



EurEau's views on the DWD proposal

Dr Claudia Castell-Exner – EurEau Vice President

NORDIWA conference

11 June 2018, Oslo

- ~ EurEau has been the **voice of Europe's water sector** since 1975
- ~ Our members are 32 national associations of **water services** from 29 European countries
- ~ We represent **drinking water and waste water operators** – from the *public* and *private* sector
- ~ We **engage** with **EU policy makers** to ensure the *protection of public health* and the *environment* as well as **the sustainability** and **the affordability** of water services



ANNUALLY

The European water sector's turnover is 86 billion euros.



INVESTMENT

We invest 52% of this - 45 billion euros - into renewing infrastructure.

Recast: Drinking Water Directive



- ~ 1 February 2018: legislative proposal (COM)
- ~ Answer to the first ECI Right2Water (2013)
- ~ In line with the implementation of the SDG 6
- ~ Designed around 5 policy options:



1. Art.5 + I Annex I: review of **quality parameters**
2. Art.7: Introduction of **Water Safety Plan approach**
3. **Materials and products in contact with drinking water**
4. Art.13: **Access to drinking water for all**
5. Art.14: **Information to consumers**



Brussels, 1.2.2018
COM(2017) 753 final
2017/0332 (COD)

Proposal for a
DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
on the quality of water intended for human consumption (recast)

(Text with EEA relevance)
{SWD(2017) 448 final} - {SWD(2017) 449 final} - {SWD(2017) 451 final}

Positive elements of the proposal

- ~ **Update of quality parameters** after almost 20 years
- ~ Introduction of compulsory **risk-based approach** (*WHO Water Safety Plan concept*)
- ~ Introduction of hazard assessment for water bodies: finally link and synergies between **WFD and DWD!**
- ~ Provisions on risk assessment in the **domestic distribution systems**
- ~ Idea of realizing **access to water** for all in line with the UN SDG 6
- ~ Reduce plastics and switch to a **circular economy**
- ~ **Information** on quality to the public to create awareness

... to be improved: Quality parameters

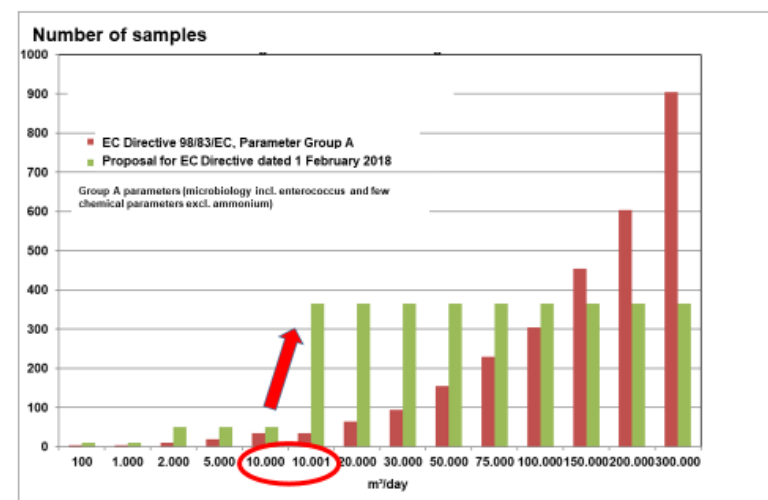
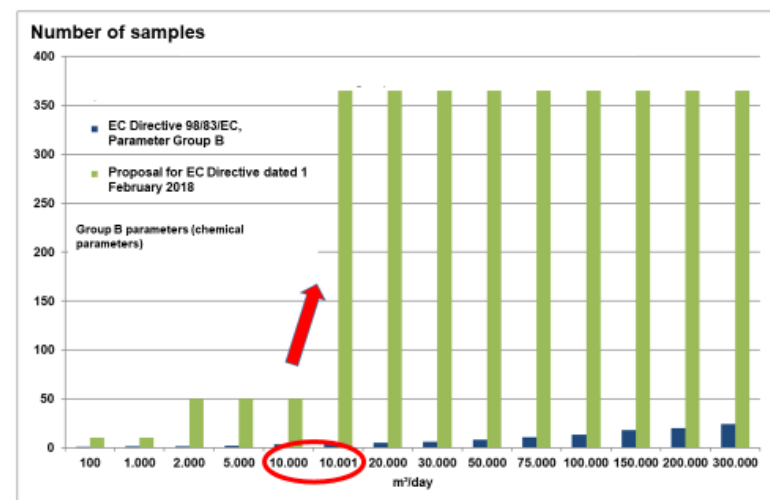


