

A photograph of a man and a woman in a forest. The woman, on the left, is wearing a green sweater and dark pants, and is pointing her right hand towards a tree. The man, on the right, is wearing a plaid shirt and jeans, and is also pointing his right hand towards the same tree. They are both looking up at the tree. The background is a dense forest with many trees and green foliage. The image has a green tint.

Forêts européennes

Présentation et enjeux politiques

A photograph of a dense forest with tall, slender trees and vibrant green foliage. In the lower center, a group of people is gathered, looking towards the background. A semi-transparent teal rectangle is overlaid on the image, containing the title text.

Forêts européennes: chiffres clef

La forêt européenne en quelques chiffres clef

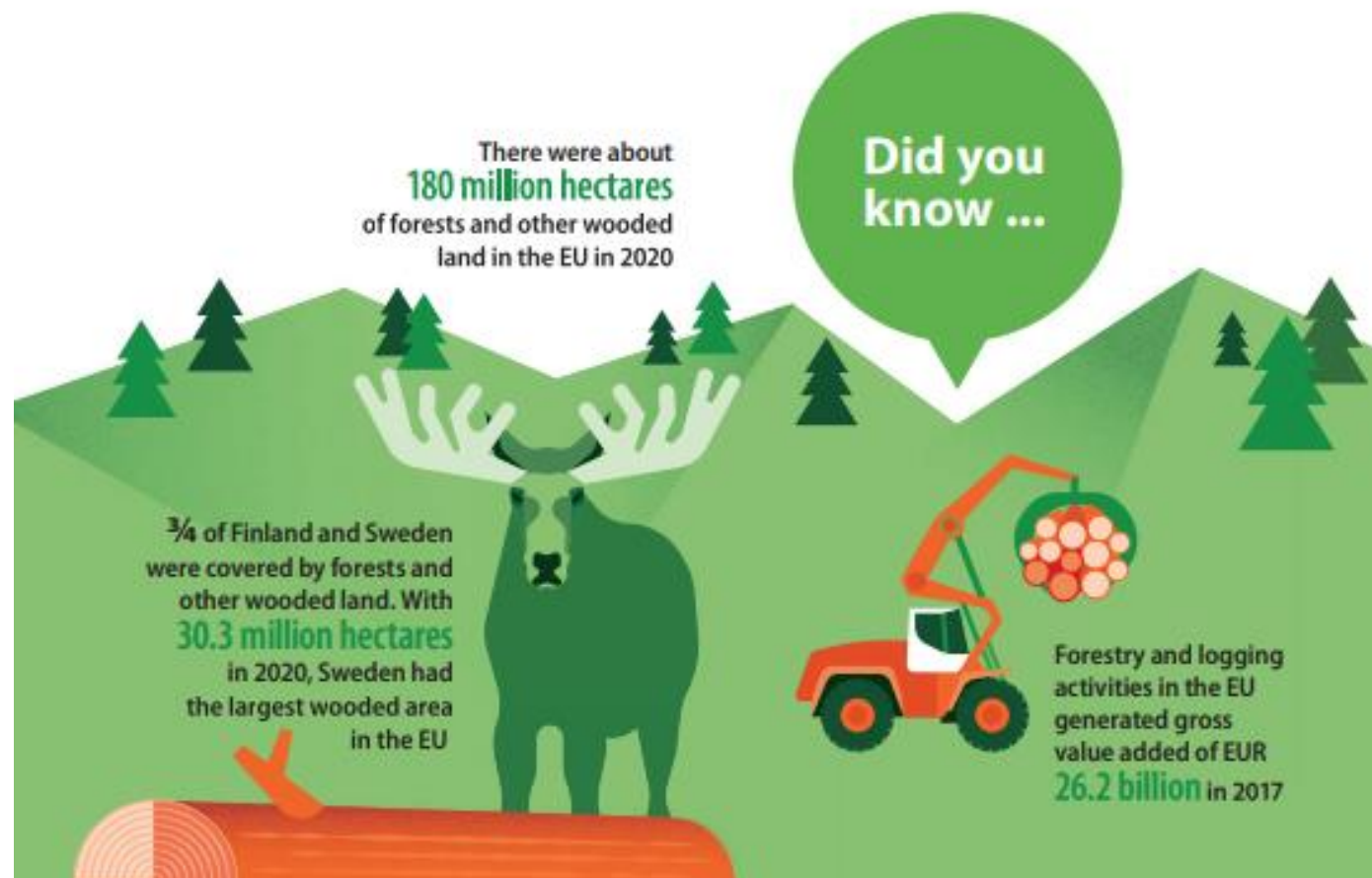
Entre 1990 et 2020:

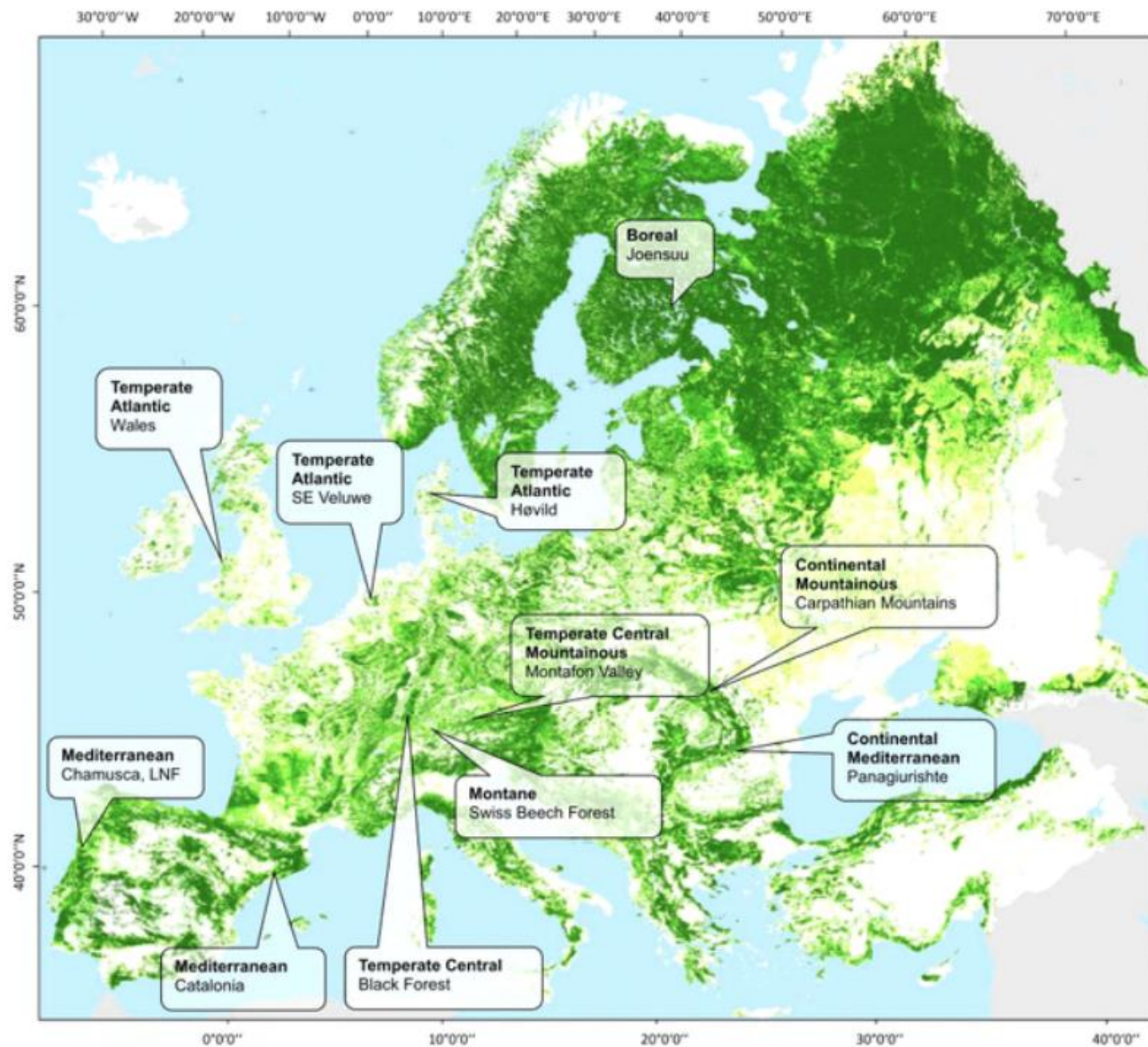
- Surface forestière: + 14 M d'hectares
- Volume de bois en forêt: + 9 milliards de m³
- Stock de carbone en forêt: +48%

50% des sites Natura 2000 sont des forêts

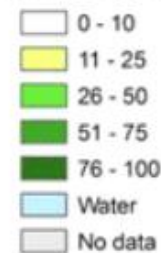
Seules 4 % des forêts européennes n'ont pas été modifiées par l'homme, 8 % sont des plantations et le reste appartient à la catégorie des forêts «semi-naturelles»

En 2019, on a récolté **63% de l'accroissement naturel** annuel





Proportion of forest from land area (% at 1km x 1km resolution)



0 250 500 750 Kilometers
ETRS89 Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area projection

Data Source: Earth observation data: EU27, AL, BA, CH, HR, ME, MK, NO, RS, TR: Forest/non-forest map 2006 (beta version) developed by the EC Joint Research Centre aggregated to 1km resolution. Based on IRS-P6 LISS-III SPOT4 (HRVIR) and SPOT5 HRG satellite data of 2006. Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine, Russian Federation, Forest share estimated based on AVHRR NOAA satellite data of 1996-1998. Statistical data: National forest inventory statistics, State of Europe's Forests country statistics 2011

References:

Kempeneers, P., Sedano, F., Seebach, L., Strobl, P., San-Miguel-Ayán, J. 2011: Data fusion of different spatial resolution remote sensing images applied to forest type mapping, IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing, in print.

Päivinen, R., Lehtikainen, M., Schuck, A., Häme, T., Väänänen, S., Kennedy, P., & Folving, S., 2001. Combining Earth Observation Data and Forest Statistics. EFI Research Report 14. European Forest Institute, Joint Research Centre - European Commission. EUR 19911 EN. 101p.

Schuck, A., Van Brusselen, J., Päivinen, R., Häme, T., Kennedy, P. and Folving, S., 2002. Compilation of a calibrated European forest map derived from NOAA-AVHRR data. European Forest Institute. EFI Internal Report 13, 44p. plus Annexes;

