



The Unpaid Health Bill – How coal power plants in Western Balkans make us sick

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HEAL's member network

>70 health professionals
organizations

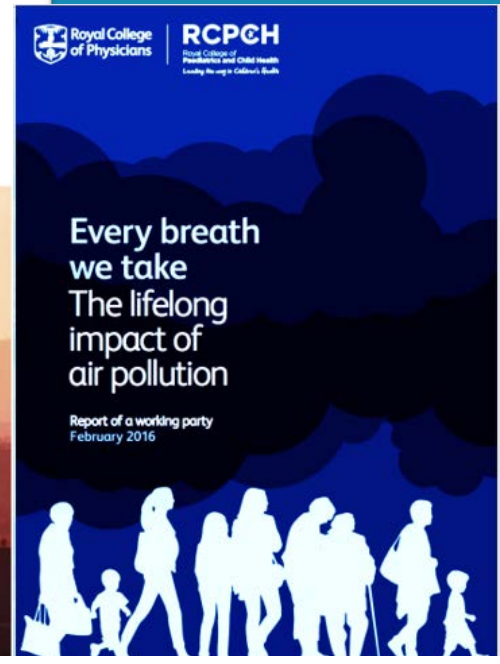
in 28 countries



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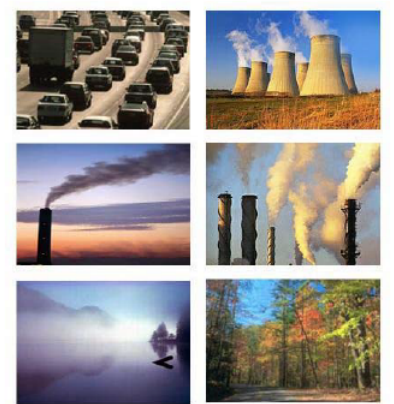
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—
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impacts of air pollution



AEAT/ED48763001/ABC Scenarios. Issue 2

Cost-Benefit Analysis of Policy Option Scenarios for the Clean Air for Europe programme



August 2005

1. How big are **emissions** from Western Balkan **coal power plants**?
2. How big are **health impacts** and their **monetary equivalent**?



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Existing coal power plants create up to 8.5 EUR billion per year in health costs

