, implementation and monitoring of national and local environmental policies.
9. **Place the environment at the heart of health policies**
   Integrate environmental and climate considerations into an approach based on the right to the protection of health including at the workplace.
10. **Strengthen corporate environmental accountability**
    Require companies to identify, prevent, mitigate and account for the adverse environmental impacts of their activities.

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