



ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT 2025

ERA

Academy of European Law

Metzer Allee 2-4

D-54295 Trier

www.era.int



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1. Foreword

Protecting our environment is one of the key challenges of our time. As a European training institution, we consider it our special responsibility to minimise our environmental impact within the limits of our economic capabilities and to promote sustainable action in all areas.

Our environmental management is based on the principle of continuous improvement. We are committed to using resources efficiently, reducing emissions and employing environmentally-friendly technologies. Compliance with environmental regulations and the early identification of opportunities and risks continue to play a central role in this regard.

In the context of our educational mission, aspects of environmental law and environmental policy gained importance at a very early stage. Every year, ERA organises a series of conferences on EU environmental law, thus addressing a large number of European legal practitioners.

With this environmental statement, we want to transparently explain how we are fulfilling this task. The environmental statement documents our environmental goals, measures and progress. It is intended not only to inform, but also to encourage dialogue – with employees, participants, partners, suppliers and the interested public.

ERA has been EMAS certified since 2021. Through its system of environmental audits and regular updates, it has contributed to our development towards becoming ever-more environmentally sustainable.

We would like to thank everyone who is driving our measures forward. Your contribution is crucial to the success of our environmental management and shows that sustainable action is only possible if we work together, but at the same time begins with each and every one of us.

2. Environmental Policy of the Academy of European Law

The Academy of European Law (ERA) is also committed to environmental protection in its activities. It aims to improve the environmental performance of all its activities and invites its participants, cooperation partners and suppliers to join in this effort.

Since its initial validation in 2021, ERA has been implementing an environmental management system in accordance with the Regulation on Environmental Management and Audit (EMAS).

With its EMAS environmental policy, the ERA sets strategic guidelines and the framework for its environmental measures and specifies its environmental goals. Sustainability plays an important role in this. We supplement the implementation of our policy with guidelines and binding requirements, among other things.

The Environmental Policy of the Academy of European Law:

- We are committed to **improving our environmental performance continuously** by avoiding environmental pollution wherever possible and using energy and resources efficiently and reducing them where possible. We demonstrate this through key indicators.
- We want to reduce our **emissions of pollutants** into the air, water and soil to a minimum. We endeavour to achieve this through the most ecological procurement possible, economical use of materials and lower CO₂ emissions.
- In addition to complying with the applicable environmental legislation, which is a matter of course for us, we are committed to complying with binding **environmental standards**.
- We support our **employees** in all aspects of environmentally oriented corporate management. This includes issues of environmental and health protection as well

as emergency and risk management. We offer them the opportunity to become actively involved in the environment and to receive further training.

- In constant exchange with our **cooperation partners, participants and suppliers**, we strive to make them aware of our EMAS commitment as well and to motivate them to join our efforts.
- We regularly conduct internal and external audits to **verify our environmental status** and **improve the system** Technical audits may be subject to more stringent requirements than those prescribed by law.
- We will **procure** sustainable materials, products and services wherever possible and pay even closer attention to their environmental footprint in the future.
- We **communicate** internally and externally on the issues of environmental protection, sustainability, climate change and ecological responsibility. We use our annual environmental statement to make this concern readily available and accessible readable and available to all.

The Management Board

October 2025

3. Goals and tasks of the ERA

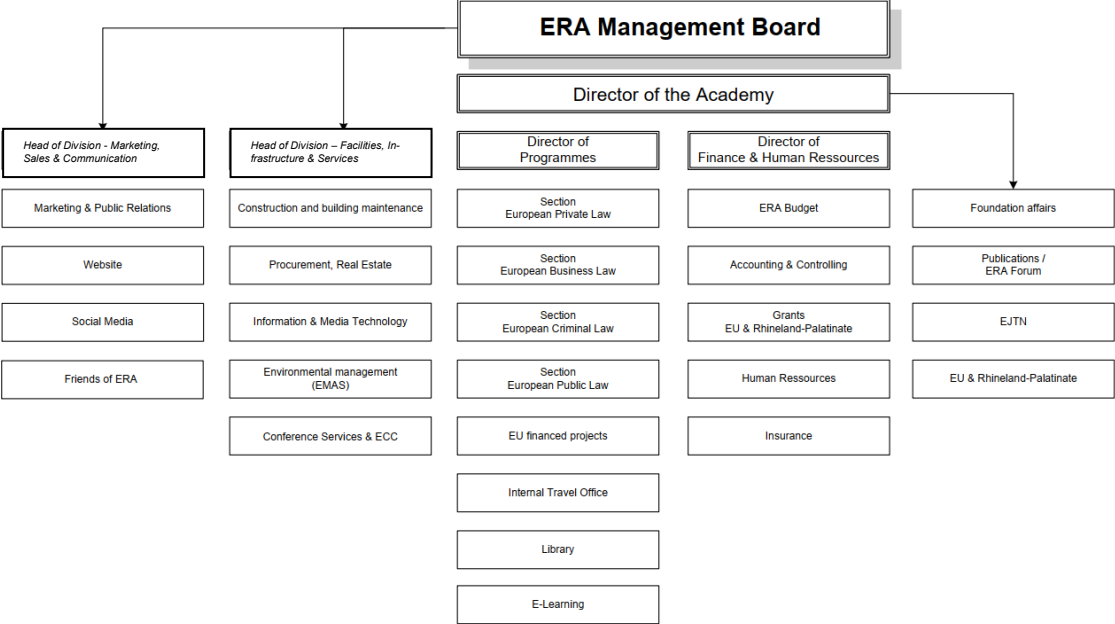
The ERA is a non-profit foundation dedicated to providing in-depth knowledge in European law, in particular EU law, to individuals and bodies involved in the application and implementation of European law in the EU Member States and in other European countries interested in close cooperation with the European Union and to facilitate a mutual comprehensive exchange of experience.

Our target groups include judges, public prosecutors, lawyers, in-house counsels, notaries and legal staff in ministries, authorities, associations and organisations. Our participants come from all EU member states, EFTA countries and the rest of Europe.

