

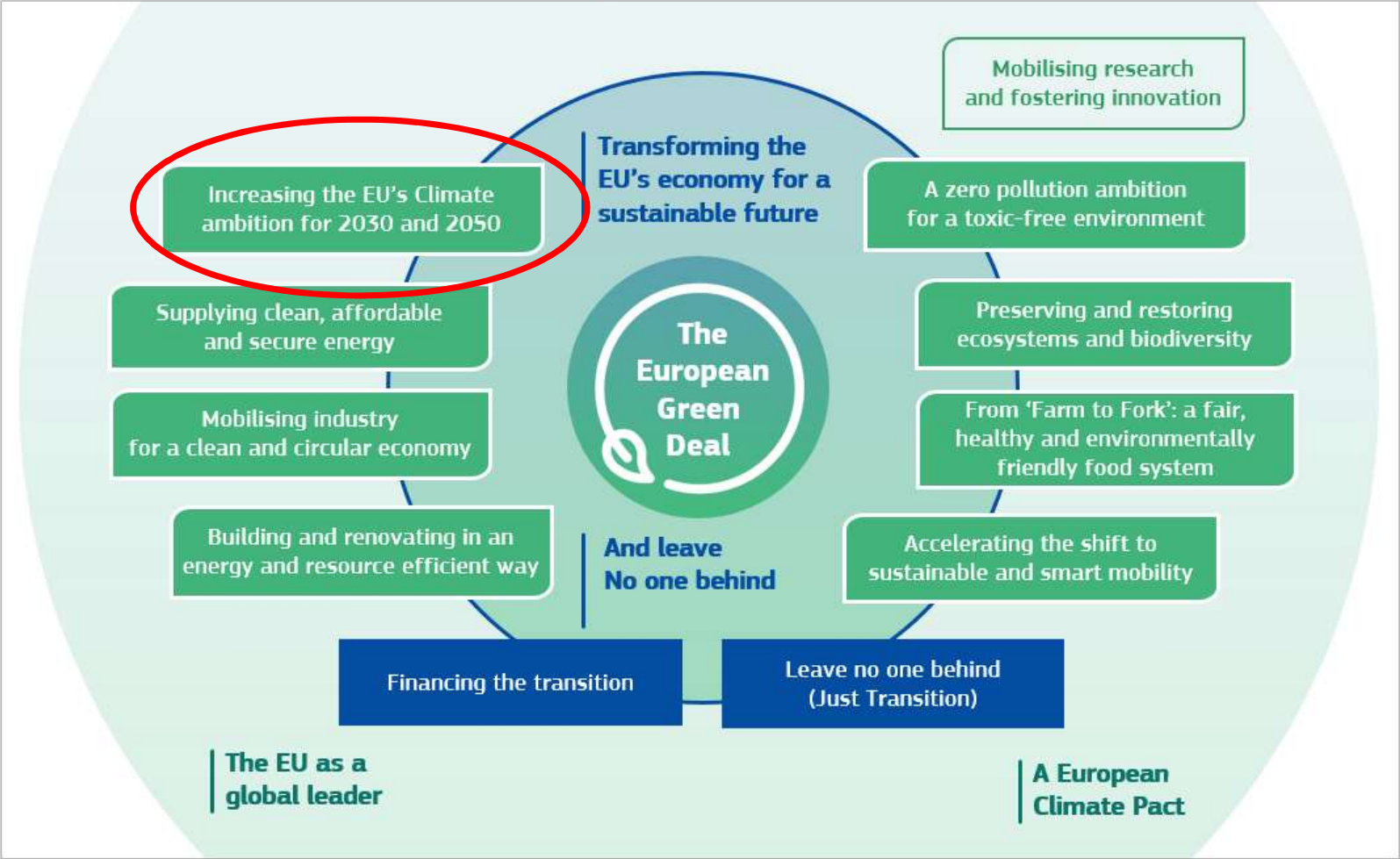


Coming soon:

EU Adaptation Strategy & European Climate and Health Observatory

Dr Peter Löffler
European Commission, DG CLIMA
SAPEA webinar 'Climate Change and Health'
26 January 2021

The European Green Deal



A Union that strives for more

My agenda for Europe

By candidate for President

POLITICAL GUIDELINES
EUROPEAN COMMISSION



A Union that strives for more

For the generation of my parents, Europe was an aspiration of peace in a continent too long divided.

