Roadmap on Carcinogens
10/2026

Asbestos: A European Perspective on Control of Exposure



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Co-funded by
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Introduction

Presentation Overview

1. *Why asbestos remains a priority*
2. *From EU commitments to implementation*
3. *Complementary guidance*
4. *Awareness raising and enforcement*
5. *SLIC campaign*



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1. Why asbestos remains a priority

4.1–7.3 million

workers estimated
to be exposed in the EU

up to 78%

of recognised
occupational cancers
associated with asbestos exposure

Green transition

Older building stock

↓

Energy renovation

↓

⚠️ Asbestos may be disturbed

↓

Potential worker exposure

↓

🛡️ Prevention & safe removal

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2. From EU commitments to implementation

EC commitments on asbestos at work - State of Play

1. Legislation

- ✅ Revised Asbestos at Work Directive 2023

2. Practical guidance

- ✅ New EU asbestos guidelines 2025

3. Awareness and enforcement

- ✅ Updated guidelines for Labour inspectors 2026
- 🔄 SLIC asbestos campaign 2027

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3. Complementary guidance

EC Guidelines

Broad target audience

- Member States
- Employers
- Workers
- OSH professionals
- Social partners

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European reference for managing asbestos risks

SLIC Guide

Specific target audience:

- Labour inspectors

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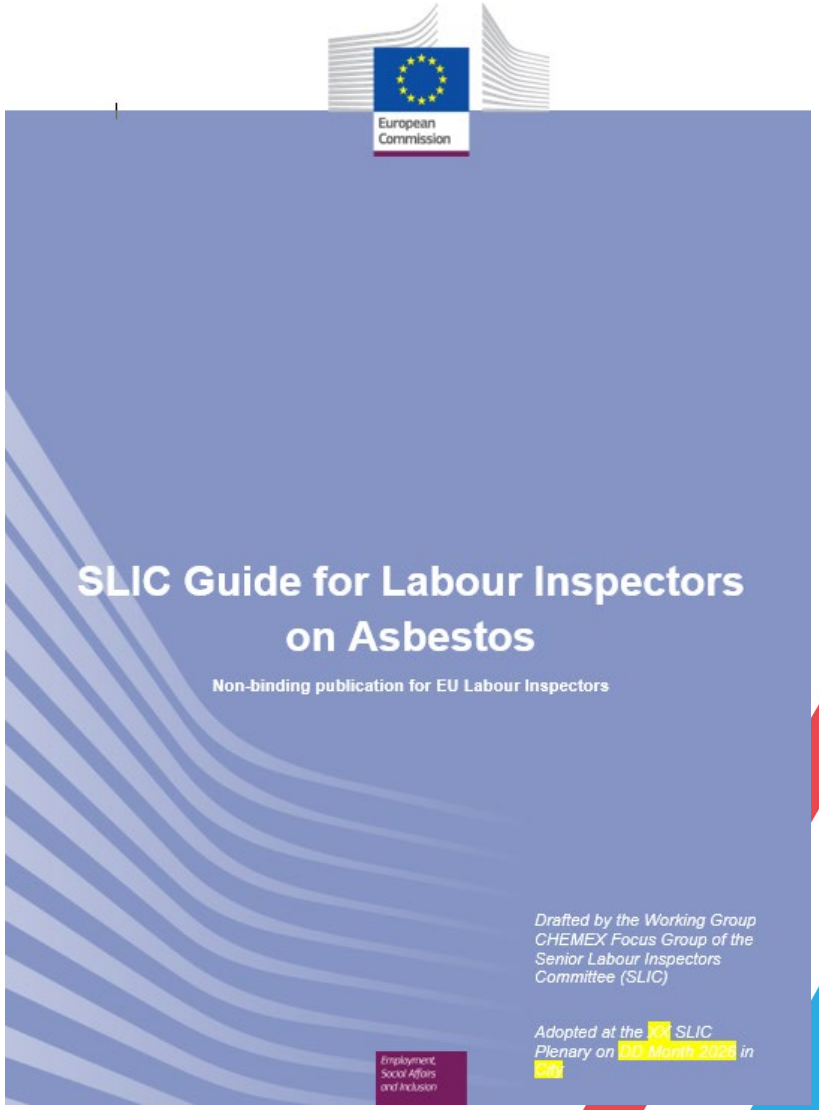
Supporting inspection and enforcement

The SLIC Guide builds on and refers to the EC Guidelines.

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3. SLIC guidance for LI on asbestos

- Updated by **SLIC WG Chemex focus group**
- **Shorter** guide
- Narrow scope → targets only **labour inspectors**
- **Updated** content reflecting current knowledge and amended Asbestos at Work Directive
- **Complementary to** the Commission Guidelines for managing asbestos related health and safety risks at work
- Available in **all official languages** of the EU