The ERA's training offer consists of courses, conferences, seminars and expert colloquia, which take place as face-to-face, hybrid and online activities. Almost half of all its face-to-face events take place at the ERA Conference Centre (ECC), and the rest in the various EU member states, occasionally even in other European countries. The ERA's activities are completed by the publication of its 'ERA Forum', a wide range of e-learning activities and the occasional provision of a platform for legal policy discussions.

The legal form of ERA is a non-profit foundation and the services rendered within the framework of its special-purpose operation (holding of continuing education events) are exempt from value added tax. Services provided as part of the ERA's business operations (renting out conference facilities to third parties) are outside the scope of this recognised non-profit status - and are therefore subject to VAT - and are grouped together under the marketing term "ECC".

Organisational chart



4. ERA: Location and building

The ERA site consists of two buildings (A and B), each with event and administration floors and open spaces. The two ERA buildings are located in the Heiligkreuz district of Trier, west of Metzger Allee and only a short distance from the Kaiserthermen, approximately 200 m to the L 143.

In the 1990s the location was determined by the Conference of Justice Ministers and the Senators of the Länder (federal states), whereby proximity to the European institutions in Luxembourg, Brussels and Strasbourg was one of the most important criteria for the choice of location.

In Roman times, a temple complex with at least 70 structures on 12 different levels was located directly in front of the site of today’s buildings. In the last century, a distillery was operated at today’s site. It can be assumed that our site is not polluted by contaminated sites. According to information provided by telephone by the Struktur- und Genehmigungsdirektion Nord [Structure and Approval Department – North], the two parcels 72/44 and 72/45 are not listed in the soil protection cadastre of the State of Rhineland-Palatinate.

The ERA is located in a mixed-use area that is not designated as a water protection area or as a floodplain.

Site areas	Area (m ²)
Total area	9.339
Near-natural areas at the site	1.555
Sealed area	7.784
Built-up area	2.842
Heated area	5.393
Underground car park	2.063

The two buildings

Our site is dominated by buildings A and B. In addition to the administration, there are conference rooms and meeting facilities.

Both buildings were constructed in 1996/97 and are multi-storey (building A has four, building B three storeys), with corresponding lift systems. Building B (former Landeszentralbank [State Central Bank]) was converted for our purposes in 2009/2010.

Both houses have stationary heating (natural gas). Parts of the buildings have underfloor heating. The building is cooled by air-conditioning systems and air-handling units. The air conditioning systems are subjected to an energy inspection by the TÜV [Technical Inspection Association] every ten years; we also derive environmental targets from this. Air-conditioning units are regularly checked for leaks. A building management system is in place.

Building insulation is in place. The windows are triple glazed. A shading system was retrofitted in building B in 2024.

2022	Gas heating	Photovoltaics	Heating	Cooling capacity	Refrigerant*
Building A	224 kW	59.4 kW _p	136.8 kWh/m ²	180 kW	R134a (64 kg)
Building B	2 x 105 kW	60.72 kW _p		195 kW	R407c (18 kg)

* Global Warming Potential GWP: R134a = 1430, R407c = 1774

Special features worth mentioning include:

- The large conference rooms in **both buildings** are equipped with interpreter booths for international events,
- A photovoltaic system with a total output of 120.12 kW_p has been installed on both buildings and has been connected to the grid since April 2021,
- All administrative floors and event areas in Building B have been updated to LED lighting,
- All outdoor lighting, which was technically very outdated and in some cases irreparably defective, has been replaced. Where feasible, insect-friendly light sources have been used.
- There is an underground car park under Building A, which is also used by the adjacent hotel. Safety-relevant measurements and inspections are carried out regularly,
- In the winter of 2023/2024, part of the underground car park and existing parking spaces were converted to create a secure storage room for bicycles and include a charging station for e-bikes.
- Small quantities of hazardous substances are stored in a cellar room,
- In building A, rainwater is used for the toilets and the outdoor facilities; (20 m³ collection tank with upstream filtration),
- The ERA library is also located in Building A;
- In **building B** there is a bistro for our participants (no food preparation, only catering),
- There is an in-house copying and printing station on the first floor,
- Another room contains a 5.3 m³ tank of heating oil for emergency power supply.
- In an annexe, with direct access from building B, the former vaults of the Bundesbank are located on two levels.

In accordance with the state ordinance on the inspection of technical installations and equipment, the technology concerned is inspected as specified.

As a special architectural feature, ERA has a so-called water belt, also referred to as a fountain, in the outdoor area along the glass façade of the library, covering an area of 250 metres². The water belt has not been in use since 2022, which not only saves water and energy but also means we do not need to use chemicals to treat the water.

5. Environmental management system

Since the introduction of EMAS, we have been addressing the necessary improvement measures. We comply with all legal environmental requirements.

We have defined relevant environmental goals as an environmental programme, have enacted a binding quality and environmental policy, and have introduced an environmentally oriented organisational structure and process organisation in order to minimise the negative environmental impact of our activities.

We have dedicated and competent staff. We test the efficiency of our system through regular internal audits. We ensure compliance with company-related environmental regulations through internal controls, regular information from associations and external advice; we maintain a legal directory that is updated regularly. In case of need for supplementation or non-conformities, we initiate appropriate measures, which we then assess. The EMAS team began work in 2021 and has grown since then, discussing current EMAS topics on a monthly basis. Our EMAS SharePoint page is the central internal communication tool. In terms of external communication, we have made the EMAS logo more visible in our publications and produced a short sustainability video.

An independent environmental auditor will audit us every other year as of 2021. He validates the environmental statement so that we can maintain the EMAS registration with the Southern Upper Rhine Chamber of Commerce.

In the event of deviations from the environmental policy, we analyse the situation and initiate such corrective and preventive measures as necessary.

Due to the amendments to the EMAS in 2017/2018, we have analysed our context including stakeholders, evaluated opportunities and risks and carried out life cycle assessments.

