

A photograph of an industrial facility with several tall, red and white striped smokestacks. Thick white smoke is rising from the stacks, filling the upper half of the frame. The sky is a mix of orange, pink, and grey, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. In the foreground, the rooftops of a city are visible, with a construction crane on the left and modern buildings on the right.

Contemporary European Politics

# Pollution in Europe

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# What is Pollution ?

- Pollution is the introduction of harmful materials into the environment. Landfills collect garbage and other land pollution in a central location. Many places are running out of space for landfills.

# PLAN

- **CURRENT SITUATION**

- A) Air pollution

- B) Oceans' pollution

- C) Soils' pollution

- **FUTURE DANGERS**

- A) Diseases' development

- B) Biodiversity : disappearance of animal species


- C) Global warming : environmental impacts

- **SOLUTIONS**

- A) Government's propositions

- B) Our proper solutions





# **Current situation**

# AIR POLLUTION

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## What is it ?

**Air pollution** can be defined as the presence of toxic chemicals or compounds (including those of biological origin) in the air

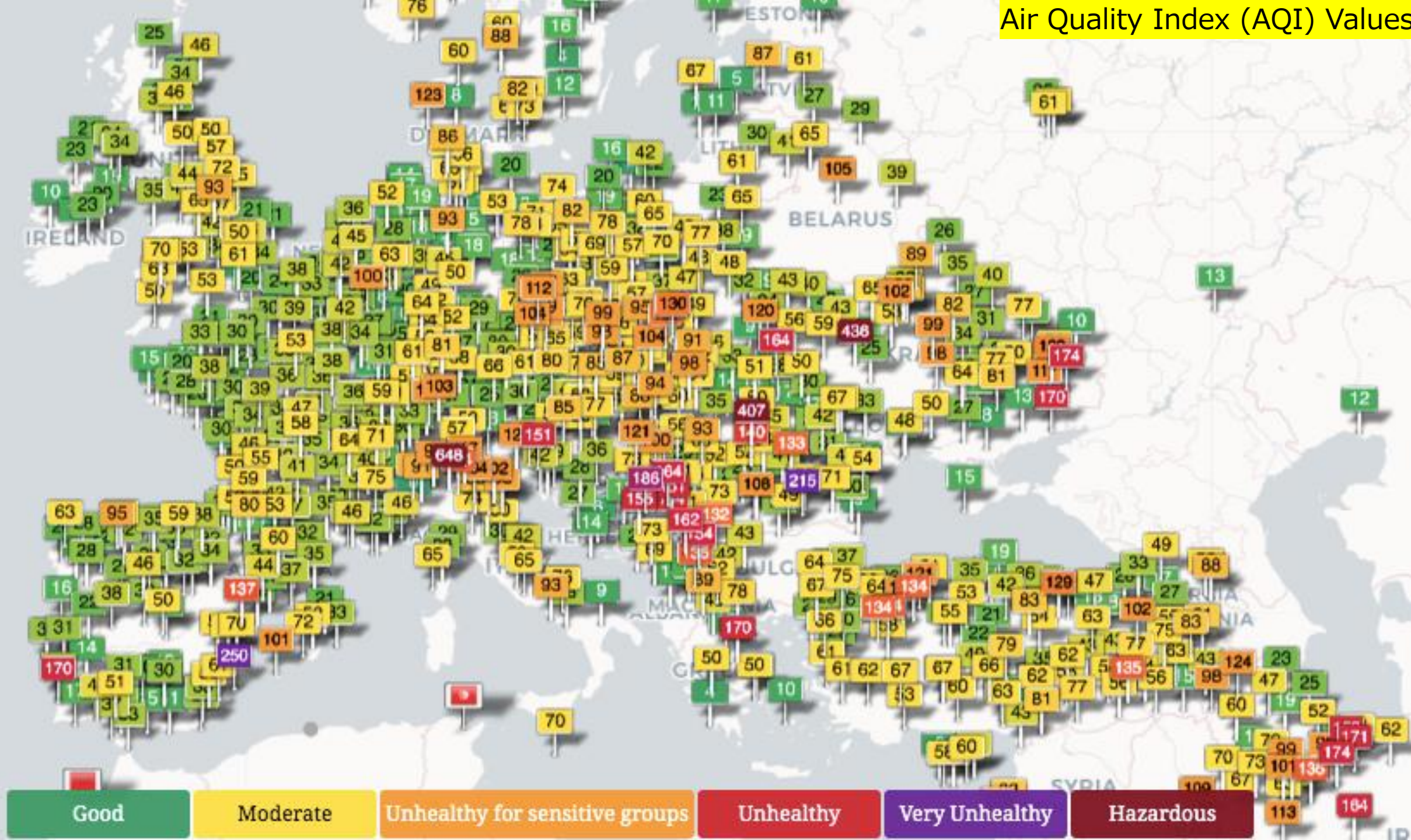
## What are the causes ?

- Combustion from Industry
- Transportation Emissions
- Agriculture Side-Effects
- Home Heating
- Volcano Eruptions
- Forest Fires
- Tobacco Smoke





# Air Quality Index (AQI) Values







# OCEANS' POLLUTION

What is it ?