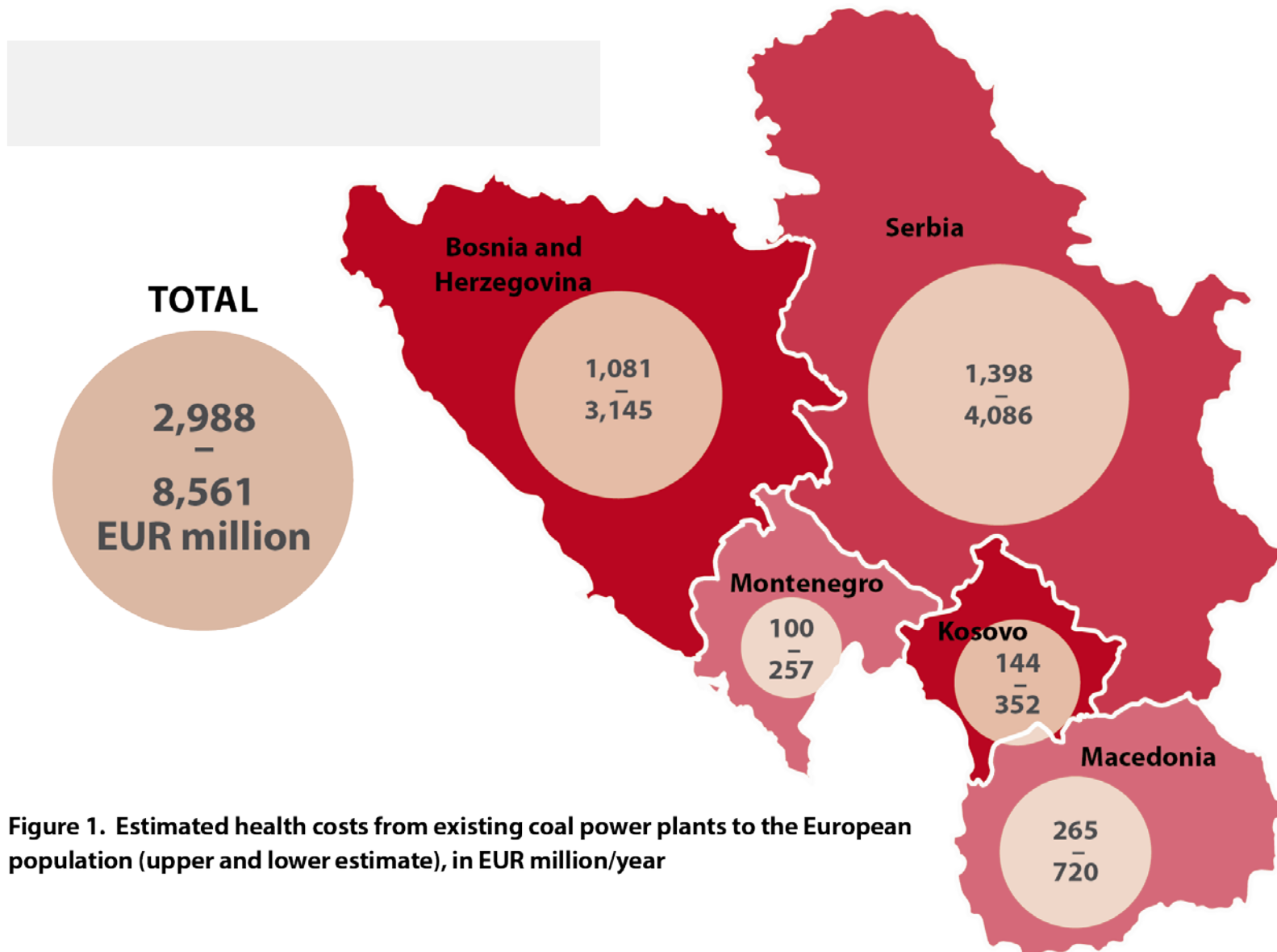


Figure 1. Estimated health costs from existing coal power plants to the European population (upper and lower estimate), in EUR million/year

What are the unpaid health costs?

'Unpaid health bill' represents: a combination of lost productivity, added burden on healthcare systems and lost utility for individuals suffering ill health or dying early.