We note that there is no binding EU reference document for our NACE code (85.59, *adult vocational training*).

ERA Environmental Statement 2025

The scope of our EMS refers to our site at 2-4 Metzger Allee, 54295 Trier, Our site (🏠) represents the physical boundaries of the system. Relevant indirect environmental impacts go beyond the site.

Further information on the site, our activities and services are presented in the environmental statement.

As Head of Facilities, Infrastructure & Services, Luc Doeve is responsible for the EMAS in the sense of an Environmental Management Officer (EMO).

(General plan of the ERA, Trier)



6. Environmental impact and its assessment

ERA assesses the environmental impact emanating from its site in terms of "significant" or "non-significant" using the following criteria:

Criteria	essential if
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental legislation requirements 	High level of regulation, many laws
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hazard potential 	High risk or already an incident
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource consumption, Material efficiency 	High input share (materials, energy); recyclability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emissions 	High output share (emissions, waste)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public interest or stakeholder engagement 	e.g. complaints from the neighbourhood

The required environmental aspects can be quantified in tabular form with an annual input-output balance sheet. The (nine) key indicators derived from this summarise the ecological operating reality.

The relevant environmental regulations are then presented.

Explanations on the various environmental aspects/environmental impact

(1) Direct environmental aspects

(1.1) Resource consumption (technology, administration)

Various hazardous substances are consumed in small quantities for building services; these include adhesives or paints that may have environmentally harmful properties (such as flammable, hazardous to water). There are *no relevant emissions into the air or soil*.

Since 2022 ERA has not used chemicals, partly due to the water belt no longer being in use. No more wastewater laden with the chemicals used to clean and treat the water is produced.

Only cleaning agents that are only classified as hazardous substances in exceptional cases are used to clean the buildings (*low wastewater loads in the sanitary area*).

The office materials used include mainly paper, printer ink cartridges and toner cartridges. Most of the paper is FSC-certified. Ink and toner cartridges are taken back by the supplier.

Relevant environmental impact, such as energy consumption, process- and transport-related pollutant emissions and the disposal of waste, is certainly recorded in the upstream chains.

Assessment: *non-significant (relatively small quantities or low risk)*

(1.2) Energy/emissions

The heating for buildings A and B is generated by two gas heaters (gas/electricity purchased from Stadtwerke Trier). There is a commercial kitchen in building B, which is used only for catering services (heating and cooling). For an emergency generator, 5.3 m³ of heating oil is kept in a tank, which has been inspected by an expert ('no defects').

The combustion of natural gas emits pollutants and greenhouse gases that are harmful to the climate.

The electricity required is mainly used for cooling and ventilation purposes as well as for the extensive lighting. *Significant amounts of fossil fuels are still used in the generation of electricity, causing pollutants and greenhouse gases that are harmful to the climate.*

The installation of two photovoltaic systems (59.4 and 60.7 kW_p) on both roofs, has enabled us to use climate-neutral solar power for our own consumption *without emitting pollutants* since 2021. Three connected charging stations offer employees and participants the opportunity to charge their electric or hybrid vehicles with solar power.

The leasing contracts for ERA's service vehicles, which were equipped with combustion engines, expired at the beginning of 2023. From the beginning of 2024 ERA switched to e-mobility, a corresponding leasing contract has already been signed. Only one car is being leased, as any additional needs can also be met by occasionally hiring environmentally-friendly rental cars.

The use of our buildings for seminars and conferences requires air conditioning and ventilation systems. *This consumes energy (electricity) with the corresponding environmental impact (see above)*. The refrigerants (partially fluorinated greenhouse gases) used in the systems *have properties that are harmful to the climate* (GWP: global warming potential > 1000). A leak was detected in 2022 during routine maintenance (see 1.5).

Preheaters, air coolers and then reheaters are installed in our ventilation ducts. The preheated exhaust air is fed back into the supply air via a heat recovery system (in building B via a rotary heat exchanger), so that the fresh air is warmed by a few degrees.

Assessment: ***Substantial*** (*relatively high energy input, use of fossil natural gas and partially fluorinated greenhouse gases*).

(1.3) Water/wastewater/soil

Fresh water is purchased from the city of Trier. This is mainly used in the sanitary facilities, for washing conference dishes. *Raw water treatment mainly requires electricity and a network of pipes*. Rainwater is also collected and used for the management of the Sanitary facilities. Fresh water consumption increased in 2022 due to a defective valve in the rainwater tank. The necessary preventive measures have been implemented.

The wastewater comes from sanitary facilities. Several dishwashing machines are operated in the bistro and cafeteria; a grease trap is not required. *Taken together, the household wastewater flows have a low environmental impact*. The wastewater is treated in the sewage treatment plant of the City of Trier.

Inside the building, small quantities of hazardous substances are stored on collection trays. Soil contamination is thereby *de facto* excluded. *With the car park in the basement, we prevent the sealing of further outdoor areas*.

Assessment: *non-significant (relatively small amounts of wastewater, few pollutants).*

(1.4) Waste/disposal

Due to the predominant office and conference activities, the ERA primarily generates paper/cardboard and packaging waste, *most of which can be recycled*. Fluorescent tubes, other electrical bulkheads and empty spray cans (small quantity, less than 50 kg) are disposed of locally at the recycling centre. Batteries are collected and picked up via the GRS system or are properly disposed of at the ART recycling centre. Food waste is disposed of by the caterer.

In the event of construction activities, we agree with the specialist companies on the proper disposal or *processing of the construction waste*, including the necessary documentation.

Assessment: *non-significant (relatively small quantities)*

(1.5) Incidents/accidents/emergency precautions

To ensure undisturbed operations, the ERA has a sprinkler system (underground car park) that is regularly maintained / tested.

An emergency generator can ensure the power supply of the relevant equipment for several hours.

Structural and organisational fire protection measures comply with the latest legal requirements.

In September 2021 there was a smouldering fire in the lower storage room of Building B, the effects of which were very limited thanks to the functioning safety technology.

