



**EDC FREE EUROPE**  
LET'S STOP HORMONE DISRUPTORS

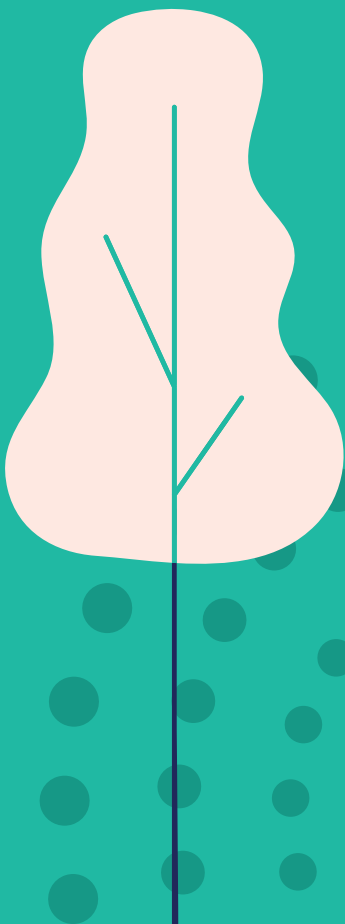
# EDC-Free Europe statement:

**Seven priorities to  
protect people and  
environment from harm  
caused by endocrine-  
disrupting chemicals**



November  
**2024**

**Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDCs) are chemicals that wreak havoc on human health and ecosystems by interfering with the natural hormones in our bodies and in wildlife.**

