

A **swift phase-out** of the Western Balkans' chronic coal addiction is the only way to **protect health** and **promote climate action**

Air pollution from outdated coal power plants leads to a high, but preventable, health burden



19,000
premature deaths
2018 to 2020

50%
in EU countries
30%
in the Western Balkans

Costs up to
EUR 51.8 billion
2018 to 2020



Inacceptably high sulphur dioxide emissions from coal plants:

Ugljevik

Bosnia and Herzegovina

107,402 tonnes



emits more than
all 4
countries emission
ceilings together

Kakanj 7

Bosnia and Herzegovina

46,212 tonnes



15x
times
above the legal
emission limit

Kostolac B1 & B2

Serbia

95,096 tonnes



12x
times
above the legal
emission limit
(despite desulphurisation equipment)

For healthy people and a healthy planet: **zero pollution and a coal phase out by 2030.**

These are the urgent steps:

For decision-makers



Close all existing and ageing coal fired plants by 2030 and do not build new ones.



Urgently enforce the Large Combustion Plants Directive for existing plants.

For health professionals



Highlight the evidence and materials of the evidence of the damage air pollution inflicts on human health and new WHO air quality guidelines from 2021.



Participate and provide input to public consultations related to energy transition, climate and energy policies and plans and support those measures and financing that will boost health and lead to zero pollution.

Source: CEE Bankwatch, Comply or Close, 2021



HEAL gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the European Union (EU) and the European Climate Foundation (ECF) for the production of this publication. The responsibility for the content lies with the authors and the views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the EU institutions and funders. The Executive Agency for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (EASME) and the funders are not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained in this publication.



HEAL EU transparency register number: 00723343929-96

env-health.org [@HealthandEnv](https://twitter.com/HealthandEnv)