Since 2019 there have been two leaks in the refrigeration circuit. Relevant quantities of the refrigerant R 134a (GWP: 1430) were emitted (2019 approx 26 t and 2022 approx 30 t CO₂ eq). In 2022, a leak occurred in the refrigeration circuit. This resulted in the emission of significant quantities of the refrigerant R 134a (GWP: 1430) (approx. 30 tonnes of CO₂ eq).

To prevent the risk of leakage, the installation of a leakage warning system is planned; quotations have already been received. We will review the situation in detail next year. During the review of the quotations, it was determined that a leak detection system is not mandatory and that this system is also subject to annual inspection. ERA's building services department also conducts daily inspection rounds in both buildings.

Assessment: **Significant** (*leakage, fire event*)

(2) Indirect environmental aspects

(2.1) Educational opportunities/participants

Our educational offer is aimed at all legal professionals from Germany or abroad. The digital provision of information entails the consumption of energy (electricity) and resources (hardware); the conventional provision of information requires paper and other auxiliary materials but is being used less and less. This means: *pollutant emissions in electricity production, unless PV electricity; resource consumption (plastics, metals, wood, chemicals) for paper production with the associated waste, some of which is classified as hazardous.*

We also offer seminars with direct environmental relevance, e.g. on wildlife trade, deforestation and illegal logging, or air quality and noise protection legislation. This offering accounted for approximately 9% of the total training programme in both 2024 and 2025.. We also want to increase our participants' competence in the subject matter and their awareness of the need to apply and use this knowledge.

Participants usually travel to Trier by plane (mostly via Luxembourg airport) then use a bus or taxi shuttle service or their own car. Since the adoption of the 'Local Travel' guidelines, ERA has expressly pointed out the availability of free public transport in Luxembourg and the very affordable bus connections between Trier and Luxembourg. Due to the unfavourable train connections to the city of Trier, rail travel is rarely used.. *Fossil fuels are consumed first and foremost; pollutants such as*

particulate matter and greenhouse gases that are harmful to the climate are produced.

As soon as we provide our educational offers at other locations in the EU, we cause comparable environmental impact there, the reduction of which is to be addressed in a later EMAS project step.

As an alternative to face-to-face participation, participation in online and/or hybrid seminars is offered in an online format. These seminars are increasingly seen as sustainable alternatives to traditional face-to-face events. Some key aspects of how they can contribute to reducing environmental impacts include reducing travel emissions and consuming fewer resources on site. Assessment: **Significant** (*multiplier effect, fuel consumption*).

(2.2) External companies

A number of external companies are contracted as part of our diverse procurement processes, for, e.g. the technical maintenance, servicing and testing of building services and other equipment, waste disposal as well as the supply of office materials, catering services, cleaning services and occasionally construction activities.

All these activities involve transport operations and cause the environmental impact already mentioned several times (see 1.2 and 2.1).

Assessment: **Significant** (*Complex process with legal relevance*).

(2.3) Scope 3 GHG emissions

Following a materiality analysis, the identified areas were explained and quantified where possible.

The following Scope 3 areas were identified for 2024 and CO₂ values estimated:

- 1) Staff commutes with an estimated **34.4 t CO₂ eq.**;
(*according to UBA Tremod6.61c*)
- 2) Municipal waste with an estimated **2.0 t CO₂ eq.**;
(*according to Eco-Cockpit Portal*)

No quantifications can currently be estimated for other areas.

Assessment: **Significant** (*complex process with legal relevance*)

Presentation of the relevant legal requirements for the site

Legal requirement	Implementation in the company
Water and soil protection	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal Water Act municipal sewage statutes 	Compliance with the principle of concern for the protection of water bodies (including groundwater and drinking water); (+) <i>Compliance with the principle of concern; <u>Trier Municipal Wastewater Statutes</u>: (+) The water belt has been decommissioned .</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AwSV (Ordinance on Installations for Handling Substances Hazardous to Water) 	(+) <i>current system documentation is available (heating oil tank is a B-system (tested once), (+) hazardous materials cabinet</i>
Handling chemicals	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ordinance on Hazardous Substances 	(+) <i>current safety data sheets for the substances used, (+) current list of hazardous substances and operating instructions in the vicinity of the workplace, (+) annual instruction of employees.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chemicals Climate Protection Ordinance 	(+) <i>six-monthly and annual leakage test of the air-conditioning systems by certified company with qualified personnel</i> (+) <i>documentation of the systems.</i>
Emission control	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BImSchG (Federal Immission Control Act) 	Protection of people and the environment from harmful environmental effects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st BImSchV (small and medium-sized combustion plants); KÜO (sweeping and monitoring regulations) 	Regulations for the operation of combustion plants with specified <u>limit values</u> and cleaning obligations (<u>fireplace notice</u> , here: natural gas); (+) <i>Compliance with limit values and flue gas losses; <u>Kehr- und Überwachungs-VO (KÜO) [Sweeping and Inspection Regulation]</u>: (+) regular inspection of the flue gas pipe by the chimney sweep</i>
Waste disposal	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KrWG (Recycling Management Act) Industrial Waste Ordinance 	Promoting the conservation of natural resources (<u>waste hierarchy</u> : avoid before recycling before disposing); separate collection of waste fractions; <i>Industrial Waste Ordinance: (+) annual documentation of municipal waste separated as far as possible is available, (+) declarations of the disposers are currently available</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste Control Ordinance 	Distinction between <u>hazardous</u> and non-hazardous waste; (+) <i>Acceptance certificates document proper disposal by (+) specialised waste management companies.</i>
Energy supply	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EEG (Renewable Energy Sources Act) Market Master Data Register Ordinance 	Graduated feed-in rates for <u>electricity</u> fed into the grid from renewable sources (here: photovoltaics, kW120p) or maximum self-consumption; (+) <i>plants officially registered</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GEG Building Energy Act 	(+) <i>energy inspection</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GEIG Building Energy Infrastructure Act 	Installation of e-charging stations: (+) <i>three stations have already been installed.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EnEfG Energy Efficiency Act 	Requirements for companies and the public sector depending on total annual energy consumption. (+) Average consumption 2021-2023 less than 1.0 GWh; therefore no further requirements for the foundation.
Fire protection	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State building regulations 	Defines requirements for preventive fire protection
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assembly Venue Ordinance 	Defines requirements for preventive fire protection and safety