Health impacts and costs from coal power generation

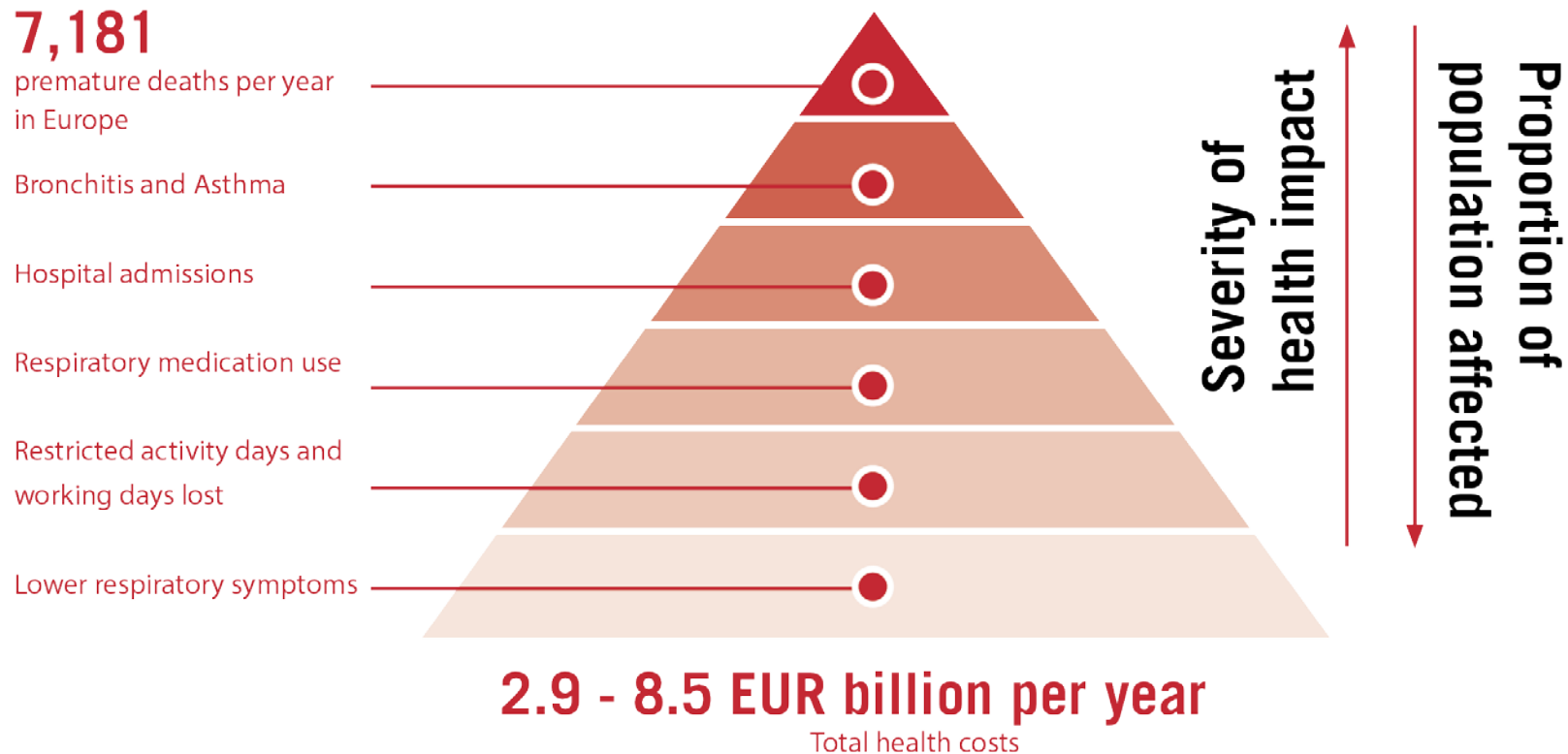


Figure 2. Factors contributing to total damages caused by coal power plants in Western Balkans

