



PRESS RELEASE

European Commission publishes smoke toxicity study report paving the way for further work to collect data and develop solutions

Brussels, 26 January 2018: The European Commission published the final report of its study to evaluate the need to regulate on the toxicity of smoke produced by construction products in fires. The conclusions of the report and its consultants, the BRE, state that "clear definition of terminology is lacking" and "the type and format of data collected varies across Member States, and, at present, statistics on smoke toxicity are not collected and therefore the effectiveness of potential measures cannot be assessed."

FSEU commends the work done by the European Commission on this study, which must be a first step towards further work. FSEU urges the European Commission to seize this opportunity to put forward a clear work plan for smoke toxicity, starting with data collection, and stands ready to support this work. FSEU firmly maintains its conviction that once the missing data is available, a European system for testing and classification of the toxicity of smoke from construction products should be developed to ensure a step change in people's fire safety in buildings.

The Fire Information Exchange Platform (FIEP), a new platform convened by the European Commission and launched in October has data collection as one of its five work streams. FSEU sees the FIEP as a great solution to collect data on smoke toxicity across EU countries and get a full picture of the issue. It will provide a solid basis for the European Commission to create, as suggested in the conclusions, "an agreed European system for testing and classification, with regulations and requirements at national level".

Lastly, FSEU is happy to see that the study rightly identifies the danger of smoke being able to enter safe zones and/or escape routes, and looks forward to this issue being considered in new or amended regulations.

about their "[European Fire Safety Association: Action plan for fire safety](#)". Krzysztof Biskup also mentioned that the next European Fire safety week will take place on 22nd of November 2021. Rene Hagen made an overview of their existing action plan for fire safety

About Fire Safe Europe

Fire Safe Europe (FSEU) was founded in 2011 as a broad and unique alliance of fire experts, fire fighters, international companies and European associations. Fires in buildings are now bigger, unpredictable and more dangerous than ever before. Together with our partners, we are campaigning for the European Parliament to show political leadership and demand action at European level to improve fire safety in Europe's buildings. [Read our call to action for a Fire Safety Strategy!](#)