7. Input-output annual overview

Energy	Unit	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Electricity	kWh	432.868	320.086	327.339	262.559	268.135	316.498
Share of renewable energies (electricity)	%	71,4	76,1	83,4	81,1	85,2	80,6
Heat (Gas)	kWh	729.673	641.257	734.960	567.234	555.274	596.909
(weather-adjusted)	kWh	763.322	738.985	719.110	637.074	628.630	658.084
Heating oil	kWh					3.162	
(weather-adjusted)	kWh						
Fuel consumption (service vehicles)	L	1.411	440	241	571	71	0
	kWh	13.575	4.207	2.275	5.481	707	0
Electricity consumption (service vehicles)	kWh	-	-	-	-	0	849
Total energy consumption (without PV, Gas _{we})	kWh	1.209.765	1.063.278	1.048.724	905.115	897.472	975.431
PV-electricity (120-kW-plant)	kWh	—	ab 4-21 am Netz	70.209	80.180	73.440	65.947
Water	m ³	722	372	367	790	141	140
Indicator							
Heating	kWh / m ² x a	141,5	137,0	133,3	118,1	116,6	122,0
Procurement	Unit	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Paper, purchasing	t	4,36	1,11	2,20	2,07	1,71	1,40
Hygiene and cleaning agents	L	260	314	213	235	255	257
Water treatment of water band- (Natrienbleichlauge, Schwefelsäure)	kg	410	0	0	0	0	0
Verkehr (Entfernungen)	Unit	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total kilometres	km	133.560	14.846	40.138	122.595	133.385	97.664
ERA car (diesel)	km	10.250	6.115	2.580	8.367	1.696	0
ERA car (petrol)	km	6.785	2.333	1.709	2.782	0	0
ERA car (electric)	km						3.685
Car other (including taxi)	km	16.305	6.741	3.545	12.846	11.194	17.442
Rail/public transport	km	8.426	270	1.307	10.630	7.334	6.804
Aeroplane	km	91.794	6.128	34.542	100.816	124.355	90.860
Indicator							
Kilometre	km/MA	2.114	245	605	1.859	2.235	1.487
spec. consumption (ERA car)	L/100 km	8,3	5,2	5,6	5,1	4,2	0,0
spec. consumption (ERA electric car)	kWh/km	-	-	-	-	-	0,23
Services - products	Unit	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Participation days (reference value for KPI)	Tag (Pt)	14.208,0	3.725,5	3.794,0	7.876,5	8.723,0	9.059,0
Employees	Vollzeitäquivalent (FTE)	63,2	60,7	66,3	66,0	59,7	65,7
CO₂ - emissions*	Unit	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total emissions	t	292,1	187,5	198,7	200,3	174,2	179,6
Electricity	t	93,1	54,4	42,6	32,8	33,8	39,9
Heat (Gas)	t	147,4	129,5	148,5	114,6	112,2	120,6
Total traffic	t	25,9	3,6	7,7	22,9	28,2	19,1
ERA car (diesel)	t	2,4	0,7	0,5	1,5	0,2	0,0
ERA car (petrol)	t	1,2	0,4	0,3	0,5	0,0	0,0
ERA car (electric)	t	-	-	-	-	-	0,1
Car other (including taxi)	t	2,9	1,2	0,6	2,3	2,0	3,1
Rail/public transport	t	0,4	0,0	0,1	0,5	0,3	0,3
Aeroplane	t	19,0	1,3	7,2	20,9	25,7	18,8
Refrigerant leaks (CO ₂ eq)**	t	25,7	0,0	0,0	30,0	0,0	0,0
Greenhouse gases (direct)	Unit	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
CO ₂ , CH ₄ , N ₂ O (gas, fuel)	t CO ₂ eq.	200,5	151,5	172,9	134,5	130,3	139,9
Air pollutants (direkt)	Unit						
SO ₂ , NO _x , dust	kg	75,0	63,2	71,6	57,6	53,9	57,6
Waste	Unit	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total waste	t	14,7	15,2	15,2	15,7	13,7	14,1
hazardous waste	t	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
non-hazardous waste	t	14,7	15,2	15,2	15,7	13,7	14,1
Residual waste	t	5,4	5,4	5,4	5,4	5,0	5,4
Paper and cardboard packaging	t	9,1	9,6	9,6	10,1	8,5	8,5
Plastic packaging	t	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2
Location	Unit	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total area	m ²	9.339	9.339	9.339	9.339	9.339	9.339
Sealed area	m ²	7.784	7.784	7.784	7.784	7.784	7.784
Non-sealed areas (natural areas)	m ²	1.555	1.555	1.555	1.555	1.555	1.555
Built-up areas	m ²	2.842	2.842	2.842	2.842	2.842	2.842
Heated areas	m ²	5.393	5.393	5.393	5.393	5.393	5.393

* CO₂ core values according to BAFA 2016, 2019

** 18 kg x 1,430 (GWP from R134a)

Hazardous waste: only household quantities (batteries, aerosol cans, etc.)