- When billions of pounds of trash and other pollutants enter the ocean
- 8 million tons of garbage/year arrive through the oceans around the globe
- End up on the beaches, or accumulated in the gyres, others sink or are eaten by some marine animals



# What ?

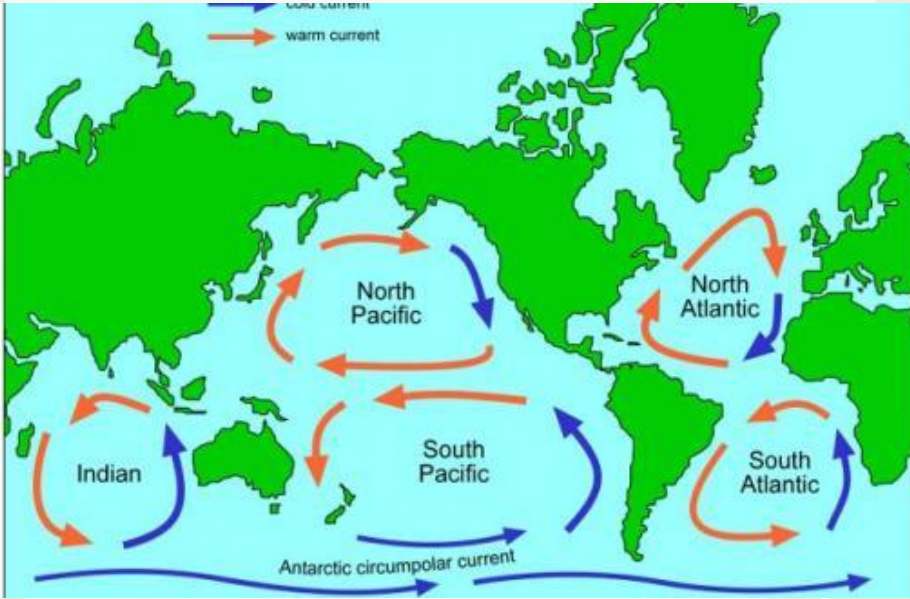
- many different sort of debris, from the micro plastics to vessels

# Causes ?

- oil / fertilizers spills' points
- the human activities (vehicles / farms)
- bad management practices (companies : e.g. chemical)
- storms
- extreme natural events (hurricanes / tsunamis)

# Debris' journey ?

- garbage patches formed by gyres
- 5 big gyres : 1 in the Indian ocean, 2 in the Atlantic Ocean and 2 in the Pacific ocean





# SOILS' POLLUTION

- **What is it ?**

- Soil pollution is the pollution of any type of soil (Agricultural, Forest, Urban,...)
- Irregular concentration of chemical products

- **What are the causes?**

They are mainly due to the human activity...

- Industrial infrastructures
- The use of phytosanitary products
- The actions of local and regional authorities

... But also due Geographically distant events : Natural or Technological

**More than 80% of the soil in Europe contain pesticide residues**



# **Future dangers**





# DISEASES' DEVELOPMENT

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## **Concerning Air Pollution :**

- An increase in respiratory diseases
- An increase in eye irritation
- Increased cardiovascular morbidity (fine particles).
- Degradation of the body's defences to microbial infections

## **Concerning Ocean' Pollution**

- They can sharp and can carry diseases.
- Plastic microparticles are ingested by marine species, so these pollutants seem to enter the food chain and find themselves... in our plates.

## **Concerning Soils Pollution:**

- impact on food security
- the population may be induced to inhale the dangerous elements

According to the European Environment Agency, more than 1 in 8 deaths are related to pollution in Europe, in its various forms.

# BIODIVERSITY: DISAPPEARANCE OF ANIMAL SPECIES



- seriously threatened with extinction when its population is broken up
- 9 species out of 10 disappeared
- hunting, deforestation, pollution, the illicit trade of wild animals, climatic changes
- obliged to move forward
- encountered many issues to find food to eat
- the decrease of births, which represents the slow disappearance of species



# GLOBAL WARMING: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

- About 10% of the CO2 emission are coming from Europe
- Between 2021 and 2050, the average temperature in Europe will rise by 1.5° compared to the reference period 1960-1990.
- Some scientists are forecasting a growth of 7 degrees from now to 2100.
- Alarming





# **Solutions**



# Government's propositions

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- The abandonment of major road projects
- Adequate funding for greener transport solutions
- The banning of diesel and petrol vehicles
- The application of the polluter pays principle to freight transport
  
- The [Save our Seas Act of 2018](#) amends to reduce plastic waste but also its creation
- The [Marine Debris Act](#) to promote international action and to organize cleanup actions
- About the animal species' saving : the states are trying to organise “re-colonisation” operations and to extend green habitat, e.g. wildlife sanctuaries

# Our proper solutions

## OUR SOLUTIONS

- to do little things in order to make the mentality and habits change. E.g. : we can pick up the garbages that are on our path or choose walking rather than using our car.
- we can participate to several actions such as garbage picking on the beaches that are not far from our home.
- Think of new ways of transport (buy a car with low consumption, carpooling, public transports,...)





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