

Type
Live studio talk show
Category
Policy work
Title
Why the EU needs a Water Resilience Initiative
Summary
Exploring the need for the European Commission to deliver the Water Resilience Initiative as soon as possible as a first step towards an ambitious water strategy for Europe.
Convenors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stockholm International Water Institute • Water Europe? • 2 other organizations tbd
Session Description (200 words)
<p>The talk show will hear from diverse voices why the European Commission needs to deliver an ambitious Water Resilience Initiative as soon as possible.</p> <p>Europe's freshwater resources are under increasing pressure, intensified by climate change effects putting society, ecosystems and economic development at risk. While during the last five years the European institutions have proactively updated the European water acquis to align with the new challenges that we are facing but sufficient change cannot be delivered without an EU Water Resilience Initiative (WRI). The WRI was announced in the State of the Union speech in September 2023 and put on hold in February of 2024. The talk show will explore what happened and take stock on what has happened (until August 2024) and what needs to happen to secure such an initiative and how it could grow into an EU wide water strategy that could be a part of the new EU priorities 2025-2030. Other key EU water related policies will also be explored.</p>
Desired impact and session outcomes (2-3 sentences)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • timely deliver the Water Resilience Initiative, as committed • make water a top priority for the next mandate of the European Commission • Create momentum across EU institutions and Member States for water and the WRI
Language and Interpretation
English (no interpretation)
Speakers (not final)
European representative (Committee of Regions or the European Commission) SIWI WaterEurope Private sector from Agriculture/Food area, energy or industries
Prior Knowledge (not required)
The WRI was announced in the State of the Union speech in September 2023 and put on hold the table in February of 2024.
Learning Outcomes
Why Europe needs the WRI and what the concerns are with the possible lack of sufficient action if the strategy remains off the table and water is not part of the new EU priorities
Regional focus
Europe
Gold Standard

hopefully