Explanation of the core indicators

Core indicators		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Reference value: participation days	Pt	14.208	3.726	3.794	7.877	8.723	9.059
(1) Energy efficiency (total energy consumption)	MWh/Pt	0,083	0,259	0,281	0,106	0,094	0,101
(2)Share of renewable energy (electricity, heat)	%	26,59	25,34	25,70	25,66	27,74	27,93
(3)Feedstocks	kg/Pt	0,35	0,38	0,64	0,29	0,22	0,18
(4) Water	m3/Pt	0,051	0,100	0,097	0,100	0,016	0,015
(5) Total waste	t/Pt	0,001	0,004	0,004	0,002	0,002	0,002
(6)Total hazardous waste	t/Pt	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
(7) Total emissions (pollutants)	kg/Pt	0,005	0,017	0,019	0,007	0,006	0,006
(8) Greenhouse gases (excl. electricity)	t CO2 eq/Pt	0,014	0,041	0,046	0,017	0,015	0,015
(9) Total surface area	m2/Pt	0,657	2,507	2,462	1,186	1,071	1,031

(1) Significant improvement in energy efficiency compared to the pandemic years of 2020/2021 and 2022,

Unfortunately, energy efficiency in 2023 and 2024 was still higher than in 2019, as participation figures had not yet reached pre-pandemic levels and participants in online conferences were not taken into account. However, the trend in conference participation in Trier rose until 2024:

2019: 14,208 2020: 3,726 2021: 3,794 2022: 7,877 2023: 8,723 2024:
 9,059

(2) The proportion of renewable energies has risen steadily since 2020. In 2023 and 2024, we were able to source almost 28% (total electricity and heat) from renewable energies from external suppliers. Taking into account our own PV systems, the proportion was as high as 33.7% in 2023 and 32.9% in 2024.

(3) The indicator for input materials was significantly lower in 2023 and 2024 than in the comparison years 2019-2022.. The increased value in 2021 (0.64 kg/Pt) can be explained by the resumption of normal operations (refilling of storage).

(4) The **water indicator** for 2023 and 2024 has fallen dramatically (from approx. 100 L/Pt to just 16 L/Pt and 15 L/Pt respectively!). Some valves have been replaced.

(5 and 6) We have not had to dispose of any hazardous waste in the last three years. Non-hazardous waste mainly consists of paper and cardboard, followed by residual waste. Since 2022, the **total waste indicator** has been a maximum of two kg per day of participation.

(7) In 2023, absolute **total emissions** (pollutants) were just under 54 kg. Unfortunately, they rose again in 2024 to the 2022 level (approx. 57 kg), but remain below the levels of 2019 to 2021.

(8) The indicators for **greenhouse gases** in 2023 and 2024 were clearly approaching pre-corona virus levels (2019: 0.014 t/Pt; 2023 and 2024: 0.015).

(9) The **area indicator** is still slightly above 1 m²/Pt, with the trend continuing towards a value below one.

8. Environmental goals and programme 2021-2025

Environmental programme 2021-2025

1 Goal: Energy savings of 5 % by 2023 (base 2019)				
	Measures	who?	until when?	Status
1.1	Technical measures: (see energy inspection reports) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install presence detector • Replace old feed pumps • Control of ventilation via CO₂ concentration in the room 	HMT	12-2023	Completed
	Evaluation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 presence detectors have been installed • Feed pumps will be replaced if defective • CO₂ sensors were installed in December 2023 			
1.2	Eco-balance "Home office vs. office presence". <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use current evaluations from nationally recognised institutes • Make own calculations • Determine the mobility behaviour of employees 	GL	12-2022 New date: 07/2024	Completed
	Evaluation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New UBA study is available; • An employee survey on mobile working was conducted at the beginning of 2023, in which 80% of the workforce took part; • Conclusions on the mobility behaviour of employees are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 87% make use of the opportunity to work mobile; ✓ If not working from home, then because the job is not suitable for this; ✓ 45% work up to half of their working time from home; ✓ 64% find it important to spend less time travelling for business • Implementation delayed • In September 2025, an employee survey on commuting was conducted, in which 52% of the workforce participated. • Conclusions about employees' commutes are: 			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 63% of commutes are made by car; ✓ 25% of commutes are made by public transport; ✓ 59% of the workforce has a commute of 6 kilometres or less 			
1.3	<p>"Energy-saving event" concept</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Room-specific CO₂-load • other influencing factors • Selection of rooms according to criteria • Involvement of/awareness raising among participants 	GL	12-2023	Completed
	<p>Evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The installation of CO₂ sensors avoids unnecessary air exchange; • Consolidation of the lunch breaks of ERA conferences in one building (Bistro Building B); • The introduction of new resource management software in conjunction with a standardised set-up enables efficient use of the conference rooms; • Sustainable measures were implemented to raise awareness among participants. These included the use of smaller, environmentally-friendly napkins made from recycled paper, the use of jugs instead of milk in individual portions, and the elimination of individually packaged biscuits. 			
1.4	<p>Vehicle and mobility concept</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing leasing contracts for company cars running until January or April 2023. • Examination of further mobility alternatives (e.g. e-bikes) 	GL	12-2022	completed
	<p>Evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in the number of company cars, only one electric car from 2024; • Alternative job bike - still not feasible, will be pursued further (ERA payroll is handled by an external service provider that cannot implement this option for technical reasons); • The Deutschland-Ticket has been offered to employees since October 2023 			

2 Goal: Make events more ecological by 2024				
	Measures	who?	until when?	Status
2.1	Create concept points	UMB	06-2022	completed
2.2	Evaluate suitability	UMB	12-2022	completed
2.3	Develop implementation concept	UMB	06-2023	completed
2.4	Develop implementation concept	UMB	06-2042	completed
	<p><u>Evaluation:</u> Several workshops were held with lively participation from almost all departments, and the results were presented to ERA management. A working paper was drawn up and agreed with management. This process was continued in 2024 and implemented in ERA's day-to-day operations with the adoption of the internal guidelines on local travel to and from ERA events in November 2024. With regard to the sustainability of the events in Trier, a number of smaller measures were also initiated (see also assessment under 1.3).</p>			
3 Goal: Reduction of paper consumption in the administration by 2023 by 10 % (basis 2019)				
	Measures	who?	until when?	Status
3.1	Introduction of data management system	IT	12-2023 New date 12/2025	Discontinued
3.2	Analysis of the current printing behaviour	GL	03-2022	Completed
3.3.	Elaboration of solution options	GL	03-2023	Completed
	<p><u>Evaluation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of administrative printers showed that an average of 30% more paper was saved in 2022 than the targeted 10%; • SharePoint Online was introduced. This makes documents available electronically everywhere. The introduction of a standalone DMS became unnecessary after SharePoint was introduced, as SharePoint covers most of the functions of a DMS. • Following an internal evaluation of printing volume and behaviour, a new printing concept was drawn up for the administrative printers. It provides for a reduction in the number of printers and printer locations. The concept is also based on the digitisation of incoming mail. 			
4 Goal: Involvement of/awareness raising among ERA staff by 2022				
	Measures	who?	until when?	Status
4.1	Conduct three workshops for different groups of people	UMB	03-05-2022 New date 06-2023	Completed
4.2	Start and evaluate a survey	UMB	10-2022	abandoned
	<p><u>Evaluation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two instead of three workshops were held, one on the topic of 			