For my generation, Europe was an aspiration of peace, prosperity and unity that we brought to life through our single currency, free movement and enlargement.

For the generation of my children, Europe is a unique aspiration.

It is an aspiration of living in a natural and healthy continent. Of living in a society where you can be who you are, live where you like, love who you want and aim as high as you want. It is an aspiration of a world full of new technologies and age-old values. Of a Europe that takes the global lead on the major challenges of our times.

The people of Europe made their voice and their aspirations heard in record numbers at this year's European Parliament elections. They presented Europe's institutions and leaders with a clear task to be bold and to be decisive.

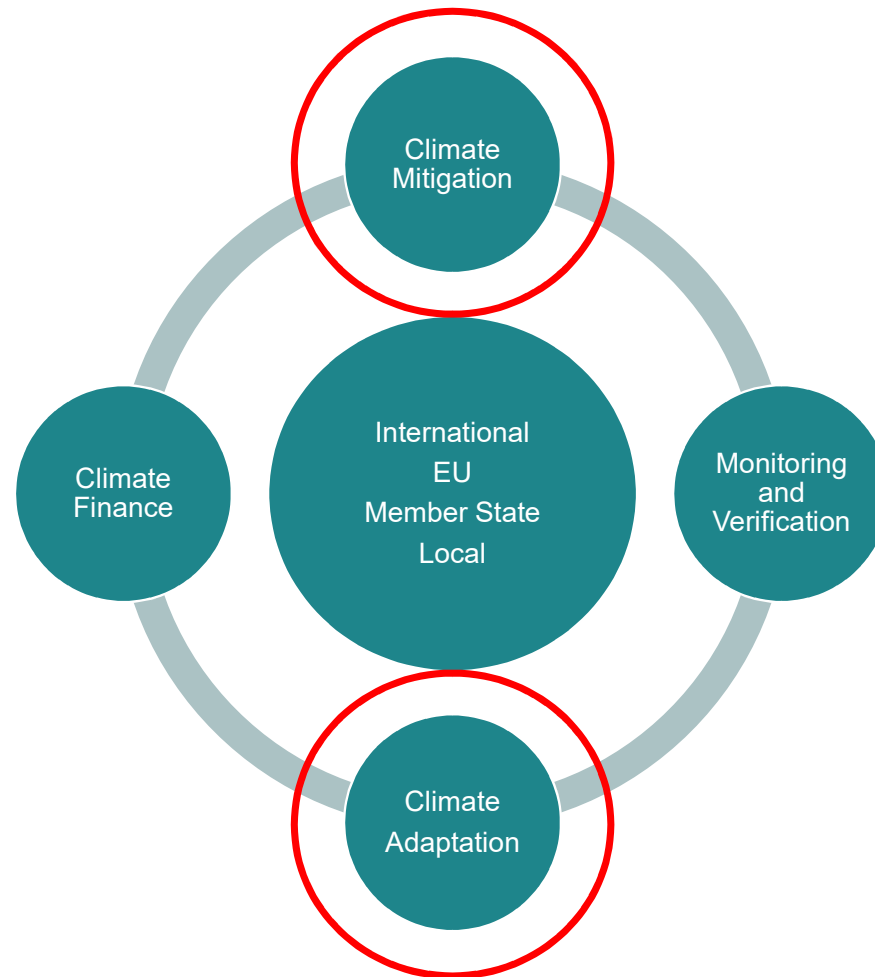
To match this aspiration with action, we must rediscover our unity and inner strength.

If elected, I will strengthen the links between people, nations and institutions. Between expectations and delivery. Between words and deeds. My Commission will listen to the people of Europe and be bold where it makes sense for us to act, leaving national, regional and local actors to deliver where they are best placed to do so.