- ~ **Art.5 + Annex I:** Follow *closely* the **recommendations of the WHO** for parameters and parametric values.
- ~ **Indicator parameters** to be **maintained** as provided for in the table C in Annex I of Directive 98/83/EC
- ~ Why? Play a fundamental role in the **control of processes** carried out in drinking water production and the **acceptability** of tap water for consumers.
- ~ parametric values be set according to the **precautionary principle**, **extra time** after the end-date for transposition should be granted.



Sampling frequencies

- ~ EurEau questions the **added-value of the new sampling frequencies**
- ~ EurEau's estimate of additional costs for monitoring
 - ~ total extra spending all over Europe for analytical monitoring only is expected to be around **3 billion euros per year.**
 - ~ not including the costs of sampling and the investments needed to comply with the new parameters
 - ~ **EurEau** believes these resources could be spent more effectively.



Derogations & remedial actions

- ~ **Derogations: flexibility mechanisms** are needed to allow for a smooth implementation according to realistic timelines.
- ~ EurEau cannot support that any exceedances of values should be considered “**automatically as potential danger to human health**”:
 - ~ Esp. **parameters** where values have been set based on the **precautionary principle** or are **indicators** an exceedance does not cause automatically such a potential danger.
 - ~ **Competent health authorities** are best placed to **assess** the situation,
 - ~ **evaluate** the extent to which the exceedance of the parametric value constitutes a potential danger to human health,
 - ~ **take the subsequent appropriate remedial actions**, including the decision to inform the public.



Risk-based approach



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- ~ EurEau supports **link** between the **DWD** and the Water Framework Directive (**WFD**)
- ~ proposal raises issues in terms of **shared responsibilities**:
 - ~ **Member States, water operators, property owners**
- ~ **Member States responsibility** in protecting drinking water resources **to be clearly spelled out in the article**
- ~ Only MS have **legal means** to enforce **preventive or mitigation measures in the catchment areas**
- ~ **Supply risk assessment** to be carried out by all suppliers within **6 years** after transposition - **review and update: whenever necessary** and at least once every 6 years

Materials in contact with drinking water

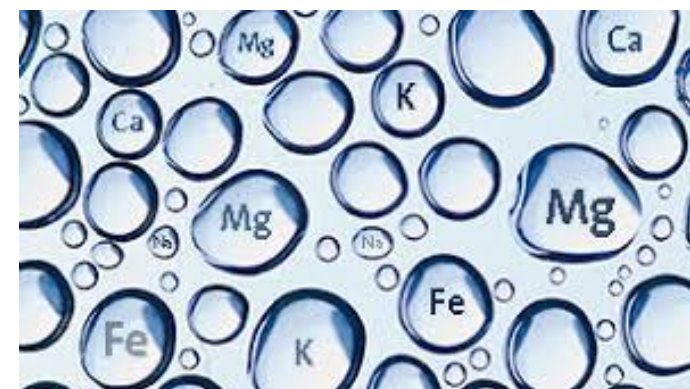
- ~ EurEau **regrets the deletion of art. 10** of Directive 98/83/EC.
- ~ In particular, the **migration of substances** and the **enhancement of microbial growth** are important criteria for the **suitability of materials** that are in contact with drinking water in order to effectively **protect public health**.
- ~ EurEau calls for establishing **EU-wide minimum hygienic requirements** for materials in the DWD while maintaining the **link** between the **DWD** and the Construction Products Regulation (**CPR**)



SDG 6, transparency, information



- ~ **Art.13: Access, affordability and availability** are **all** dimensions of the human right to water.
- ~ **Art. 14:** EurEau favours **transparency** and back the European Commission's intention **to make consumers aware of the good quality of tap water** in Europe to **increase consumers' confidence**.
- ~ Do not lose the focus on **water quality aspects**.
- ~ to carry out the obligation to ensure that **information is made available** requires extra resources
 - ~ these are not accounted for in the Impact Assessment.



