



EurEau

Brussels, 11 December 2019

Commissioner Virginijus Sinkevičius
BERL, Rue de la Loi 200
1040 Brussels

Request for a meeting with EurEau on water policy

Dear Commissioner Sinkevičius,

EurEau, the European Federation of National Association of Water Services, would like to congratulate you on your appointment as Commissioner for the Environment & Oceans.

We would like to request a meeting with you to discuss the review of the European Union's water legislation in the light of the proposed Green Deal and the Zero Pollution Ambition. EurEau sees these initiatives as opportunities to work towards a sustainable protection of our water resources.

EurEau represents both drinking water and waste water operators and as you are aware, our water resources are increasingly contaminated by different kinds of well-known and emerging pollutants. Effective control-at-source measures must be the starting point of any mitigation strategy. Should additional measures become necessary at the end of the value chain, for example by installing additional drinking water or waste water treatment steps, the polluters should be held financially responsible, as enshrined in article 191.2 TFEU and article 9 of the Water Framework Directive.

In this context, we have just finalised a comprehensive study to determine how EU legislation needs to change in order to achieve zero pollution for our water resources. It starts from control-at-source measures and proposes ways to implement the polluter-pays principle.

To discuss the above topics, we would be very grateful if you could suggest some slots for a meeting according to your availabilities.

I would like to thank you, Commissioner Sinkevičius, for the consideration you will give to our request.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Claudia Castell-Exner,
President