



Chapter/Committee Name:

European Chapter

Leadership: (please also insert Chapter of leadership)

Hanna Boogaard and Petter Ljungman, both co-chairs

Members: (please also insert Chapter of members)

Currently the Chapter consists of 7 elected members. We have increased our group of associated members to 19.

Elected members: Hanna Boogaard, Maria Foraster, Elaine Fuertes, Bénédicte Jacquemin, Petter Ljungman, Kurt Straif, Ana Vicedo-Cabrera

Associated Members: Zorana Andersen, Artur Badyda, Payam Dadvand, Evan De Schrijver, Pippa Douglas, Lorenzo Fabbri, Ulrike Gehring, Barbara Hoffmann, Meltem Kutlar Joss, Rajini Nagrani, Adjani Peralta, Aina Roca-Barcelo, Tamara Schikowski, Alexandra Schneider, Massimo Stafoggia, Maciek Strak, Mireille Toledano, Michelle Turner, Danielle Vienneau

Chapter/Committee objectives:

Our objectives are to support the translation of research into timely and effective environmental health policy across Europe as well as provide a forum for research networking and training in our region.

Main activities during 2021-2022 in relation to the strategic plan:

We have had monthly calls including elected and associated members.

1. Translation of research into policy

Activities regarding release of the new WHO Air quality Guidelines: In close collaboration with the Policy committee, several council members and associate members were very active in the activities surrounding the WHO AQG release including participating and organizing media training sessions in collaboration with Imperial College and consultants. We organized a joint statement with the European Respiratory Society (ERS) that included endorsements from a broad host of other societies and organizations worldwide and was published on the ISEE website and in the International Journal of Public Health, which was translated into more than 20 different languages. Furthermore in the continued activity to provide relevant and up to date evidence to inform the revision of the EU directive for air quality several members of the Chapter participated and presented at the EU Clean Air Forum in Europe hosted in Madrid in November 2021. Our council members also participated in the Cop26 meeting in Glasgow.

Activities regarding the revision of the EU air quality directive: We have had a strong focus on providing input to the revision of the EU directive for air quality in close collaboration with the Policy committee as well with the European Respiratory Society (ERS). We have published a



[joint statement](#) in March 2022 with the ERS as well as a [commentary](#) in Environmental Epidemiology to highlight the need to use the most updated health research, specifically the relevant European studies, to inform the exposure response functions used for the EU's health impact assessment (HIA), which is currently ongoing. This expert opinion was reinforced in a joint ISEE and ERS [letter](#) sent to DG Environment in May, and subsequently discussed in an in-person meeting in Brussels in July.

2. Research networking and promotion

Eastern and South-Eastern European activities: We have also continued our work to reinforce, integrate and promote more research in environmental epidemiology in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe. Together with the Health Effects Institute (HEI) we have arranged a series of 3 workshops during 2021 as well as online networking events. The report of the first workshop can be found [here](#). We are also planning, together with HEI, an early morning session at ISEE Athens entitled "Air Pollution and Health: The Case of Central and Southeast Europe".

Online networking events: We organized two networking events this year for members and non-members to encourage engagement and interaction despite the pandemic restrictions, specifically focusing on the Eastern and Southeastern region. We are sponsoring registration fees to ISEE Athens for 4 researchers from Eastern European institutions participating in the networking event.

3. Training activities

Activities on climate change and health: During 2021-2022 we have arranged a webinar series on climate change and health. This webinar series has given an overview on the latest developments in climate change epidemiology in terms of methods, data and approaches. It consisted of three webinars, all recorded on the ISEE Global Education Youtube Channel: 1) [New data sources and applications](#) (June 22, 2021) 2) [New methods and study designs](#) (Dec 2, 2021), 3) [New communication and visualization tools](#) (May 3, 2022).

ISEE Young Conference February 2021: In collaboration with the Swiss TPH we organized the 4th Early Career Researchers Conference on Environmental Epidemiology. It was a fully virtual event and gathered around 200 researchers with abstracts published in [Environmental Epidemiology](#). Plenary sessions are available on the [ISEE youtube](#) channel.

Planned activities during 2022-2023 in relation to the strategic plan:

During 2022-2023 we begin the planning and organization for the next ISEE Young Conference that will be held in Rennes, France in 2024. Furthermore we will continue to organize activities to increase involvement and support for environmental epidemiological research in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe. We will also arrange activities to be decided on to raise the profile of noise research at ISEE especially as there are no noise limits in Europe despite the existing WHO guidelines.