Contact: efisec@efi.net

European Forest Institute / EC Joint Research Centre



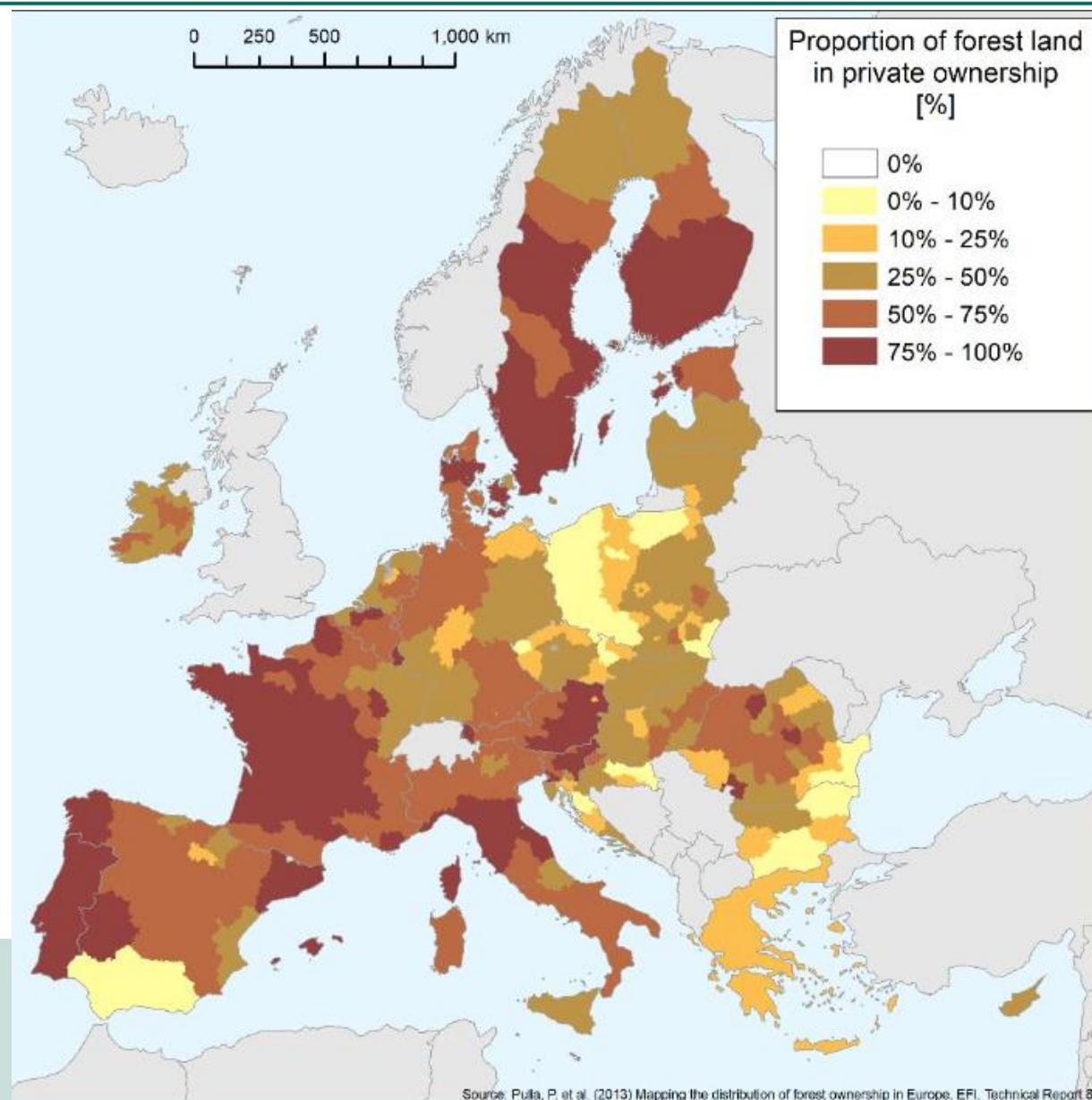


A photograph of a dense forest with tall, slender trees and vibrant green foliage. In the lower center, a group of people is gathered, looking towards the background. A semi-transparent teal box is overlaid on the image, containing the title text.

Qui sont les propriétaires forestiers européens?

La propriété forestière européenne

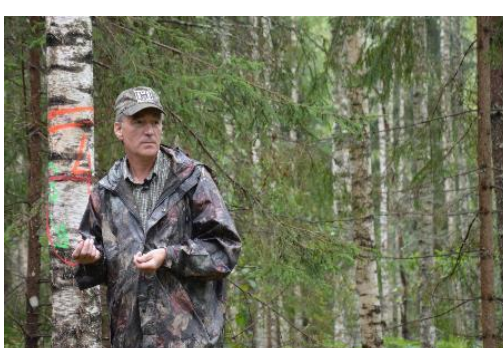
- 60% privée
- 40% publique



La propriété privée

- 15 millions de propriétaires forestiers
- ✓ 3.4 % de la population européenne
- ✓ 80% ont moins de 10 ha
- ✓ Diversité dans leur culture, âge, milieu social, objectifs, histoire familiale...Il y a autant de manière de gérer que de propriétaires forestiers



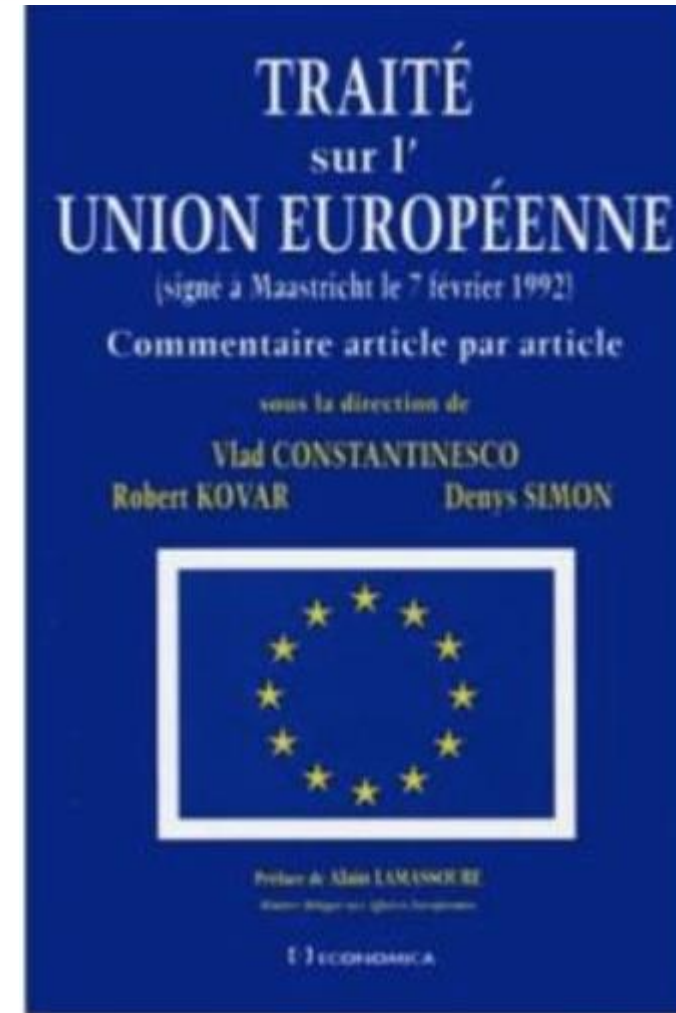


A photograph of a forest with several large tree trunks in the foreground and a dense canopy of green leaves in the background. Sunlight filters through the trees, creating a dappled light effect on the forest floor.