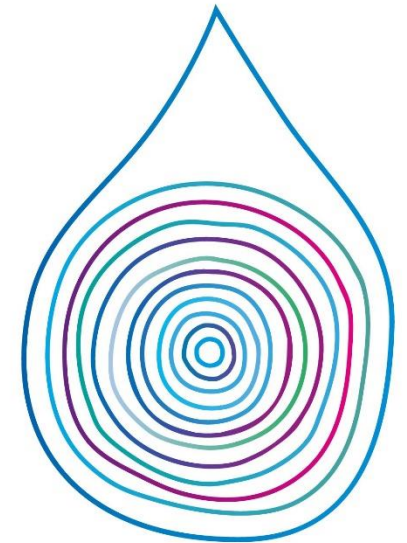
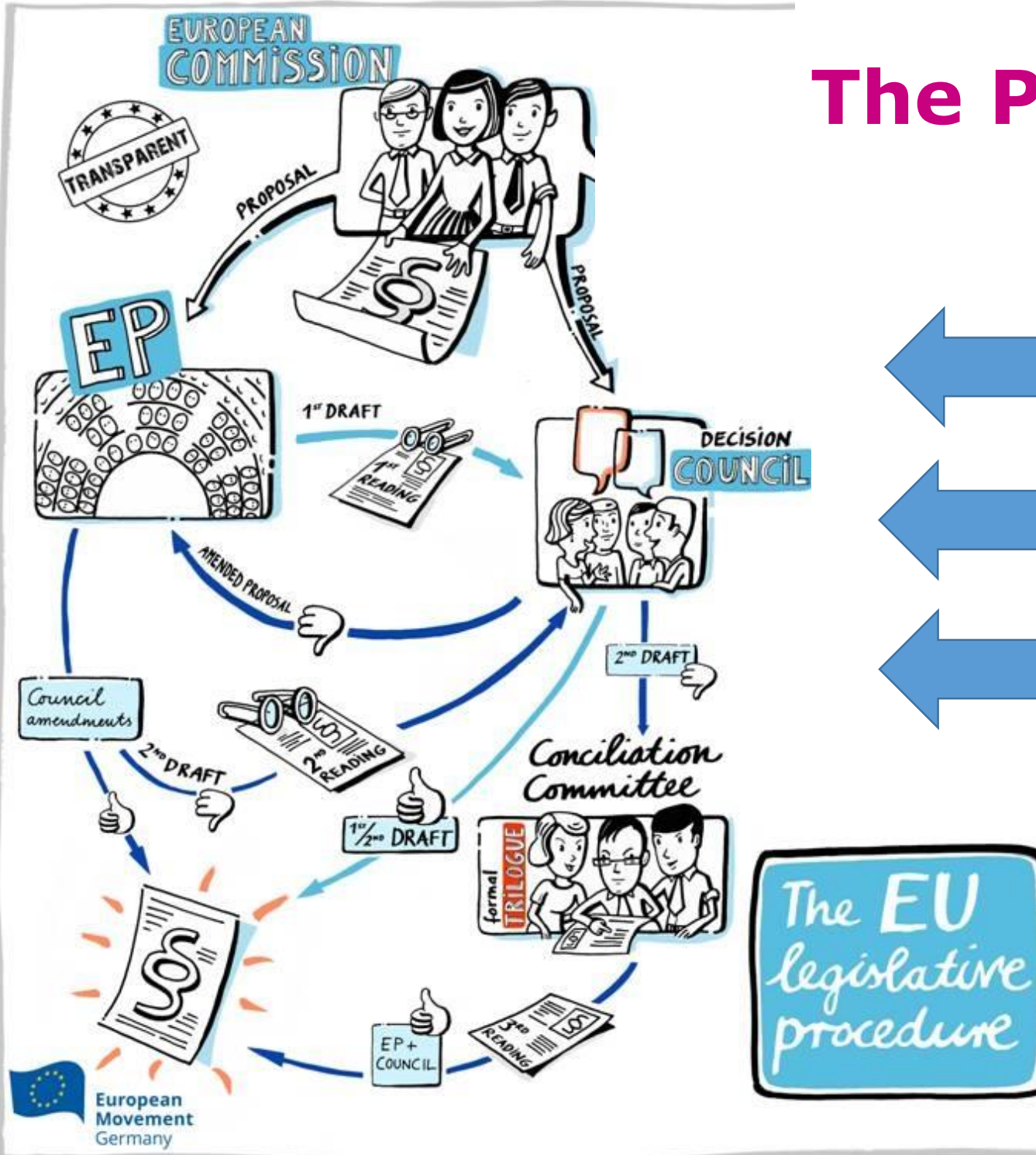
Summary

