

## WEEK IN BRUSSELS

Week ending Friday 28 September

### European Environment Agency publishes report on air quality

The European Environment Agency has published a report looking at air quality in Europe. The report demonstrates that a third of those living in European cities are exposed to excessive concentrations of airborne particulate matter (PM) as well as nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>). The EEA says that in 2010, 21 % of the European urban population was exposed to PM10 concentration levels higher than the most stringent daily EU limit value. Up to 30 % of the urban population was exposed to finer PM2.5 concentration levels above the (less stringent) yearly EU limit values. On levels NO<sub>2</sub> the report suggests that in 2010, 7% of Europeans living in cities were exposed to NO<sub>2</sub> levels above the EU limit values. The report also notes that national emissions of nitrogen oxides in many European countries still exceed emission ceilings set by EU legislation and under United Nations agreements. The European Commission is preparing a review of EU air quality legislation and will look further at air pollution policies in 2013. Environment Commissioner Janez Potočnik said: "This report is a timely reminder of how important air quality is to the health of our citizens. This is why I want 2013 to be the Year of Air and why I will focus on strengthening our air quality laws to tackle the problems identified today." (Source: EEA)

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/pressroom/newsreleases/many-europeans-still-exposed-to>

### ACEA publishes commercial vehicle registration figures

ACEA, the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association has published the latest European commercial vehicle registration statistics for August 2012. Overall, the figures show that demand was down 12.4% in August as downturn prevailed across the major European markets with Germany down 6.0% and the UK down 11.5%, France -2.9%, Spain - 21.4% and Italy -28.4%. Year-to-date statistics show that from January to August, commercial vehicle

registrations were down 10.3% compared to the same period in 2011. (Source: ACEA)

[http://www.acea.be/index.php/news/news\\_detail/commercial\\_vehicle\\_registrations\\_-\\_10.3\\_over\\_eight\\_months\\_-12.4\\_in\\_august](http://www.acea.be/index.php/news/news_detail/commercial_vehicle_registrations_-_10.3_over_eight_months_-12.4_in_august)



### Week ahead

#### European Commission

No relevant business

#### Council of Ministers

4 October: Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council

#### European Parliament – Group and committee week

No relevant business