Contexte: politiques européennes concernant les forêts

Une question de compétences

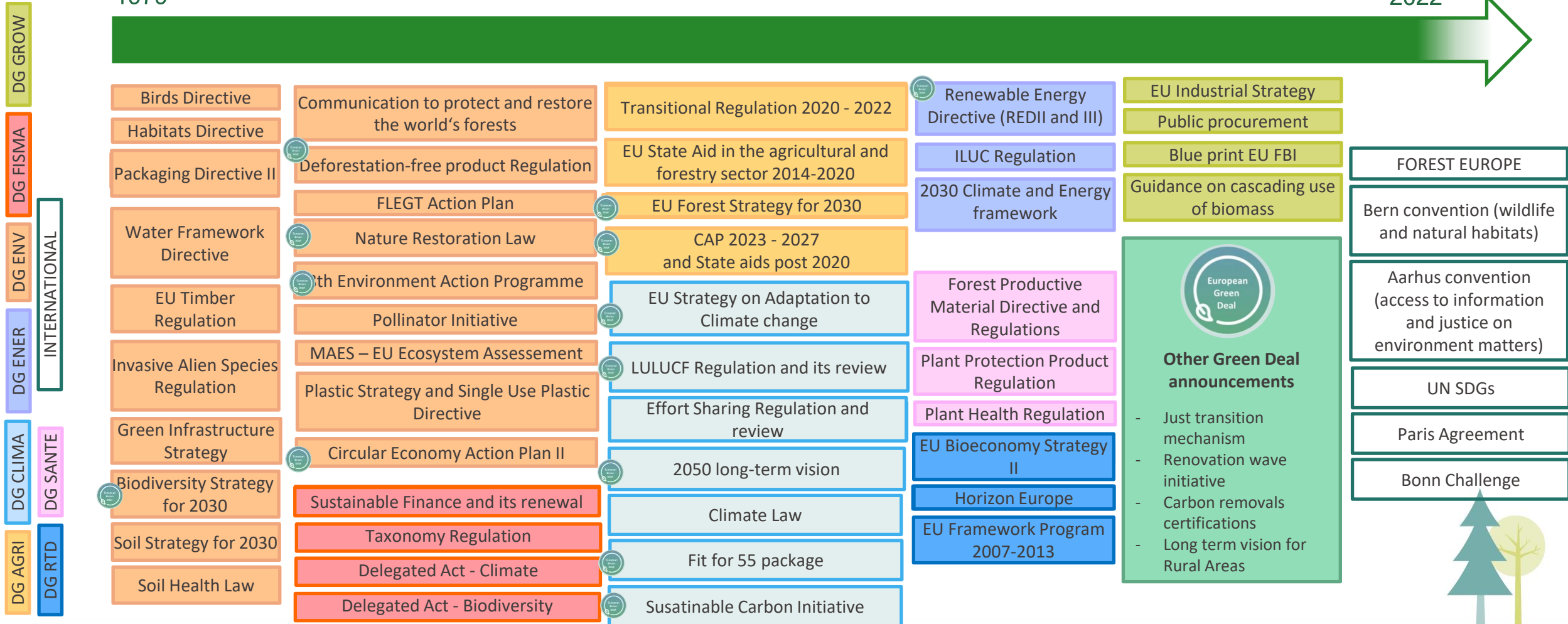
- Il n'y a pas de politique forestière commune, contrairement à la PAC
- Dans le traité de l'Union européenne, la forêt n'est pas citée dans les compétences exclusives ou partagées de l'Union européenne
- Mais...sur la base d'un certain nombre de compétences partagées la Commission européenne est progressivement intervenue dans le secteur forestier



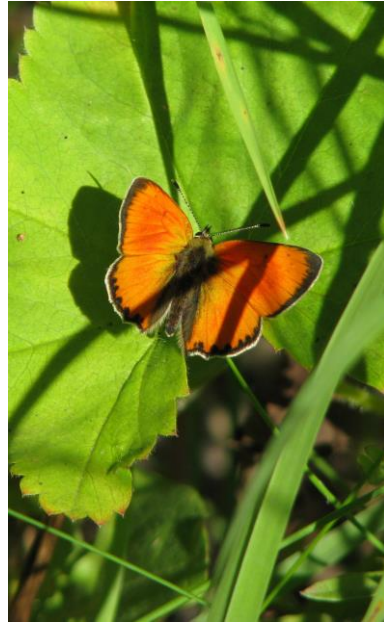
Les politiques européennes concernant la forêt

