



EEB
European
Environmental
Bureau

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION PACK



About the EEB

We are the largest and most inclusive European network of environmental citizens' groups – and the only one that works on such a broad range of issues. We advocate for progressive policies to create a better environment in the European Union and beyond.

Our vision is a better future where people and nature thrive together.

The next generation deserves a healthy planet. We believe in a world where equal, just, peaceful and democratic societies can prosper. A world with rich biodiversity and a safe climate. A world where laws and policies promote health and wellbeing while respecting nature. We believe that Europe has a crucial role to play in building this future.

The EEB stands for sustainable development, environmental justice, global equity, transparency and participatory democracy. It promotes the principles of prevention, precaution and the polluter pays. For over 50 years, the EEB has been the voice of its members and environmentally concerned citizens, leading the fight for a strong environmental and sustainability policy throughout Europe and beyond.

Which issues does the EEB focus on?

The EEB tackles Europe's most pressing environmental problems by agenda setting, monitoring, advising on and influencing the way the EU deals with these issues. These include issues such as climate change, biodiversity, circular economy, air, water, soil, chemical pollution, as well as policies on industry, energy, agriculture, product design and waste prevention among others. We are also active on overarching issues as sustainable development, good governance, participatory democracy and the rule of law in Europe and beyond.

While the primary focus of the EEB's work is on the EU and its decision-making processes, we work also on wider regional and global processes, at the level of the UN and the OECD, in particular on the Global Agenda for Sustainable Development. Further, with the enlargement of Europe, the EEB has increased its cooperation with Eastern European environmental organisations, helping them use European regulations to strengthen their national environmental policies.

What makes the EEB unique?

It is the only European umbrella organisation that covers such a large number of environmental policy issues and is at the same time open to membership for all genuine NGOs active in the field of the environment. This makes the EEB a unique and unifying actor for the European environmental movement and gives it a strong voice in EU and international policy processes.

Effective media and coalition building

The EEB has a track record of effective coalition building, working with other environmental groups, such as through the Green 10, as well as social and development organisations, trade unions and progressive industries to advocate for environmentally friendly and socially just EU policies. On an international level, we work in collaboration with many networks in the Global South on environmental justice, human rights and sustainable consumption and production. Communication work is an integral part of EEB advocacy with our media networks at the European and grassroots level ensuring an effective complement to direct advocacy and mobilisation.

How we work with our members



General Assembly

The full membership meets once a year in the configuration of the General Assembly, the highest-level decision-making body, to adopt long-term strategies and annual work programmes and budgets.



Board and Council

Consisting of a representative from each country where the EEB has a full member as well as European member representatives and individual representatives, the Council provides input to EEB documents and takes decisions on horizontal policies that are not covered by the thematic working groups. It also helps to mobilize and provide feedback from the broader membership.

The Board is in charge of preparing the meetings of the General Assembly, strategic planning and overseeing the operational aspects of the organisation. All Board members are also members of the Council. Council and Board meetings are chaired by the EEB President.



Working Groups

We have a dedicated Working Group for many of the environmental issues that we cover. Most Working Groups meet once or twice a year to develop EEB policies and strategies and for debates with policy makers and invited experts. The EEB works to promote our members' demands at European and global level. In between meetings, we use mailing lists to facilitate information exchange, discussions, monitoring of policy developments and the organization of campaign and lobby work.



EEB Team Support

The EEB Brussels team support our members with dedicated teams working on policy, communications, membership engagement, project management, campaigning, finance, fundraising, development, HR, IT and administration.

Our membership categories

The EEB statutes include information on the EEB's objectives, structure and functioning as well as on membership and the membership application procedure. Please consult the [full statutes](#) before submitting your application.

The EEB has three membership categories: full members, associate members and honorary members.

The first two categories are for organisations; the third, honorary membership, is a status conferred on a small number of individuals on the basis of the moral support they have given or work they have undertaken towards protecting the environment. Only full members have formal decision-making powers; the other two categories enjoy other benefits.

Criteria	Full member	Associate member
Non-governmental organisation	✓	✓
Legal entity in its own right	✓	✓
Registered in the EU, applicant for EU membership, Eastern Partnership or located in Europe.	✓	X
Major part of its members originates from these countries	✓	X
Main objective conservation, promotion, and study of the environment with the aim of environmental protection	✓	Active in the field of environment protection or related field, not required that environment is the main objective.
Activities on a continuous basis	✓	X
Independent of any commercial, industrial, governmental, or party-political influence or interest	✓	Independence of any potentially harmful commercial, industrial, governmental, or party-political influence or interest. *
General Assembly (Annual General Meeting – AGM)	Right to speak and vote at the AGM if all membership fees paid.	Can attend meetings of the AGM in an advisory capacity, with no right to vote.
Engagement in the work of the EEB	Can engage in all the EEB's work	Can take part in some of the EEB's work and are entitled to receive some of its publications.
Can nominate a candidate for honorary membership.	✓	X
Can participate in nominations of Board Members and have their representative stand for election.	✓	X
* Decisions are taken on a case-by-case basis though as a rule for-profit companies, trade and industry associations and certification organisations that are too linked to business and for-profit interests are not considered eligible for membership		
✓ Yes / necessary criterion / access	X No / unnecessary criterion / no access	

Benefits

	Access to EEB Working Groups	Access to EEB Information	Right to contribution to travel and accommodation costs for attending EEB events	AGM Participation/ Decision making
Full Members	✓	✓	✓	✓ / ✓
Associate Members	✓	✓	X	✓ / X

Membership Types

National members and European members

Apart from the above membership categories, member organisations are also identified as being national, European or 'other'. National member organisations are those that are primarily active at national level within a given country, whereas European member organisations are those that are primarily active at European level (more precise definitions have been established by the General Assembly).