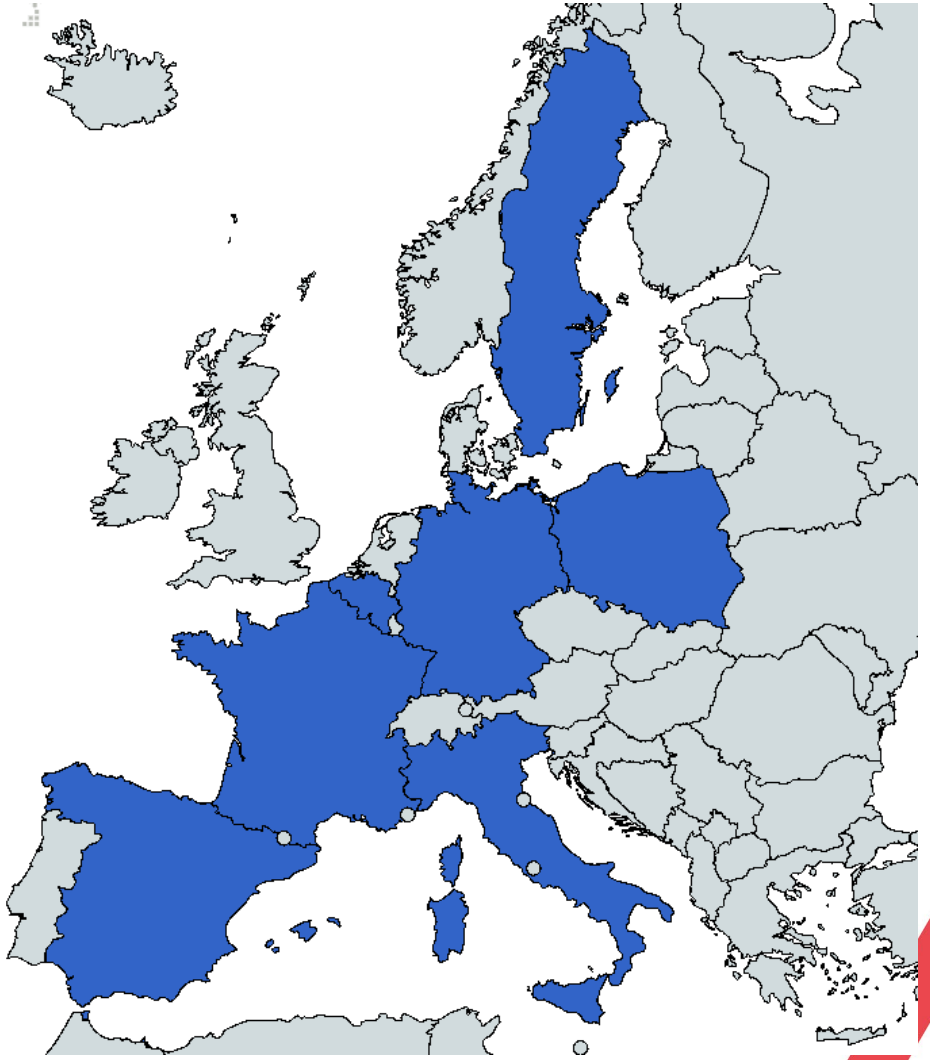
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SLIC (Committee of Senior Labour Inspectors) - PUBLIC GROUP — Bibliotheek

4. Awareness raising and enforcement

SLIC asbestos campaign

- Ad hoc SLIC Working Group
  to develop and coordinate
- Launch
  24 and 25 November of 2026
- Campaign
  from early 2027
- Participants
  27 EU Member States &
  EFTA countries



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5. SLIC campaign

Aim

- Raise awareness and promote guidelines
- Strengthen enforcement
- Improve inspectors' skills
- Exchange of good practices
- Enhance cooperation with EU-OSHA



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5. SLIC campaign

SECTORS

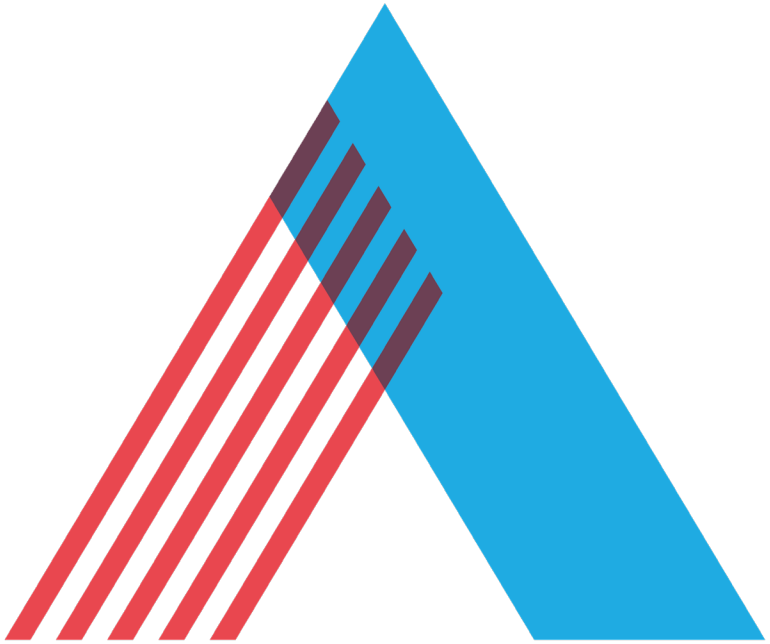
- Combination of **Activity-based** and **Sector-based** approach

- **Focus on inspections** related to specific activities associated with **a high risk of exposure to asbestos dust** (art. 12 AWD)
  demolition, removal, repair & maintenance
  → Inspection checklist developed to support labour inspectors

- In parallel special attention to **awareness raising among SMEs in construction-related trades**
  e.g. plumbing, roofing, painting, …
  → Awareness materials created (fact sheet - slogan) to improve risk recognition and promote safe practices

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Asbestos:
Check. Control. Protect.



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