“As a physician, I am passionate about health”

“European citizens’ health and the planet’s health go together”

Climate policies on all policy levels

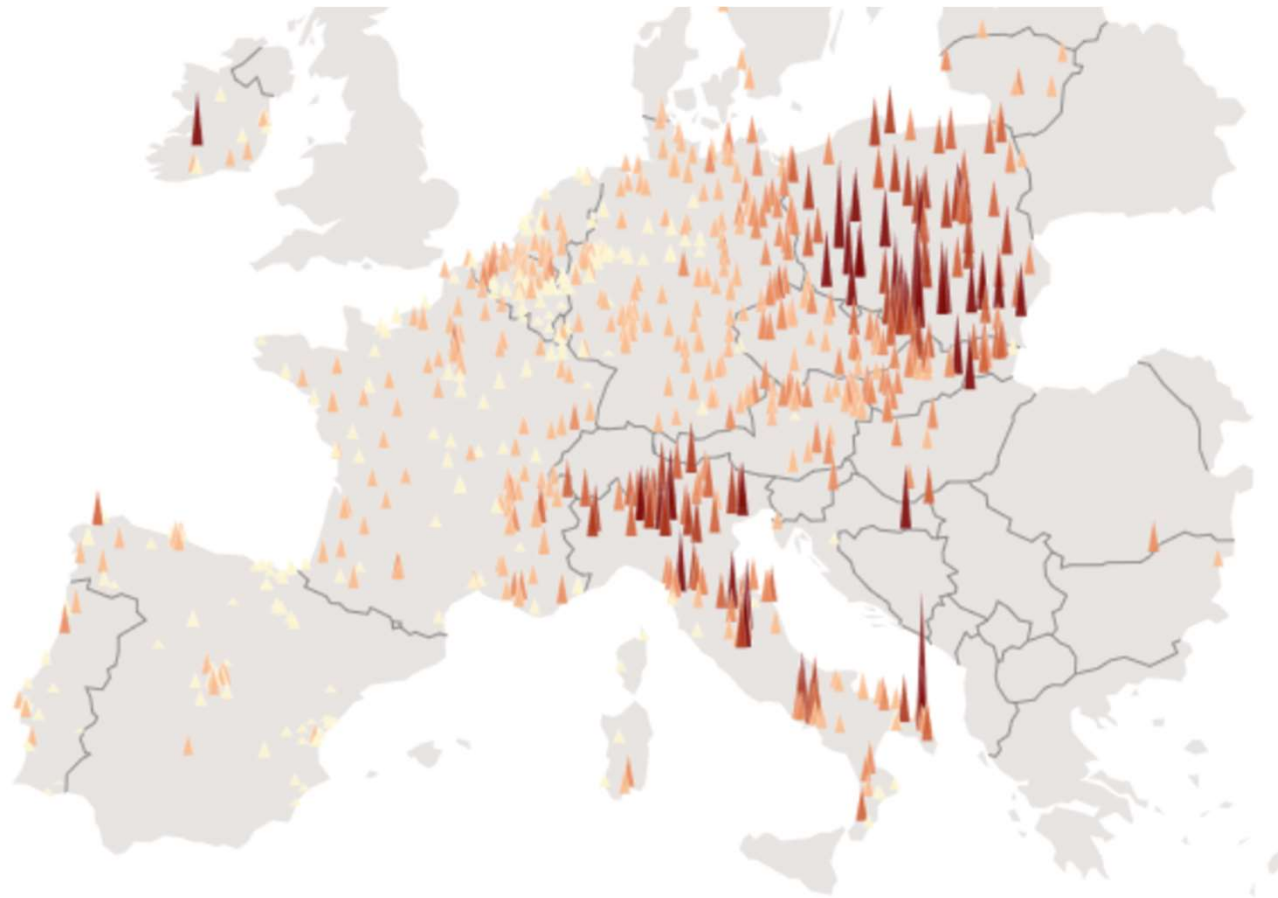




New EU climate targets, new EU Climate Law

- March 2020: EU long term strategy submitted to the UNFCCC committing to **climate neutrality by 2050**
- Climate neutrality by 2050 is in line with the Paris Agreement goals
- Commission also proposed in March a **Climate Law**, to enshrine climate neutrality target and adaptation legally
- September 2020: Commission puts forward a plan to further cut emissions by at least **55% by 2030**