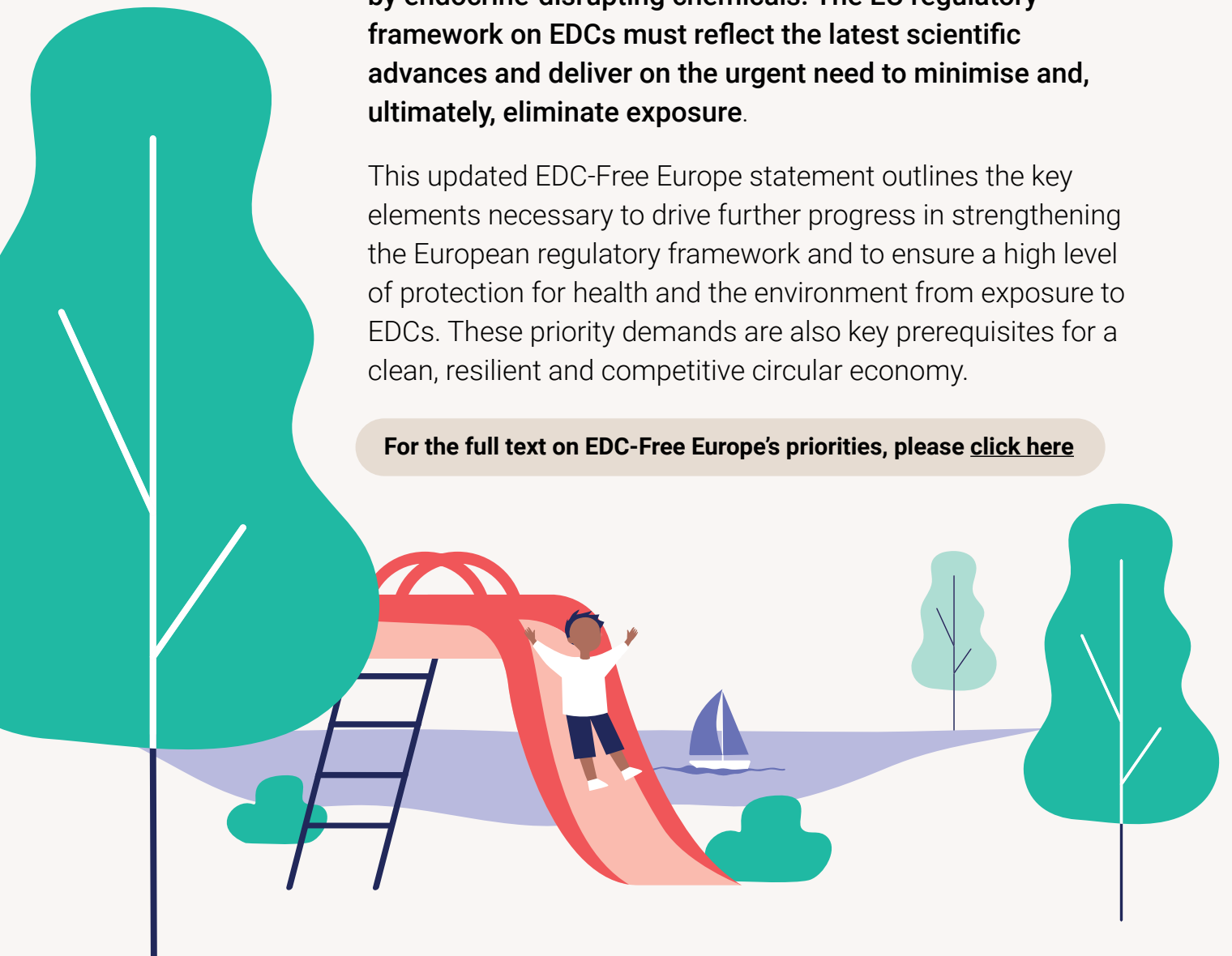


# EDCs are found in everyday products and have been linked to rising rates of cancers, diabetes, developmental disorders, and reproductive health issues.

While the European Union has taken steps in starting to improve the policy framework and scientific knowledge to address EDCs over the last years, there is still a pressing need to complete the process for real improvements to happen in the everyday life of people and companies in Europe and beyond. With the new policy cycle 2024-2029, **we are calling on the EU leadership to uphold its obligation to protect people and the environment from all harm caused by endocrine-disrupting chemicals. The EU regulatory framework on EDCs must reflect the latest scientific advances and deliver on the urgent need to minimise and, ultimately, eliminate exposure.**

This updated EDC-Free Europe statement outlines the key elements necessary to drive further progress in strengthening the European regulatory framework and to ensure a high level of protection for health and the environment from exposure to EDCs. These priority demands are also key prerequisites for a clean, resilient and competitive circular economy.

**For the full text on EDC-Free Europe's priorities, please [click here](#)**



# 1

## Speed up identification of EDCs

- Swifter identification under the Classification, Labelling, and Packaging (CLP) regulation
- Step up the identification of substances of very high concern (SVHCs) in application of REACH
- Identification and regulation by groups of substances rather than the substance-by-substance approach
- Update requirements for information to be provided by industry
- Ensure relevant EDC expertise



# 2

## Accelerate regulation and phase-out of known and suspected EDCs

### Align existing legislation with the commitments of the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability (CSS):

- Safeguard health and precaution
- Accelerate EDCs phase-out
- No EDCs in pesticide and biocide products
- Update current Plant Protection Products regulation (PPPR) and Biocidal Products regulation (BPR)
- Support safer alternatives
- Full transparency of assessments
- Ban the production and export of restricted and banned EDCs

### Leverage the REACH reform to strengthen protection against EDCs:

- Recognise EDCs as substances of very high concern (SVHCs)
- Update information requirements under REACH annexes
- Introduce a mixture assessment factor (MAF) into chemical assessments
- Extend generic risk considerations (GRA) to EDCs

### Deliver an ambitious revision of consumer product legislation:

- No exemptions for EDCs in consumer products
- No contamination of food by EDCs





# 3

## **Move towards an EDC-free circular economy and a non-toxic environment through better chemical transparency and traceability**

- Ban harmful chemicals
- Comprehensive tracking of substance information
- Ensure the right to know for all by making all information on chemicals easily accessible
- Enhance the database for information on substances of concern in articles or in products

# 4

## **Enhance scientific knowledge of the health and environmental effects of exposure to EDCs**

- Enhance science to policy by using results of EURION EU research project in the regulatory system
- Use New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) to accelerate regulatory decision making & increase the level of protection
- Act on biomonitoring data in decisions
- Integrate early warning signals in chemicals assessment reform



# 5

## Enhance public awareness of EDCs in line with EU's work on protecting citizens' health

- Evidence-based campaigns to educate the public on EDCs
- Targeted information for vulnerable populations
- Health sector awareness



# 6

## Bolster EU leadership in the international chemical governance

- Include ED hazard class in UN Globally Harmonized System (GHS)
- Ambitious Global Plastics Treaty
- Include EDCs in the Global Framework on Chemicals
- Include additional persistent organic pollutants (POPs) with endocrine disrupting properties in the Stockholm Convention
- Support international chemical policy processes
- Stop double standards in substance export
- Stop waste exports



# 7

## Strengthen access to justice and accountability

- Establish a right to trigger action from authorities
- Establish the right to require action such as injunctive relief and compensation from companies
- Harmonise sanction regimes



**EDC-Free Europe is a coalition of public interest groups representing more than 70 environmental, health, women's and consumer groups across Europe who share a concern about hormone disrupting chemicals (EDCs) and their impact on our health and wildlife.**

Campaign partners include trade unions, consumers, public health and healthcare professionals, advocates for cancer prevention, environmentalists and women's groups.

The EDC-Free Europe secretariat is hosted by the Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL). HEAL's EU transparency register number: 00723343929-96



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