

## Invitation to the Conference

# Health impacts of air pollutants

**Date:** Wednesday, 22 November 2017

**Venue:** DUH office, Hackescher Markt 4, 10178 Berlin (top floor)

Air pollution is still one of the most urging environmental problems in Germany and Europe, as re-assessed by the air quality report published by the European Environment Agency (EEA) a few weeks ago. The high concentration of fine particles and nitrogen oxides in our ambient air is also a health problem. It is an important risk factor to many diseases and shortens the life expectancy of some hundred thousand people every year.

However, the more intense the discussion about the future of the diesel and possible diesel bans for German cities becomes, the more often the negative health effects of nitrogen dioxide are neglected and the need of new ambitious limit values is questioned even though there is plain scientific proof of the health damages even under the limit values. In addition, the effects of ultrafine particles from combustion processes, e.g. of wood burning, aren't considered in an effective way in the public and political debate. Those particles are proven to have a severe effect e.g. on inflammation processes within chronic diseases. Within the last years, the right to clean air for every citizen has been confirmed by courts several times. Nevertheless, the implementation by politicians and competent authorities is still lacking behind and is not adequate to take the health problems caused by air pollution sufficiently into account.

Conference language is German. A simultaneous translation German/English will be offered.

9:00 **Welcome coffee**

9.15 **Welcome and introduction**

*Dorothee Saar, Deutsche Umwelthilfe*

### **INTRODUCTION ON THE TOPIC**

9:30 **Air Quality in Germany: Status quo and mayor sources**

*Ute Dauert, German Environmental Agency, Department II 4.2 Air Quality*

10:00 **Particular matter and gases:**

**Biological effects of exhaust gases from combustion processes on lung cells and animals**

*Prof. Dr. Ralf Zimmermann, Helmholtz Virtual Institute HICE –*

*Aerosol und Health and University of Rostock*

### **EFFECTS ON DIFFERENT ORGANS**

10:30 **Cardiovascular System**

*Prof. Dr. Barbara Hoffmann, University of Düsseldorf, ESCAPE study*

**Coffee/tea break (10.55 - 11.15)**

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11:15 **Lung and respiratory tracts**  
*Prof. Dr. Christian Grohé, Evangelische Lungenklinik Berlin*

11:40 **Nervous system and brain**  
*Dr. Tina Wahle, IUF Düsseldorf*

12:05 **Metabolism and diabetes**  
*Dr. Susanne Breitner, Helmholtz-Zentrum München*

### Lunch break (12:30-13.30)

13:30 **Reproductive organs**  
*Dr. Ebba Malmqvist, Lund University*

### LEGISLATIVE DEMANDS

14:00 **Revision of WHO air quality guidelines and risk groups**  
*Dr. Dorota Jarosinska, World Health Organization (WHO), European Centre for Environment and Health*

14:30 **Discussion: Legislative demands**

15.15 **Summary and follow up**  
*Dorothee Saar, Deutsche Umwelthilfe*

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**Moderation:** Julia Gogolewska *Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL)*

We are looking forward to an interesting discussion with you among other experts.  
Please confirm your participation until the 17<sup>th</sup> of November here: <http://l.duh.de/ver0009>