Calculation and monetisation of health costs

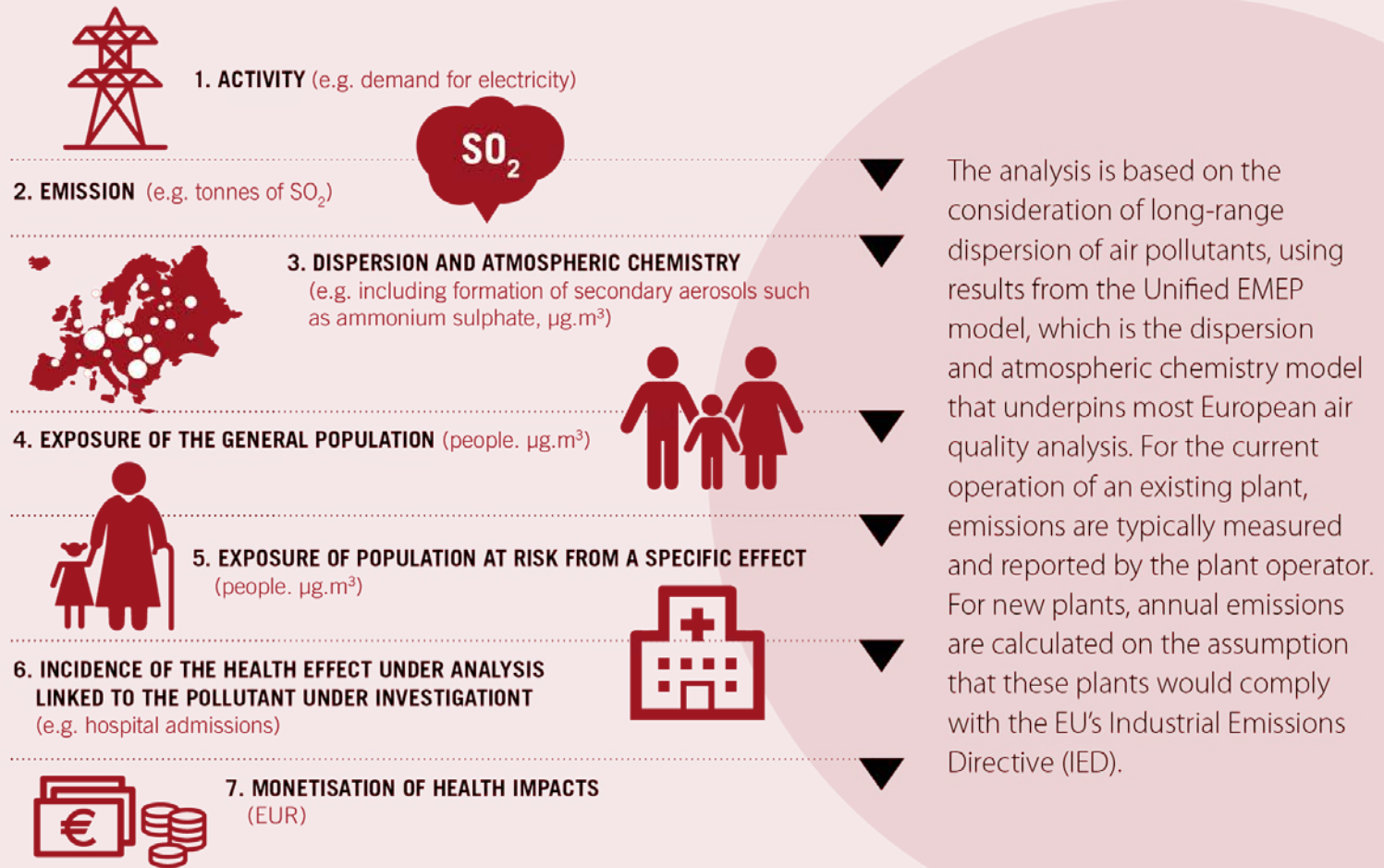


Figure 3. The impact pathway approach (ExternE)



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Data source for emissions from coal-fired plants

Data	Country	Source
Emissions	Bosnia & Herzegovina	Study by Center for Ecology and Energy: "Health impacts of coal fired power generation in Tuzla", p.11 Report on the environment by electricity company, Republic Hydro-Meteorological Service, Banja Luka
	Kosovo	Study World Bank "Kosovo Country Environmental analysis", p.55
	Macedonia	Ministry of environment and physical planning (data submitted by ELEM)
	Montenegro	National strategy for air quality by Ministry of sustainable development and tourism, p.128
	Serbia	E-PRTR database year 2013
Pollutant dispersion	All	EMEP / Norwegian Meteorological Institute
Response functions	All	WHO-Europe HRAPIE study
Valuation	All	European Commission and OECD



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Are the Western Balkan coal plants major contributors of pollution in Europe?

