

Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution



UNECE

What we do for you:

Reducing air pollution to save lives and protect the environment

Did you know that...?

- ...The air you breathe contains many pollutants
- ...Air pollution has many sources, including agriculture and residential heating
- ...Usually invisible, air pollutants can travel thousands of kilometres
- ...It's deadly: air pollution causes cancer, cardiovascular and respiratory diseases
- ...Air pollution destroys forests and kills fish by acidifying water
- ...It's expensive: air pollution destroys crops and increases health care costs
- ...Air pollution can cause climate change

Response

In **1979**, 32 countries signed the **UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution**, the first international treaty to deal with air pollution. The Convention and its protocols cover numerous pollutants including **sulphur dioxide, ground-level ozone precursors – nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds – ammonia, persistent organic pollutants, heavy metals, and particulate matter, including black carbon.**

Results

Emissions of sulphur reduced by 70% and nitrogen oxides by 40% since 1990
Fifty-one UNECE member States are now Parties to the Convention

What can I do to contribute to better air quality?



Use public transport, carpool, walk or cycle
Install filters in your fireplace and use dry wood



For questions and further information:
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