High-Level Dialogue Statement

EU High-Level Dialogue on Weather, Climate and Strategic Resilience

Convened under Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union

European Parliament, Brussels, 29 September 2026

The EU High-Level Dialogue, convened under Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union and organised by Met Éireann in the European Parliament, brought together representatives of the European Commission, Members of the European Parliament, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), EUMETNET, ECMWF, EUMETSAT, the World Meteorological Organisation, the European Investment Bank and other stakeholders. The Dialogue focused on how Europe can use weather, climate and water intelligence more effectively to strengthen resilience, preparedness, security and competitiveness. It provided an opportunity to share experiences, highlight emerging opportunities and explore areas where continued engagement could support future policy and operational objectives.

Europe benefits from a uniquely coordinated meteorological capability

The Dialogue highlighted the distinctive nature of the European meteorological ecosystem, which brings together mandated National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), their collaborative framework EUMETNET, and the European intergovernmental meteorological organisations ECMWF and EUMETSAT, alongside the European Union and its institutions, shared infrastructure and international cooperation. This closely interconnected system, shaped and governed by its Member States and their National Meteorological and Hydrological Services, has evolved over many decades through sustained investment, scientific excellence, trusted partnerships, complementary roles and effective institutional arrangements. Together, these national and European capabilities support continuous weather, climate and water monitoring; tailored climate services; reliable weather and flood forecasting and effective early warning systems across Europe and beyond.

Particular emphasis was placed on the role of NMHSs as trusted and publicly accountable institutions operating at national level and serving as the "last mile" interface between scientific capability and practical decision making. Through their partnerships with civil protection agencies, health authorities, transport operators, agriculture, energy providers, defence organisations, regional authorities and citizens, NMHSs help translate weather, climate and water intelligence into services and actions that deliver societal benefit.

Europe's collaborative approach, based on common standards, shared infrastructure and cross-border operational cooperation, provides a sound foundation for delivering high-quality, timely services across Europe while respecting national mandates and responsibilities.

Weather, climate and water intelligence supports Europe's priorities

Weather, climate and hydrological risks increasingly affect public safety, health, infrastructure, agriculture, transport, energy systems, investment decisions, economic competitiveness and security. Discussions highlighted that resilience and preparedness are becoming increasingly important components of Europe's wider policy agenda.

A recurring theme was the importance of ensuring that authoritative forecasts, warnings, climate services and expert advice are effectively translated into timely decisions and practical action. Examples included climate-informed infrastructure planning; interoperable warning services supporting decision making, such as heat-health warning systems, MeteoAlarm, wildfire management support; and increased cooperation between meteorological and emergency management communities. These examples illustrated the public value that can be achieved when scientific capability, operational expertise and user engagement are brought together.

Opportunities for deeper engagement between policymakers and the meteorological community

The Dialogue identified a growing range of European initiatives whose success depends on weather, climate and water intelligence. These include initiatives related to resilience, preparedness, climate adaptation, risk management, infrastructure planning and economic competitiveness. Participants highlighted the value of engaging

meteorological and hydrological expertise in policy development, implementation and evaluation.

Building on existing relationships, closer interaction between policymakers, European institutions and the European meteorological community can further strengthen understanding of respective roles, mandates, capabilities, needs and priorities at the European and national levels. In particular, further strengthening links between the European Commission and NMHSs can help connect European policy objectives with national operational expertise, capabilities and delivery.

Strengthening preparedness and crisis management partnerships

The Dialogue welcomed the strong engagement of representatives from preparedness and crisis management communities and highlighted the increasingly important role of weather, climate and hydrological information in supporting emergency response and risk management. Participants reflected on practical examples of cooperation, including the integration of meteorological and hydrological expertise within crisis management activities and the use of forecasts, warnings and specialist support to inform operational decision making.

In this context, participants welcomed opportunities for future engagement with the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) and related preparedness structures. Such engagement could deepen mutual understanding of operational requirements, strengthen partnerships and enhance the use of weather, climate and water intelligence in preparedness and response activities.

The value of continued dialogue

Participants welcomed the opportunity to engage directly across institutional and sectoral boundaries. The Dialogue provided valuable insights into the perspectives of policymakers, operational service providers, researchers, investors, crisis managers and international organisations, while highlighting the shared interest in strengthening resilience, preparedness and public value.

Regular exchange between the European Commission and the European meteorological community can provide policymakers with direct access to authoritative scientific and operational expertise, support the design and implementation of policies informed by

weather, climate and water intelligence, and help anticipate emerging risks and operational requirements. At the same time, it can strengthen the meteorological community's understanding of evolving European policy priorities, enabling its capabilities and services to respond more effectively to them.

Looking ahead

The Dialogue reflected a shared recognition that Europe faces an increasingly complex landscape of weather, climate, water, economic and security risks. At the same time, Europe enters this period from a position of considerable strength, supported by world-leading scientific expertise, operational capability, trusted institutions and a long tradition of international cooperation.

Building on these strengths will require cooperation, innovation, greater operational integration and sustained engagement between policy and operational communities. Europe's collaborative model enables countries, institutions and experts to pursue shared objectives while delivering services responsive to the needs of citizens, businesses and public authorities.

The Dialogue also highlighted the importance of aligning European and national investments in research, development and infrastructure to maximise their collective impact and ensure the long-term sustainability of weather, climate and water services. Such investments are essential to maintain the capabilities on which Europe depends and to translate scientific advances into lasting societal benefit.

The High-Level Dialogue demonstrated the value of bringing together policymakers and the European meteorological community to address shared challenges and opportunities. Participants welcomed the engagement initiated through the Dialogue and supported regular exchange to strengthen the connection between policy objectives and operational delivery across Europe. This engagement can contribute to a more resilient, better-prepared, secure, competitive Europe and to the well-being of its citizens.