Meet the ten most polluting coal power plants in Europe

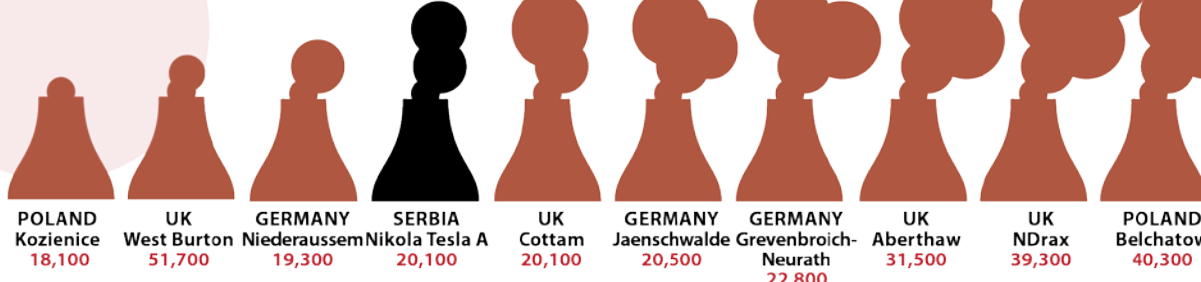
PM_{2.5}



SO₂



NOx

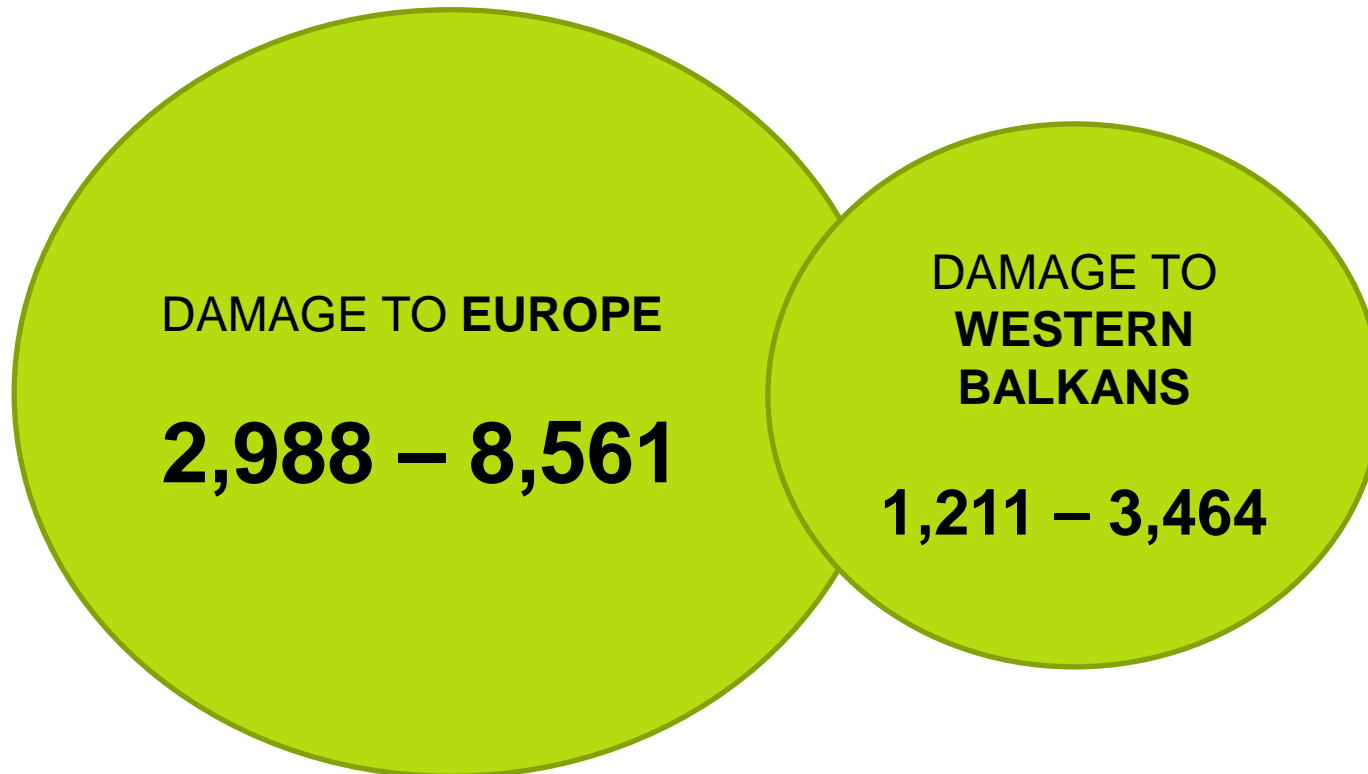


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Trans-boundary problem

- How Europe is damaged by coal power plants in the Western Balkans: **60% of costs to other European countries** –a trans-boundary problem



in EUR million/year, lower to upper bound

The way forward: healthy energy choices **POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS**



TO DECISION-MAKERS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

- Support the **rapid phase out of coal**: Close all old coal-fired plants and do not build new ones
- Take into account **health protection** and opt for **renewables and energy savings**
- **Fulfil the obligations and fully implement standards** agreed in international treaties, such as the Energy Community, Kyoto protocol and Paris Treaty 2015



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Thank you for your attention!

Contact us: info@env-health.org

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