- ~ This directive is of **utmost importance** for European **water services** to provide **healthy and affordable drinking water to consumers**.
- ~ Various elements of the European Commission's proposed text need **improvement** to make the Directive legally **sound and implementable** in an efficient and effective way.

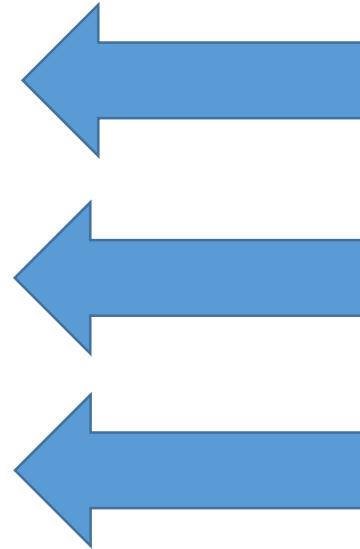


What will be the next steps ?

The Procedure (1)



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The Procedure (2)

- ~ **1 February 2018:** Commission published draft proposal
- ~ ...
- ~ **16 May 2018:** rapporteur Michel Dantin (EPP) presents his draft report
- ~ **18 May 2018:** Draft presidency compromise text
- ~ **7 June 2018:** 1st discussion of report in ENVI committee: rapporteur, shadow-rapporteurs, DG Environment
- ~ **13 June 2018:** deadline for amendments
- ~ **25 June 2018:** Environment Council meeting – *Working Party Environment meets twice a months to discuss proposal -> report*
- ~ **10 September 2018:** vote in ENVI committee
- ~ **October 2018:** vote in EP plenary



Matjaz Malgaj, Tobias Biermann, DG Env



Michel Dantin, EPP



European Council
Council of the European Union

EurEau's involvement – 2015 ...



- ~ EurEau-committee 1 Drinking water: proposal DWD = **priority topic**
- ~ Several **meetings** with rapporteur Dantin, shadow rapporteurs/assistants, DG Environment; partner associations
- ~ 9 May 2018: dedicated **Workshop** on DWD proposal
- ~ 10 May 2018: EurEau's **amendments**
- ~ 18 May 2018: GA approved EurEau DWD-**position**
- ~ 16 May 2018: **Intergroup meeting** – MEPs, Director General of DG Env, Bulgarian presidency
- ~ 7 June 2018: **breakfast debate** on materials in contact with drinking water
- ~ 11 July 2018 (?): EurEau **meeting to discuss amendments tabled by EP**

What is next?

~ Austrian presidency: 07-12/2018

~ Romanian presidency: 01-06 2019

~ Finnish presidency: 07-12 2019

~ EP Elections: 23-26 May 2019

~ „new“ Commission: autumn 2019



European Council
Council of the European Union



European Parliament



Thank you!

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