

European and International Cave politics:

The **European Environmental Bureau**, EEB (www.eeb.org), is Europe's largest network of environmental citizens' organisations. EEB brings together 180 member organisations from 38 countries and stands for sustainable development, environmental justice & participatory democracy.

As a full member of EEB since 2011, FSE as network organisation has the right to send interested people as member into one or more working groups. (<https://eeb.org/membership/our-working-groups/>)

A working group gathers interested people from concerned member-organisations.

The WGs which are specially interesting for the caving environment are:

Biodiversity, Water, Soil, International Environmental Governance

One of the tasks of the European Cave Protection Commission is to represent the FSE at the EEB and we would be glad if interested persons could join us with expertise and engagement in a working group of your interest.

Please get in contact with the commission for further questions and interest. We would be glad to welcome and guide you in this major role.

Thank you,
The ECPC team

Descriptions of the working groups (EEB Text)

*The EEB Working Group on **Biodiversity** works on EU policies so that they help protect and restore nature.*

Topics of interest to the group include:

- *The implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030*
- *The new Nature Restoration Law*
- *The implementation and enforcement of the Nature Directives*

The Biodiversity Working Group meets once or twice a year and is coordinated by Sergiy Moroz, Policy Manager for Water and Biodiversity and Laura Hildt, Policy Officer for Biodiversity and EU Affairs

*The EEB **Water** Working Group works on maintaining an ambitious EU Water Framework Directive.*

Topics of interest to the group include:

- *The upcoming Fitness Check of the Water Framework Directive*
- *River Basin Management Plans*

The Water Working Group meets once or twice a year and is coordinated by Sergiy Moroz, Policy Manager for Water and Biodiversity

*The EEB Working Group on **Soil** contributes to the development of a new dedicated EU legal instrument for soil protection, not least because of soil's crucial role in storing carbon.*

Topics of interest to the group include:

- *The 7th Environmental Action Programme;*
- *Support the adoption of a dedicated EU legal instrument for soil protection.*

The Soil Working Group is coordinated by Sergiy Moroz, Policy Manager for Water and Biodiversity.

*The EEB Working Group on **International Environmental Governance** follows different international processes such as the 2030 Agenda, the UN Environmental Assembly, COPs of the most relevant*

Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and regional processes such as the Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference. The Working Group functions as an information hub for all interested EEB members.

Activities of interest to the group include:

- Participate in and provide input to UN processes such as the HLPF, UNECE Regional Forum for Sustainable Development and UNEA as well as to other processes at global and regional levels including the Environment for Europe conference;*
- Share information about COPs of the most relevant MEAs;*
- Actively engage in around development of stakeholder engagement mechanisms;*
- Monitor and influence EU involvement in those processes;*
- Participate in and provide input to OECD led activities;*
- Work with SDG Watch Europe and exchange with Action 4 Sustainable Development, a large global coalition focussing on SDG implementation and advocacy.*

The International Environmental Governance Working Group is coordinated by Patrizia Heidegger, Deputy Secretary General and Director for EU Governance, Sustainability and Global Policies.

Important Information:

As for the meetings of all WGs, there are 1 or 2 a year in person and usually in Brussels but regularly there will be online meetings 1 or 2 a month depending on urgencies.

Travel and accommodation for the physical meetings will be covered by EEB up to a certain amount and following strict sustainable rules.

Please note as well that the working language for all WGs is English.