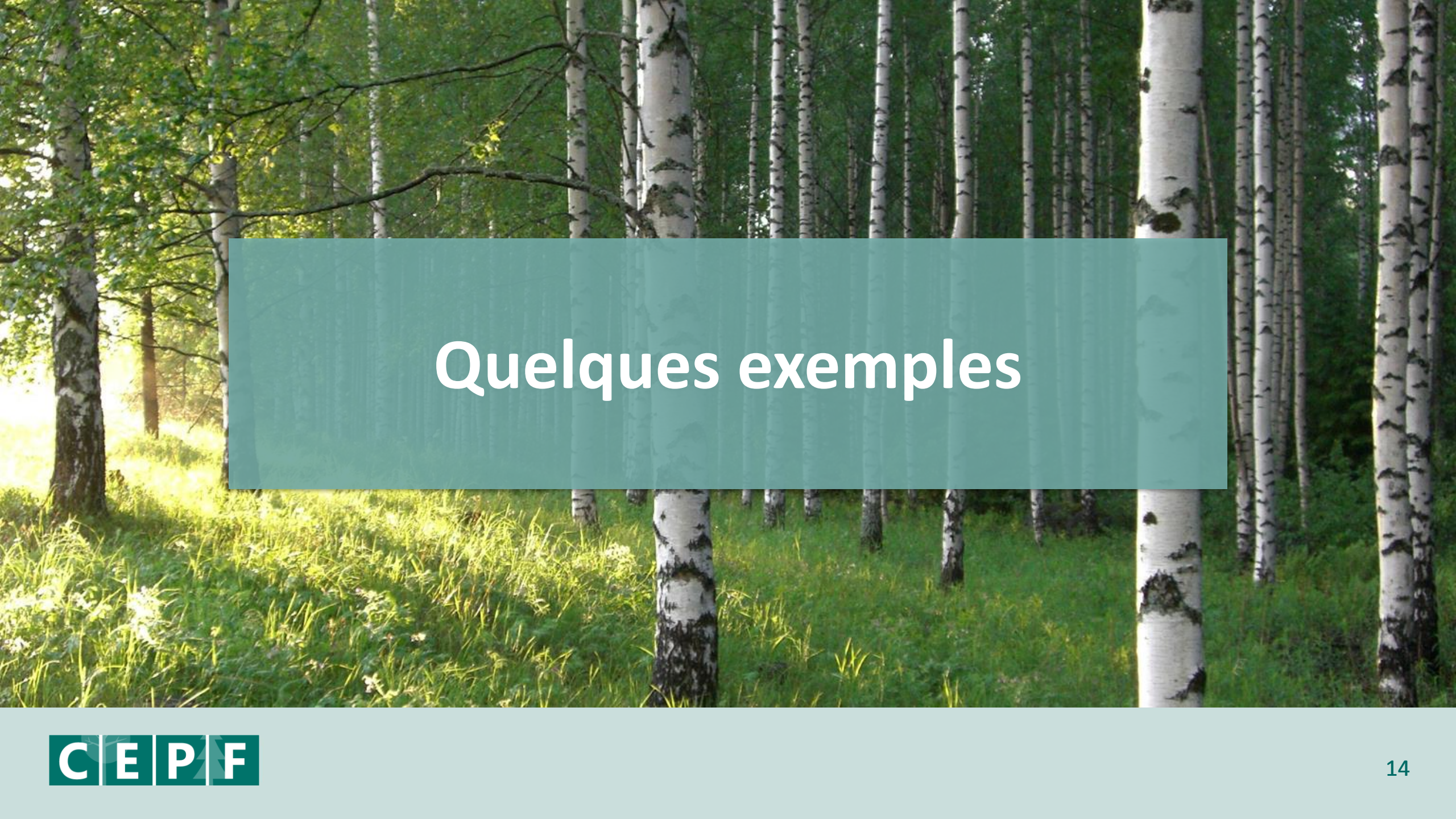
1979

2022



Notre contexte de travail: les multiples attentes de la société





Quelques exemples

Exemples en cours

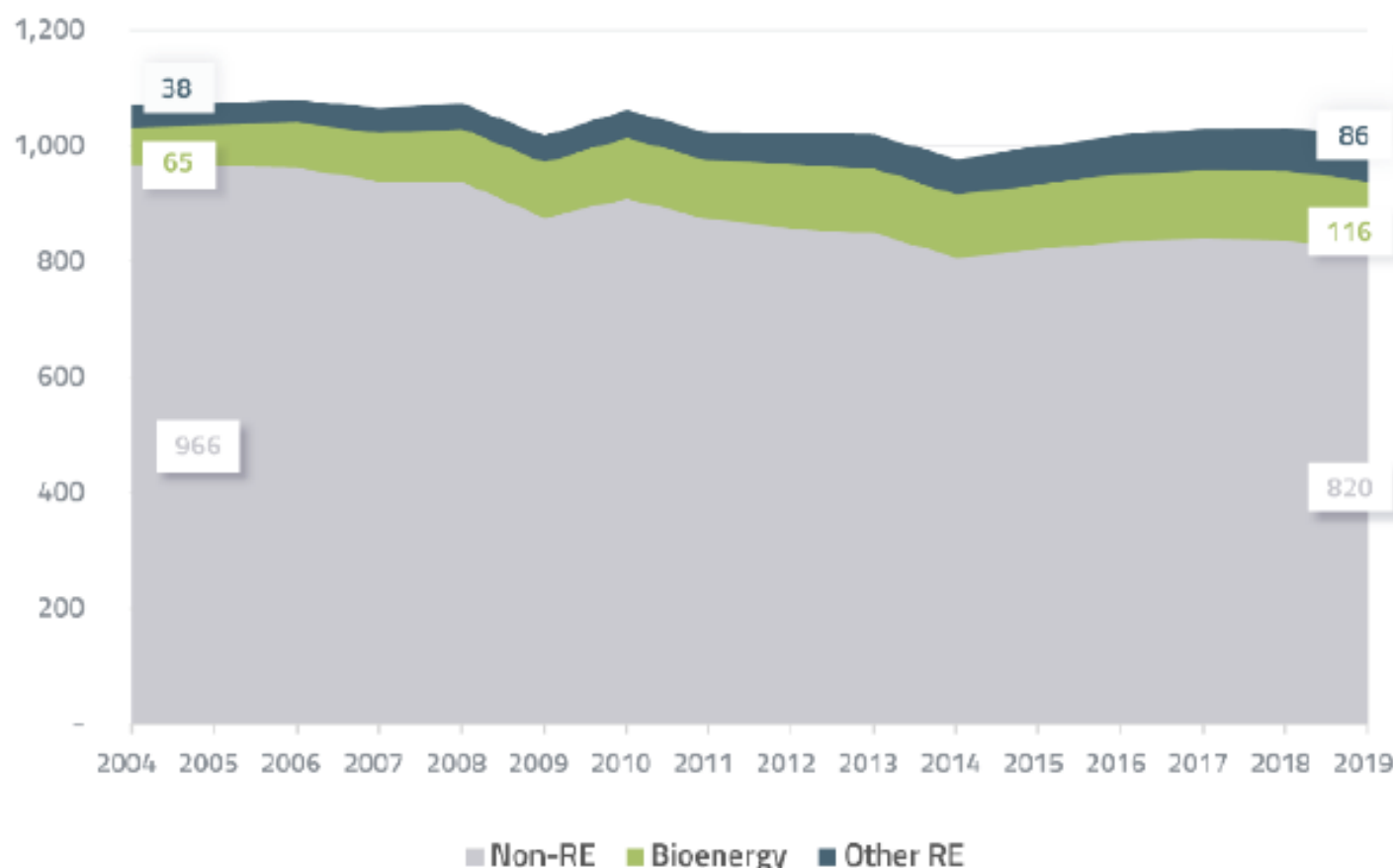


A photograph of a birch forest. The trees have characteristic white bark with black lenticels. Sunlight filters through the green canopy, creating a dappled light effect on the forest floor which is covered in green grass and some white flowers.