Climate neutrality + decarbonising the economy = significant health co-benefits



Measured average
PM2.5 concentrations
in winter 2020/21

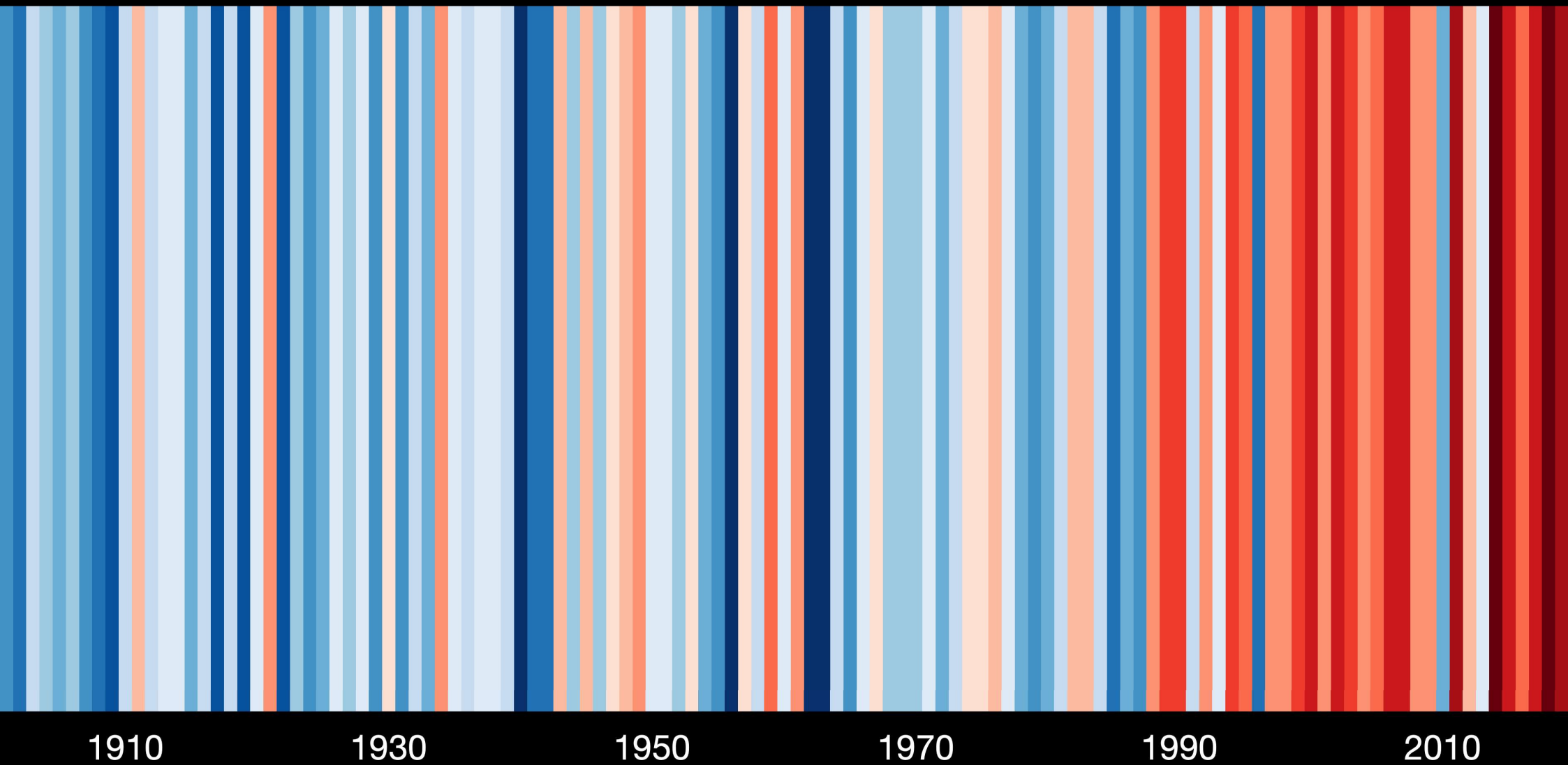


Climate change is here!



('Oops! This is a bit inconvenient right now! ... I had expected you only in a couple of decades!')

Temperature change in Belgium since 1901



Source: <https://showyourstripes.info>, based on data from Berkeley Earth, NOAA, UK Met Office, MeteoSwiss, DWD, SMHI, UoR, Meteo France & ZAMG



Time for adaptation! This means...

