

Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF)

Press Release

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Women and their toxic world – make REACH a win-win legislation

Women in Europe for a Common Future is presenting today the first English language brochure written by women for women on hazardous chemicals in every day consumer products called “Women and their toxic world”. The brochure will be introduced to the public during a lunch event at the European Parliament.

“We are very excited about this new tool to inform women about the issue and to show women alternative ways to protect themselves and their families from hazardous chemicals in every day consumer products”, says Daniela Rosche, author of the publication.

The publication also examines how women’s lives and that of future generations are threatened by hazardous chemicals. As a conclusion, Women in Europe for a Common Future calls for effective policies such as REACH, which have the potential to end this threat and reduce the burden of disease caused by the negative health effects of hazardous chemicals.

“An effective REACH is one that substitutes hazardous chemicals by safer alternatives as soon as those are available. The idea of thresholds for substances that cause birth defects, miscarriages or even cancer is absurd.” argues Rosche.

Prior to the expected Environment Committee vote on 10 October on the draft REACH regulation, Women in Europe for a Common Future is calling on members of the European Parliament, to refocus on the benefits of better regulation such as a strong REACH. According to the organization, only a strong REACH is a win-win situation for everyone in the EU.

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Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF) is a network of 70 organisations in Western and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, working on sustainable development, health and environment, and poverty reduction.