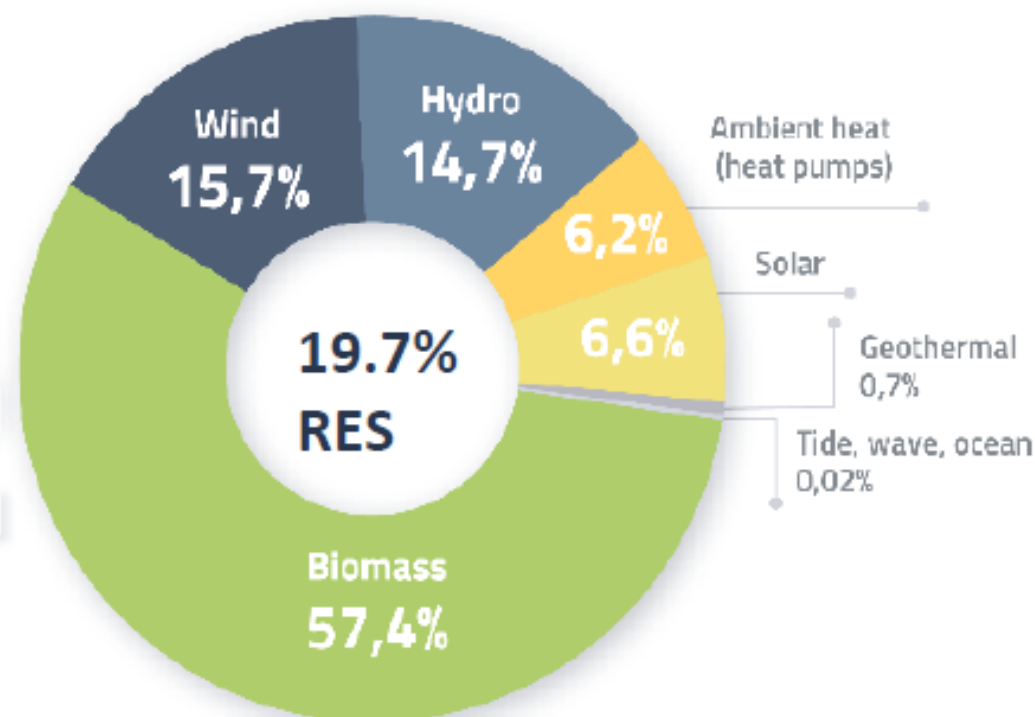
Un focus sur l'énergie

Bioenergy is Europe's biggest source of renewable energy

Evolution of the gross final energy consumption by fuel type in EU27 (ktoe)



Distribution of renewable gross final energy consumption in the EU27 in 2019 (%)

