EUROPEAN WATER ASSOCIATION

24.11.2026

VIVAQUA, Brussels

20th EWA Brussels Conference:

Water Security in a Europe Under Pressure



Europe's water sector is under increasing pressure from water scarcity, floods, pollution, climate change, ageing infrastructure and growing skills shortages.

At the same time, ambitious EU policies must be translated into effective action on the ground.

The **20th EWA Brussels Conference**, taking place on **24 November 2026** at VIVAQUA, Brussels, will bring together representatives from European institutions, water utilities, national associations, academia and industry to discuss how Europe can strengthen water security and resilience.

Under the theme "**Water Security in a Europe Under Pressure**", the conference will explore four key topics:

- **Delivering Europe´s Water Policy**
- **Water Security in a Changing Climate**
- **UWWTD: From Policy to Practice**
- **Building the Future Water Workforce**

Through keynote presentations, panel discussions and practical case studies, participants will exchange experiences and identify solutions to help deliver Europe's water ambitions.

Participants are also invited to network and connect over a drink at the end of the conference.

Join us on November 24th at VIVAQUA, Bd de l'Impératrice 17/19, 1000 Brussels, Belgium.

Registration Fee: *(coffee and lunch break included)*

195 € Non EWA Member
175 € EWA Member

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PROGRAM

09:30 - 09:35	Welcome Address	**Harsha Ratnaweera,** EWA President
SESSION 1 : Delivering Europe´s Water Policy		***Moderation:*** *Elisabeta Poci, EWA Vice-President & Executive Director, SHUKALB*
09:35 - 09:50	Keynote: **Europe's water resilience agenda — what must happen next?**	To be confirmed
09:50 - 10:50	Roundtable: **Delivering Europe's Water Acquis Under Pressure** Q&A	**Keynote speaker** and **Arnaud Valleteau,** CEO Engineering & Procurement Project Activity, VEOLIA Water Technologies EWA Representative
10:50 - 11:15	Coffee Break offered by the **Danish Water Forum** (DWF)	
SESSION 2 : Water Security in a Changing Climate		***Moderation:*** *Fruzsina Földes, Projects and International Cooperations, ÖWAV*
11:15 - 12:20	**Water & Climate change adaptation and mitigation**	**Joachim D'Eugenio,** Policy Adviser for Zero Pollution, DG Environment, European Commission **Christoph Leptien,** Senior Policy Officer, DWA **Dieter Schreurs,** Sustainability Manager, Pipelife
12:20 - 13:30	Lunch Break	
SESSION 3 : UWWTD: From Policy to Practice		***Moderation:*** *Arthur Guischet, Secretary General, EWA*
13:30 - 15:30	Impulse Panel: **Are Member States ready for predictable implementation?** and Q&A	**Helge Elisabeth Zeitler,** Team Leader Urban Wastewater, DG Environment, European Commission **Denis Snidaro,** President of the ASTEE Assainissement Commission, Suez Eau France **Tania Pentcheva**, Director Europe Government and Industry Relations, Xylem **Jo Severyns**, Manager International Relations & Advisor R&D, Aquafin NV **Dr.-Ing. Jan Ruppelt,** Director of Technical Services, Ruhrverband **Dr. Ioannis Mandilares,** Head of Electromechanical Installations, Wastewater Treatment Plant, EYDAP S.A
15:30 - 15:55	Coffee Break offered by the **Danish Water Forum** (DWF)	
SESSION 4 : Building the Future Water Workforce		***Moderation:*** *Claudia Topalli, Head of EU Affairs and Government Relations, IDEXX*
15:55 - 16:40	Impulse + discussion and Q&A	**Andrei Bunis,** Policy Officer, Unit EMPL.B.5, European Commission **Monica Isacu,** Head of the Urban Drainage Committee, Romanian Water Association To be confirmed
16:40 - 16:45	Conclusion & Invitation to network over drinks	**Harsha Ratnaweera,** EWA President

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