- anticipating the adverse effects of climate change
- taking appropriate action to prevent or minimise the damage they can cause
- taking advantage of opportunities that may arise



New EU Adaptation Strategy: the ambition

- Improve knowledge of climate impacts
- Reinforce planning and climate risk management
- Accelerate action with a focus on
 - *solutions* (in addition to understanding)
 - *innovation* (in addition to research)
 - *implementation* (in addition to planning)
 - *prevention* (in addition to ex-post)



New EU Adaptation Strategy: some key areas

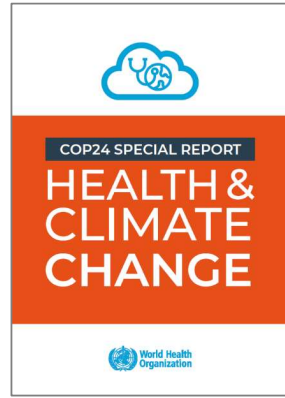
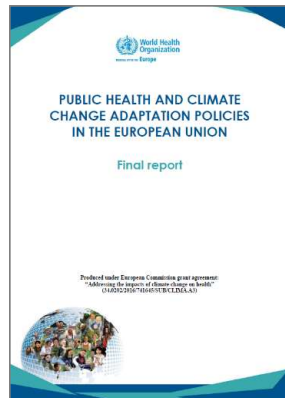
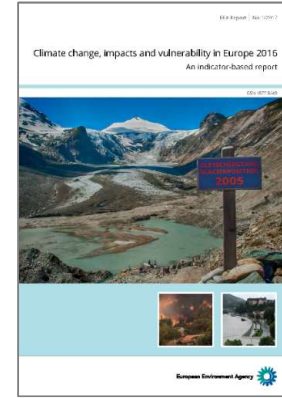
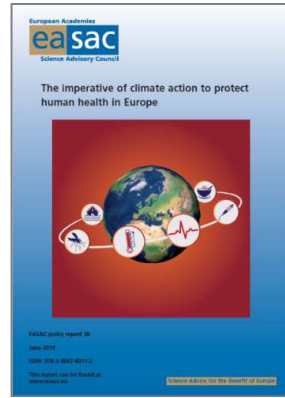
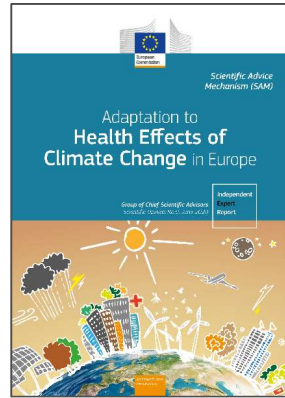
- **Finance & ‘climate protection gap’**
- **Data, knowledge, know-how**
- **Climate proofing of infrastructure, ‘build back better’**
- **Adapting forests, agriculture, ecosystems**
- **Working in and with cities and local communities**
- **Reinforced global action**
- **Last but not least: health!**



New EU Adaptation Strategy: timeline

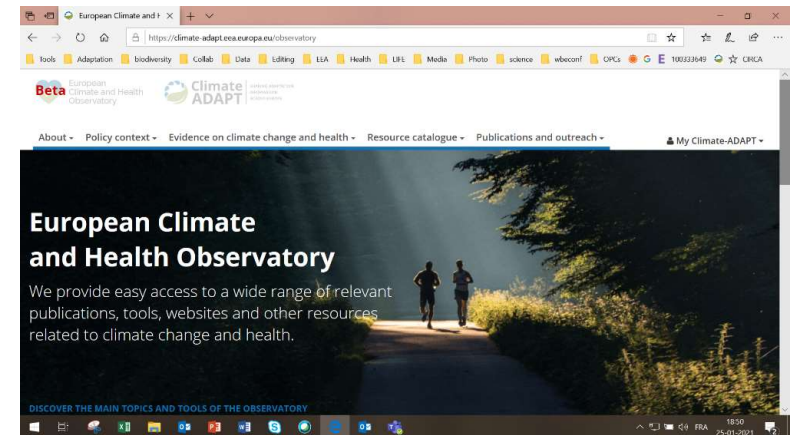
- **2019 Green Deal Communication**
 - *Announcement of the strategy*
- **2020 proposal for EU Climate Law**
 - *Article 4: adaptation a legal requirement*
- **2021: new EU Adaptation Strategy**
 - *expected in late February 2021*

Recent reports on climate change and health



European Climate and Health Observatory: Objectives

- Improve the knowledge base for policy making and practice
- Connect and pool knowledge, expertise, tools, organisations
- Facilitate learning across countries
- Support the EU Green Deal, EU4Health and the new EU Adaptation Strategy



European Climate and Health Observatory: Implementation

- Partnership led by European Commission and EEA
- Several other partner organisations involved and providing content
- Hosted on the Climate-ADAPT platform
- Covers 32 EEA member countries and 6 cooperating countries
- Launch of [pilot version](#) in February/March 2021