The distinction becomes relevant (at least for full members) in relation to the Board and Council composition, which has some seats for representatives of national members and others for representatives of European members.



MEMBERSHIP FEES

Member organisations are liable for an annual membership fee. A schedule of fees is adopted periodically by the General Assembly. The current schedule covers the period from 2023 to 2027 inclusive. The annual membership fee is based on the member organisation's annual turnover.

Full members pay 100% of the annual membership fee indicated in the following table and associate members pay 50% of the annual membership fee.

Total amount of annual income in €		Category	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE - Full member (Associate members pay 50%)				
From	Up to		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
0	50,000	1	242	246	251	256	261
50,000	100,000	2	362	370	377	384	392
100,000	250,000	3	697	714	732	751	769
250,000	500,000	4	1,046	1,072	1,098	1,126	1,154
500,000	750,000	5	1,580	1,628	1,677	1,727	1,779
750,000	1,000,000	6	2,371	2,442	2,515	2,590	2,668
1,000,000	1,500,000	7	3,838	3,972	4,111	4,255	4,404
1,500,000	2,000,000	8	4,691	4,855	5,025	5,201	5,383
2,000,000	5,000,000	9	6,816	7,089	7,372	7,667	7,974
5,000,000	10,000,000	10	8,331	8,664	9,010	9,371	9,746
10,000,000	20,000,000	11	9,221	9,636	10,069	10,522	10,996
20,000,000		12	11,270	11,777	12,307	12,861	13,439

What we offer

Close co-operation on the most pressing environmental issues with environmentalists from all over Europe

The EEB offers close co-operation, networking, information exchange and capacity building on almost all the main environmental issues and the EEB is also increasingly working on sustainable development issues at a global level.

Tailor-made information about what is happening at EU level in the field of the environment and tools to help you in your advocacy work back home

We analyse current EU affairs and keep our members informed about upcoming initiatives. We also provide our members with communication tools such as well-researched publications and statements to help them push for strong EU environmental and sustainability policies at national level.

Dedicated Working Groups on the majority of the issues covered by the EEB

Learn and exchange with colleagues and invited experts from all over Europe. Full and associate members can join as many Working Groups as they want.

Contributions towards travel and accommodation costs to attend EEB events

The EEB has a dedicated budget to cover the costs of travel and accommodation for at least one representative of its full members to participate in the EEB's Annual General Meeting (AGM). The AGM is usually organised in Brussels or co-organised with an EEB member elsewhere. It is often combined with engaging workshops for members and/or a public conference with high-level speakers and debates on the most pressing environmental issues at the moment. When an EEB Working Group organises a meeting for its members it usually has a dedicated budget to cover travel and accommodation for one representative of a full member per country and, if the budget allows, of more representatives per country. In exceptional cases, where funds permit, the EEB may cover the costs of representatives from associate members to participate in the AGM or Working Group meetings.

Visibility and outreach

We give visibility to our members on our website and the possibility to promote members' activities and partner search via our communication tools (social media, newsletter etc.).

Join us!

Application Procedure

Once a potential member has filled out the application form and sent it to the EEB secretariat, we will nominate two scrutineers to review the application. In the case of a national NGO, one of the scrutineers will be the EEB Council Member in the applicant's country. The scrutineers will review the application and make a recommendation to the EEB Board which will then make a recommendation to the General Assembly.

The General Assembly decides upon all applications for membership on the basis of the recommendations from the Board once a year at the EEB's Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Organisations interested in membership are encouraged to join one or two of the EEB's Working Groups (see list on our website) for a three-month trial period. Joining a Working Group is the best way to better understand how the EEB works!

EEB members responsibility

All EEB members are expected to:

- Promote and give visibility to the EEB via their own communication channels (website, social media, publications etc.).
- Appoint an EEB Contact Person responsible for keeping colleagues up to date about EEB activities and opportunities.
- Encourage colleagues to subscribe to the different EEB mailing lists (newsletter, working groups etc.) and help the EEB to keep the mailing lists up to date by informing the EEB secretariat about any changes.
- Respond to requests from the EEB (surveys, calls for action, campaigns etc.).
- Take an active part in the activities of the network. Members with voting rights are encouraged to attend the Annual General Meeting.
- Pay the annual membership fee and inform the EEB in case of difficulties to pay on time.

Contact

For questions about EEB membership, please contact the EEB membership team at membership.team@eeb.org.





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EC register for interest representatives:

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RPM Tribunal de l'entreprise francophone de Bruxelles