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# FRANCE'S INTERMINISTERIAL ACTION PLAN ON PFAS

*A national strategy for health & environmental protection*



**A recent law banning PFAS has been adopted (27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025)**

It strengthens the fight against PFAS pollution in France

## Main measures :

- **Gradual ban on PFAS** in certain products (cosmetics, textiles, waterproofing, ski wax) → Entry into force: **2026** (for certain products) or **2030** (textiles)
- Reinforced **monitoring of PFAS** in **drinking water** and **industrial effluents** and improved information on results.
- trajectory to achieve the **end of discharges** into water
- Introduction of **a charge on discharges** from certain industrial sites

# France's interministerial action plan

## A coordinated national strategy

- Growing concern over PFAS contamination in water, air, soil, food, and human exposure.
- Need for coordinated governmental action involving health, environment, industry, agriculture, research, armed forces and regulation.
- Plan Coordination:
  - Launched in April 2024, following a parliamentary report (2023), to be implemented over at least 3 years
  - Implementation led by the Ministry of Health (DGS) and Ministry of Ecological Transition (DGPR), involving multiple ministries, agencies and experts.
  - Aligns with European (REACH, water directives) and international regulations



# Key Strategic Axes & Actions

5 axes, 26 actions, divided into 55 sub-actions

## 1. Improve knowledge on monitoring and exposure

- Develop standardized PFAS detection in air, water, soil, and food.
- Assess human exposure & health risks.

## 2. Improve monitoring and use of related data

- Strengthen surveillance of industrial emissions, environment, food, and consumer products.
- Monitor PFAS in fertilisers and map contaminated sites linked to firefighting foams.
- Study the feasibility of monitoring the health effects & improve knowledge of PFAS impregnation

## 3. Reduce the risks associated with exposure to PFAS

- Regulation: support EU REACH restrictions and define essential vs. non-essential uses.
- Controls: monitor PFAS in imports to ensure compliance.
- Health protection: accelerate toxicological benchmarks and risk assessment values.
- Water protection: define sensitive water catchment areas and regulate PFAS discharges.
- Pollution management: identify and remediate contaminated sites, supporting local authorities.
- Health monitoring: assess medical follow-up for exposed populations and occupational health risks.

## 4. Innovating by involving economic players and supporting research

## 5. Public awareness and engagement

- Launch a public data platform on PFAS contamination.
- Strengthen education & risk communication.



# Challenges and next steps

## Implementation and future outlook

- **Scientific and technological challenges:** Improve PFAS detection, removal, and substitution.
- **Regulatory and industrial transition:** Support PFAS-free alternatives while maintaining economic viability.
- **Policy alignment:** Strengthen European and global cooperation on PFAS management.
- **Public and healthcare professionals engagement:** Increase awareness, transparency, and risk communication.
- **Overall objective:** Reduce PFAS exposure, protect health, and ensure long-term environmental safety.