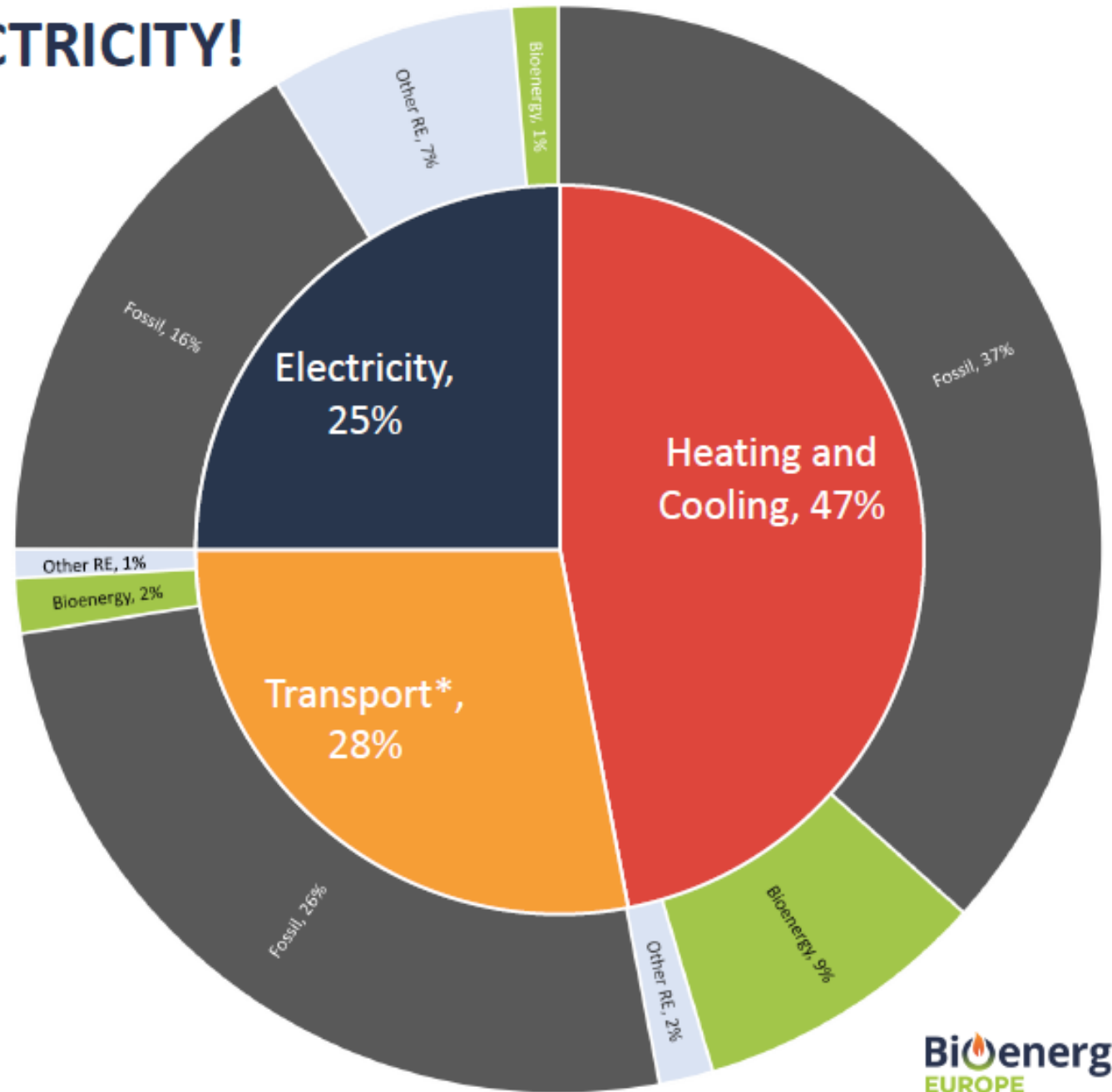


Source: SHARES 2019, Eurostat

In 2019, bioenergy was 11,4% of total energy

ENERGY IS MORE THAN ELECTRICITY!

- Nearly half of Europe's energy is used for heating
- Only a quarter is used for electricity
- Bioenergy is most important renewable energy source for generating renewable heat
- In 2019, bioenergy accounted for 85% of renewable heat in and saved 160MtCO₂eq

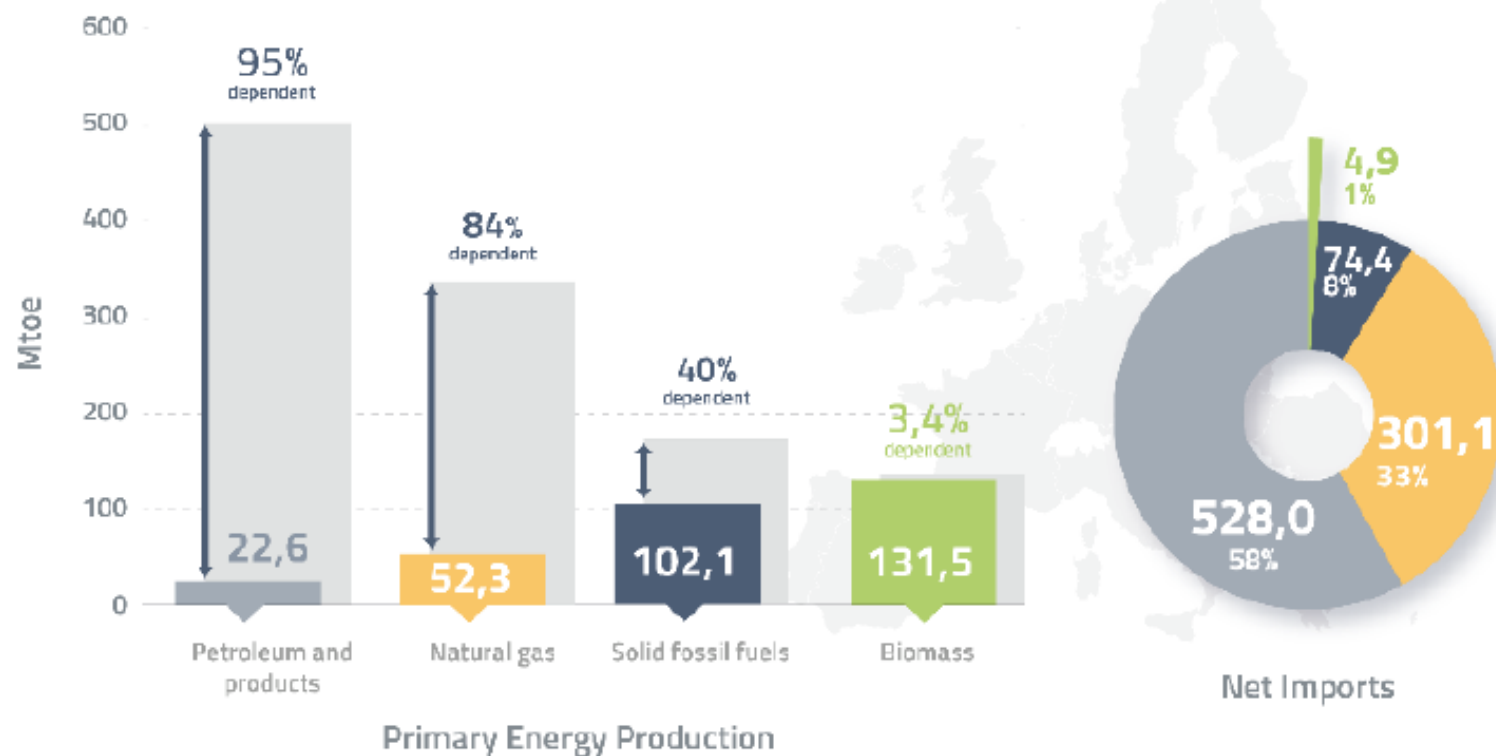


*with multipliers

**EU27 energy dependency
and net imports
(in 2019, Mtoe, %)**

- Gross inland consumption
- Petroleum and products
- Natural gas
- Solid fossil fuels
- Biomass

Source: Eurostat, Bioenergy
Europe's calculations





Le débat en cours

Quelques questions du débat en cours



- La forêt européenne est-elle en mauvais état?
- Le concept de gestion durable des forêts est-il suffisant?
- “Bonnes” pratiques de gestion contre “mauvaises” pratiques de gestion ?
- Quel niveau d’intervention des politiques européennes dans les pratiques de gestion?



A carbon bomb in the heart of Europe

Photo: Schkoppe power plant, Germany

Will the EU biomass loophole give a lifeline to energy giant EPH's coal power plants?

