

Country Visit Austria – Leena Ylä-Mononen

Executive-Director European Environment Agency (EEA)

Date: Monday, June 10th 2024 2:30pm–5:30pm

Location: BMK, Radetzkystraße 2, 1030 Vienna, Banquet Hall

Temperature records have been falling like dominoes since mid-2023: Globally, 2023 was the warmest year on record with a deviation of +1.48°C. Species and biodiversity loss not only exacerbate the climate crisis, but also cause enormous economic damage. The European Green Deal was a first ray of hope, a milestone that will enable us to change course in time. However, the latest political developments indicate that future European policy will prioritise something other than the prolongation of the green transition.

Who, if not the Executive-Director (ED) of the EEA, is predestined to give us an overview of the current status quo of European environmental policy in the aftermath of the European Parliament elections? The EP elections mark an important decision on the direction in which European environmental policy will develop.

ED Leena Ylä Mononen will be visiting the BMK on June 10th as part of her country visit. The European Environment Agency fulfils a number of important tasks in the environmental context within and outside the EU. Above all to support the EU in the best possible way with technically sound expertise in order to make the right decisions regarding an improvement of the current state of the environment, taking into account the integration of ecological aspects into economic and social policy issues.

The event will be opened by the Austrian Minister for Climate Action Leonore Gewessler. Expert interventions and a panel discussion on the future of European environmental policy will complete the event.

Agenda

2:30pm

Session 1 – Setting the Scene

- **Leonore Gewessler** Minister for Climate Action – Welcome
- **Leena Ylä-Mononen** Executive Director EEA – What is the impact of the EEA and its key role in achieving a sustainable environment in the EU?

3:00pm

Session 2 – Thematic block

- **Luc Bas** Director – Climate and Environment Risk Assessment Center
Triple planetary crisis - How do we manage the turnaround?
- **Tobias Lung** Expert SOER Coordination and Assessment – EEA
The European environment — state and outlook – update
- **Irene Heemskerck** Head of the Climate Change Centre – European Central Bank
The need for a green, orderly and just transition, a perspective from a central bank

4:00pm

Session 3 - Panel Discussion

After the EU elections 2024 – Quo Vadis environmental policy – why do we need a new green pact?

Participants

- **Leena Ylä-Mononen** Executive Director, European Environment Agency
- **Verena Ehold** Managing Director, Umweltbundesamt, Vienna
- **Martin Selmayr** Visiting Professor at the Institute for Innovation and Digitalisation in Law at the University of Vienna, former Secretary General of the European Commission
- **Katharina Rogenhofer** Chair- & Spokeswoman, Kontext Institute, Vienna
- **Bernhard Zlanabitz** Vice-President, European Environmental Bureau, Brussels - Director, EU Umweltbüro, Vienna

Moderator: Gerald Berger

5:30pm

End of Meeting



European
Environment
Agency

umweltbundesamt^U
ENVIRONMENT AGENCY AUSTRIA

Note

The event will be held in English. This is a hybrid workshop. When registering, please indicate whether you are attending in person or virtually. The link to the event will be provided at a later date.

Please register by e-mail to: karoline.redl@bmk.gv.at;
registration deadline is Monday, 27 May 2024.

Legal notice

Media owner, publisher, editor:

Federal Ministry of Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology,
Radetzkystraße 2, 1030 Vienna, Austria