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	<p>"Making events more environmentally friendly" and one on the topic of "Sustainable procurement";</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A survey was not conducted; instead, workshops were held and the "SharePoint" software was introduced; • Employees are encouraged to contribute ideas/suggestions at staff meetings, among other things. • The new target 5 was included with EMAS validation in 2023. This also involved the involvement and awareness-raising of employees. 			
5 neu	Objective: Improve the visibility and internal and external communication of ERA environmental management in 2024			
	Measures	who?	deadline?	Status
5.1	<p>Development of a communication strategy for external and internal communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • - Involvement of relevant employees in the specific environmental communication processes. 	GL & COMMS	06/2024	In progress
5.2	<p>Establishing, implementing and maintaining the necessary processes for communication about EMAS and ERA's environmental management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • - Intensifying the provision of information • - Utilisation of the internal SharePoint site • - Use environmental protection and sustainability to attract participants • - Discuss other suitable forms of environmental communication and use if necessary 	UMB & COMMS	09/2024	Ongoing
	<p><u>Evaluation</u></p> <p>An EMAS SharePoint website has been created to facilitate internal ERA communication. At the same time, a series of measures have been initiated to inform both staff and ERA participants about ERA's environmental management. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improved visibility of the EMAS logo (e.g. on the ERA website, flag, annual report, email signatures); 			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> production and publication of a short sustainability video; Selected action days were used as an opportunity to communicate the ERA's past and future activities and to draw attention to these days (Earth Day on 22 April, EU Green Week from 3 to 5 June, Car-Free Day on 22 September). As part of these action days, the ERA itself carried out environmental activities in which employees could voluntarily participate. 			
6 neu	Target: energy savings of 5 % by 2025 (basis 2022)			
	measures	who?	deadline?	Status
6.1	Further conversion to LED lighting (especially administration and conference areas in Building B)	HT	01/2024	in progress
6.2	Analysing further 'energy-saving' factors as part of events	GL & UMB	10/2024	Completed
	<p>Evaluation:</p> <p>The conversion to LED lighting continued in 2024 and 2025. Care had to be taken to ensure that ongoing operations were not disrupted. The conversion of the remaining lighting in the conference rooms of Building A is planned.</p> <p>As part of the workshops held on the topic of "Making events more environmentally friendly", various "energy-saving" factors were discussed in terms of their feasibility. In 2025, cloth table linen was replaced with sustainable paper tablecloths. The reduction in transport distances is a particularly positive aspect of this change. Automatic soap and towel dispensers were also introduced.</p>			
7 neu	Target: Reduce paper consumption in the administration by 2025 by 5 % (basis 2022)			
	measures	who?	deadline?	Status
7.1	Conversion & reduction of current printers	ITM	04-2024	Completed
7.2	Conversion of accounting to paperless incoming and outgoing invoices	GL	06-2024	Completed
7.3	Analysis of printing behaviour after changeover	GL	12-2024	Submitted
	<p>Evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The changeover and reduction in the number of printers in the 			

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	<p>administration department has been completed as planned.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1 of the conversion of the accounting department to paperless incoming and outgoing invoices was completed in December 2024. Part 2 will be implemented in 2025. • Total paper consumption in 2024 was only 55% of consumption in 2022 (and 33% of consumption in 2019). • An analysis is not necessary for the time being due to the further significant reduction. 			
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In addition to our 2021-2025 environmental programme, at the end of 2024 a student research group began work on a report entitled "ERA's path to carbon neutrality by 2027" as part of Queen Mary University of London's "Capstone Sustainability Challenges" project. The final report has been available since October 2025 and not only serves ERA in the further development of its environmental goals, but also contains proposals, such as an AI-based solar cleaning system, that could potentially be implemented in the short term.

8.2 Environmental Programme 2026–2029

1	Goal: Accounting for Scope 3 emissions			
	Measures	Who?	By when?	Status
1.1	Listing and evaluation of all Scope 3 emission sources of the ERA	GL & UMB	12/2026	Planned
1.2	Determination of accounting methodology in accordance with GHGP	GL & UMB	12/2026	Planned
1.3	Evaluation of the relevant Scope 3 emission sources of the ERA	UMB	12/2027	Planned
2	Objective: Continue to make events more environmentally friendly			
	Measures	Who?	By when?	Status
2.1	Analysis of the effectiveness of previous measures for events in Trier (an inventory of all ecological measures taken in recent years for events in Trier will be carried out); initiate supplementary measures	EMAS team	06/2026	Planned
2.2	Examination of the possible use and procurement of Blue Angel-certified, environmentally friendly paper alternatives with a maximum whiteness of 80 (in accordance with UBA guidelines).	EMAS team	12	Planned
2.3	Examination of the feasibility of measures for events outside Trier (three events at different locations will be examined for the implementation of ecological measures and a feasibility report will be prepared).	EMAS team	12/2027	Planned
3	Objective: Conduct energy analysis and draw up catalogue of measures			
	Measures	Who?	By when?	Status

