



# Working together to eliminate occupational cancer

## Where are we now and the way forward



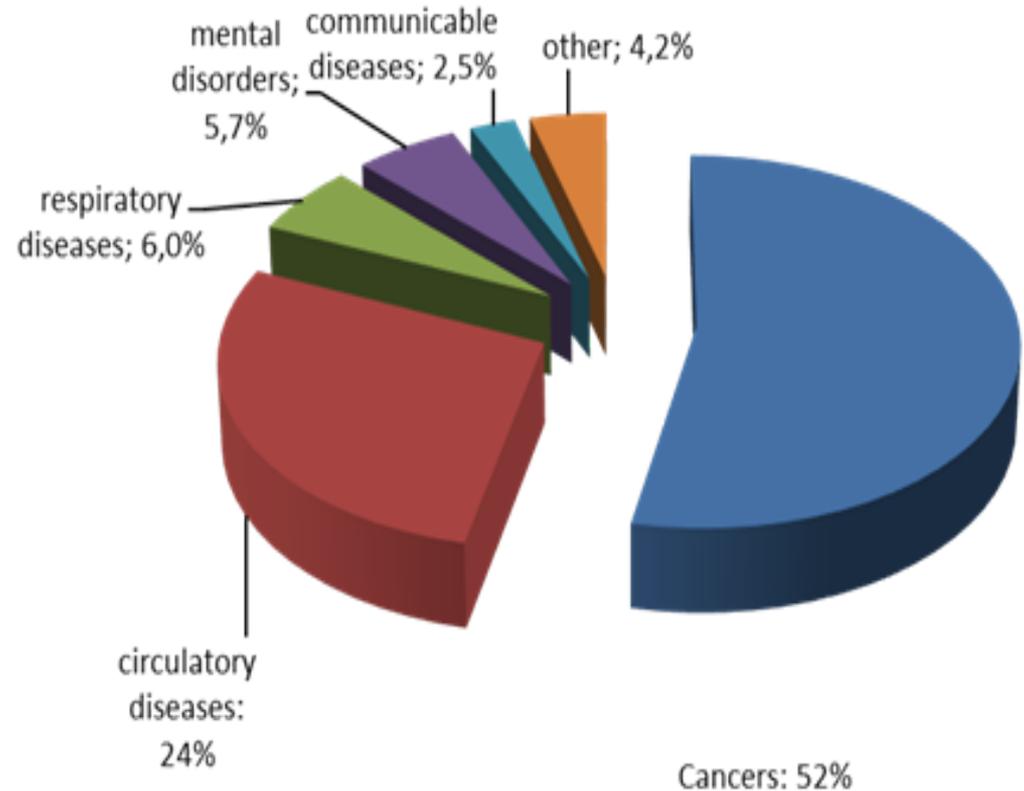
Roadmap on Carcinogens Conference  
Helsinki

27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019

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# Why is there a need to act?

- *Cancer is the first cause of work-related deaths in the EU*
- *52% of occupational deaths are attributed to cancer, compared to 24% for circulatory diseases*
- *106,307 deaths are attributed to occupational cancer in the EU every year*
- *Strong desire from all stakeholders to establish occupational exposure limit values*



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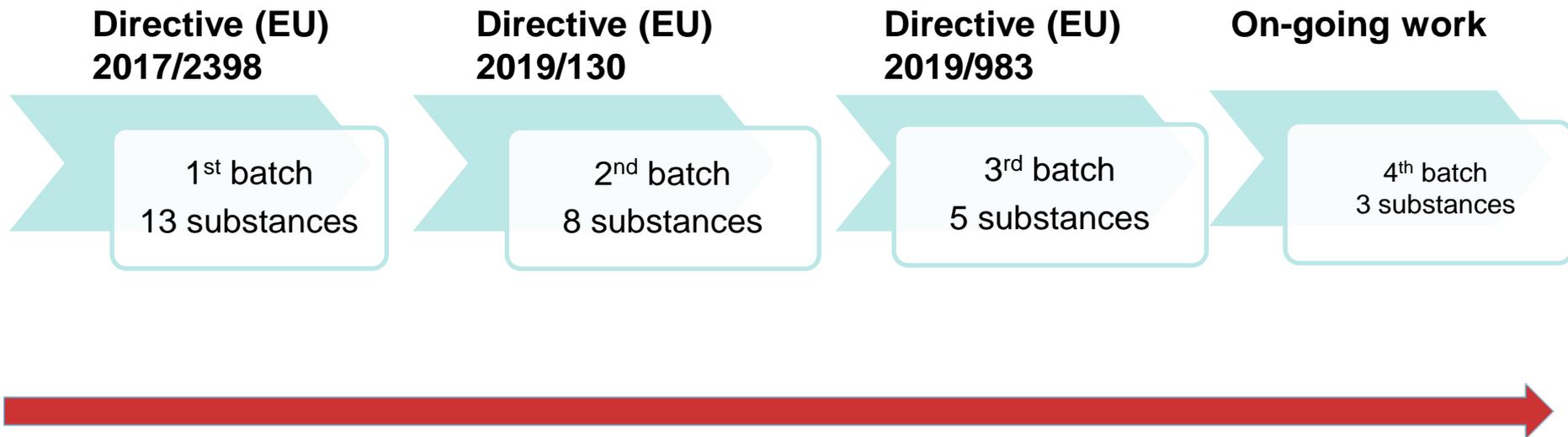


## Ursula von der Leyen's agenda for Europe (July 2019)

«(...) almost all of us will know the anxiety and grief of a friend of family member diagnosed with cancer. Survival rates are on the up, especially thanks to early detection and screening programmes. But there is a lot more we can do. I will put forward a European plan to fight cancer, to support Member States in improving cancer control and care»

**Prevention of occupational cancer is key to fighting cancer**

# Where are we now?



**26 substances** addressed in the three amendments

# Looking ahead: CMD 4<sup>th</sup> amendment

*Work is on-going on the developoment of occupational exposure limit values for three additional priority substances/group of substances:*

- **Acrylonitrile**
- **Benzene**
- **Nickel compounds**

# Looking ahead: CMD 4<sup>th</sup> amendment

- *Scientific assessments by ECHA RAC have been completed (March 2018).*
- *ACSH's opinions have been adopted (June 2019)*
- *External study to support the Commission in the preparation of the impact assessment is finalised*
- *Preparation of impact assessment (ongoing)*
- *Obtain positive opinion of Regulatory Scrutiny Board*
- *Adoption of the Commission proposal is expected under the new College of Commissioners*
- *It will then follow the ordinary legislative procedure for adoption by the Council and the European Parliament*

# More than limit values

Legally binding requests by the co-legislators to the Commission originating from CMD amendments, e.g.:

- *Study on reprotoxic substances*
  - Discussed by the tripartite Working Party on Chemicals
- *Study on hazardous medicinal products, including cytotoxics*

# Challenges

***“Legislation alone is not enough”  
Marianne Thyssen***



- *To **improve enforcement and implementation** at the workplaces, in particular in small and micro companies*

# Making a difference

*It is not just about legislation.*

*To make a real difference we need supporting actions:*

➤ Exchange of best practices among businesses, government bodies and workers organisations



➤ Social Partner Agreements, such as NEPSI  
*(European Network on Silica, formed in 2006)*



➤ EU-OSHA campaign on dangerous substances 2018-2019



**Thank you for your attention**

**&**

**we look forward to continuing our  
close collaboration in the future**

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