SUMMARY

In the summer of 2022, wildfires raged across European forests "like a carbon bomb exploding". But the carbon dioxide (CO₂) released from these wildfires was the same gas, and only about 5% of the volume, as that which is released every year in Europe when forests are logged and burned in a power station. Despite this, the European Union's (EU) Renewable Energy Directive (RED) considers energy produced from burning wood ("biomass") as "carbon neutral" (as the trees might regrow), and allows Member States to support it both directly and indirectly, to the tune of at least 22 billion Euros in 2021.

This support has been mainly reaped by energy companies looking for alternatives to coal in their power stations. But while the transition from coal is essential for our survival on this planet, moving back to wood burning could do more harm than good.

This briefing zooms in on Czech multinational corporation Energetický a průmyslový Holding (EPH), a rapidly growing energy corporation which is ideally placed to exploit biomass subsidies to extend the life of its coal assets, thereby dangerously delaying the energy sector's decarbonisation.

Our research shows that in 2022 alone, EPH and its subsidiaries are likely to burn about 4.2 million tonnes of wood in their biomass and coal power plants. This represents, for the sake of comparison, more than 75 per cent of Czechia's 2015 wood harvest (before a bed bark beetle outbreak). This would lead to a carbon bomb of as much as 6.2 million tonnes of CO₂ being released into the air more than the country's 2015 land sink. But all this tree burning only supplied a paltry amount of electricity: 4.5 GWh, representing a little more than 5% of the electricity Czechia consumed in 2015.

If the revised RED (expected at the end of 2022) continues to allow public support for burning wood for energy production, the conversion of coal plants to woody burning, or the building of new biomass installations, EPH would be incentivised to pursue the biomass projects it is already considering, worth at least 320 MW of extra capacity. This would cause an extra 1.4 million tonnes of wood to be burned, releasing 3.38 million tonnes more of CO₂. But EPH's coal assets today represent a whopping 12 GW of energy generation capacity, so much more could be converted to wood burning if the biomass industry's lobbyists have their way.

1. <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-60720716> as forest fires wildfire experts call for a rethink of forest management.

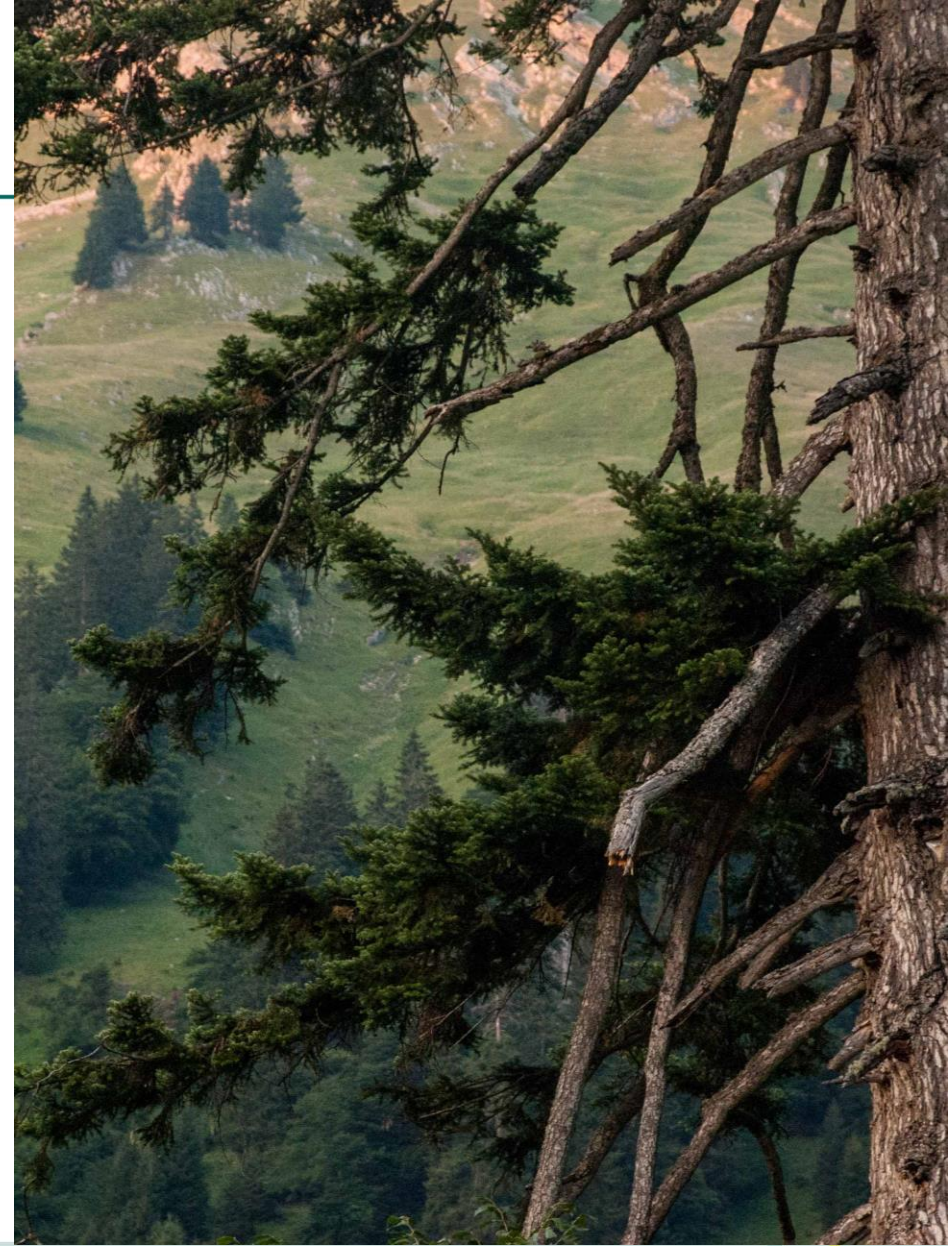




Conclusions

Conclusions

- Faire de la diversité une force de contribution
- Se sentir concerné et impliqué
- Au-delà de d'être entendu, être écouté
- Les gradations de gris plutôt que le noir et le blanc





Merci pour votre attention

Fanny-Pomme LANGUE