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3.1	Systematic collection and allocation of at least 80% of relevant energy consumption data (collection of external and internal data)	HT	12/2026	Planned
3.2	Analysis of this data to identify inefficient processes (supported by external consulting)	UMB & HT	12/2026	Planned
3.3	Creation of a plan to implement potential savings (in the workplace; during events; in building technology; electricity storage)	GL & UMB	12/2026	Planned
4 Objective: Continuation of internal and external communication of ERA environmental management				
	Measures	Who?	By when?	Status
4.1	Expansion of communication with ERA target groups and employees (at least five social media posts and three on-site campaigns (challenges) per year)	EMAS team	12/2026	Started
4.2	Expansion of communication to the public (three new communication partnerships with public or non-profit institutions are being examined and at least one cooperation is being implemented)	EMAS team	12/2026	Started
4.3	Expansion of communication to suppliers and business partners (An "ERA Sustainability Standard Guide" will be created and communicated to all suppliers/business partners)	EMAS team	12/2027	Planned

9. Environmental verifier's declaration

The undersigned, Lennart Schleicher, MS (Biology), EMAS environmental verifier, registration number DE-V-0404, accredited or licensed for the scope 85 (NACE code), hereby confirms that he verified that the sites, as described in the environmental statement of the

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54295 Trier

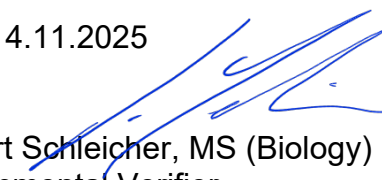
comply with all the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2009 on the voluntary participation by organisations in a Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS), as updated by Regulation (EU) 2017/1505 and Regulation (EU) 2018/2026.

This signed declaration confirms that

- the assessment and validation have been carried out in full compliance with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009, updated by Regulation (EU) 2017/1505 and Regulation (EU) 2018/2026,
- the result of the assessment and validation confirms that there is no evidence of non-compliance with applicable environmental legislation,
- the data and information in the organisation's environmental statement provide a reliable, credible and true picture of all the organisation's activities within the scope stated in the environmental statement.

This declaration cannot be equated with EMAS registration. EMAS registration can only be carried out by a competent body in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009. This statement may not be used as an independent basis for informing the public.

Trier, 14.11.2025



Lennart Schleicher, MS (Biology)
Environmental Verifier

10. Imprint

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ERA Privacy Statement: [ERA - Academy of European Law > Privacy Statement](#)

An updated environmental statement is published annually. The next validated environmental statement will be published in 2027.

11. Glossary

Verification: Conformity assessment carried out by environmental verifiers to determine that the environmental assessment, environmental policy, environmental management system and internal environmental audit and their implementation meet the requirements of the EMAS Regulation.

Binding commitments: Legal obligations and other requirements to which the organisation has committed itself.

Documented information: Documents and records are now summarised as documented information in EN ISO 14001:2015.

EN ISO 14001: International standard for environmental management systems. The requirements for an environmental management system under the EMAS correspond to EN ISO 14001 because they are included in the EMAS Regulation: Annex II compares the requirements of EN ISO 14001 with the additional issues to be addressed by EMAS participating organisations.

EMAS register: All EMAS organisations are recorded in a publicly accessible database with the most important data (sector, address, number of employees, date of registration) and are given an individual registration number. The Chambers of Industry and Commerce and the Chambers of Crafts are in charge. You can find the German register at emas-register.de and the European register at emas-register.eu.

Small organisations: Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises as defined in the EU Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC. These include companies that employ fewer than 250 people and either have an annual turnover of no more than EUR 50 million or an annual balance sheet total of no more than EUR 43 million. The definition of small organisations also includes local authorities that serve fewer than 10,000 inhabitants or other public authorities that employ fewer than 250 persons and either have an annual budget of no more than EUR 50 million or an annual balance sheet total of no more than EUR 43 million.

Organisation: The term is used here as a generic term for all EMAS users. These can be companies, authorities, associations, institutions and facilities of all types, sizes and sectors.

Registration: Formal confirmation of participation in the EMAS system. In Germany this is the responsibility of the Chambers of Industry and Commerce and the Chambers of Crafts. These register the organisations in the EMAS register (emas-register.de and emas-register.eu) after final verification and assign an individual registration number. The organisations are then allowed to advertise with the EMAS logo.

Site: A specific geographical location, including all infrastructure, equipment and materials, where an organisation carries out its activities; a site is the smallest unit to be considered for EMAS registration.

Environmental impact: Any positive or negative change in the environment that is wholly or partly attributable to an organisation's activities, products or services.

Environmental audit: The systematic, documented, periodic and objective evaluation of an organisation's environmental performance, management system and procedures for protecting the environment. Not to be confused with environmental review.

Environmental statement: Comprehensive information to the public and other interested parties with the following details about the organisation:

- ③ Structure and activities
- ③ Environmental policy and environmental management system
- ③ Environmental aspects and impact
- ③ Environmental programme, objectives and targets
- ③ Environmental performance and compliance with applicable environmental legal obligations according to Annex IV of the EMAS Regulation

Environmental verifiers: Natural or legal persons who have been granted the right by the Environmental Audit Act to certify that organisations comply with the EMAS requirements. They undergo a special accreditation procedure to that end.

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Environmental policy: Referred to as "mission statement" in this brochure: The intentions and directions of an organisation as set out in a binding manner by its top management with regard to its environmental performance, including compliance with all applicable environmental regulations and a commitment to continuous improvement of environmental performance.

Environmental programme: A description of the measures, responsibilities and means for achieving the environmental objectives and targets including a timetable

Environmental review: The initial comprehensive identification and assessment of the environmental aspects, impact and performance associated with an organisation's activities, products and services. Not to be confused with environmental audit.

Validation: The confirmation by the environmental verifier who carried out the verification that the information and data in an organisation's environmental statement and the updates thereto are reliable, credible and correct and meet the requirements of the EMAS Regulation.

Significant change: Any change in an organisation's operations, structure, management, procedures, activities, products or services that has, or may have, a significant impact on the organisation's environmental management system, the environment or human health.