

# Europe | Drought, heatwave and wildfires

- The severe drought affecting most of Europe since the beginning of the year continues worsening during the summer, as represented in the map. Dry conditions are related to the lack of precipitation combined with early heatwaves in May and June (this latter represented in the inset map). This precipitation deficit has impacted river discharges across Europe (represented in the inset too).
- Water and heat stress, alone or combined, are driving crop yields further down after an already negative spring outlook for cereals and other crops.
- Due to these severe drought (and the relevant vegetation conditions) and heatwaves, wildfire activity has reached a very high level during the period here considered.

Source: JRC [EDO](#), JRC [EFFIS/DG ECHO](#), JRC [MARS](#)

### Combined Drought Indicator (CDI v2)

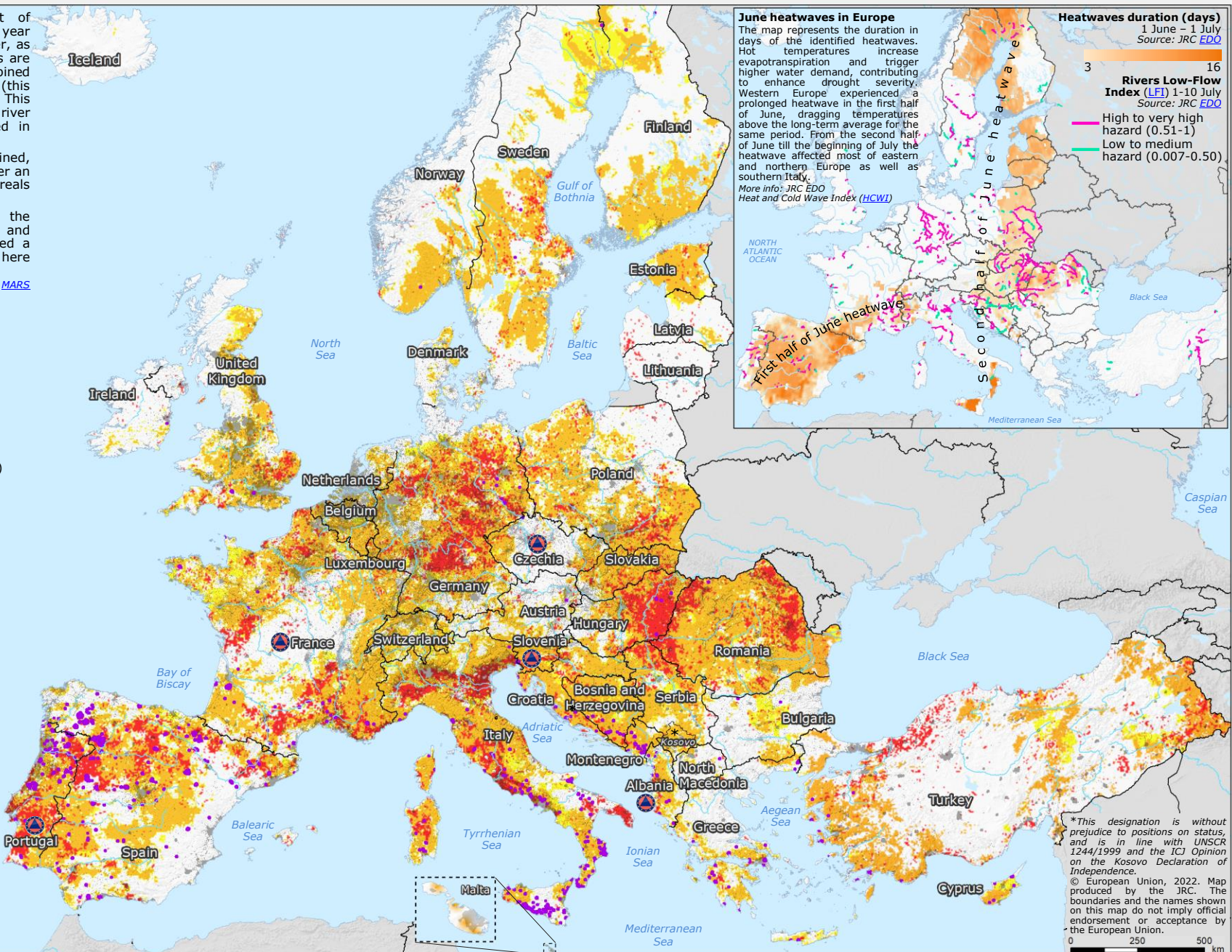
- 1-10 July  
Source: JRC [EDO](#)
- Alert (vegetation stress following precipitation/soil moisture deficit)
  - Warning (observed precipitation/soil moisture deficit)
  - Watch (observed precipitation deficit)

### Wildfires<sup>1</sup>

- 1 June - 27 July  
Source: JRC [EFFIS](#)
- Overall location of main burnt areas<sup>2</sup>
  - EU Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) activation for wildfires<sup>3</sup>
  - Densely populated area  
Source: JRC [GHS-L](#)
  - Country boundary

<sup>1</sup>On wildfires associated to heatwaves see [DG ECHO Weekly Bulletins](#).  
<sup>2</sup>Burnt areas mapped by JRC EFFIS represent about 80% of the total area burned by wildfires, since only fires larger than 30 ha are mapped. More info on limitations and the use of these data on: [JRC EFFIS Rapid Damage Assessment](#). On wildfires situation see also DG ECHO Daily Maps of [18](#), [22](#) and [26](#) July.  
<sup>3</sup>On wildfires and EU response see DG ECHO Daily Maps of [18](#), [22](#) and [26](#) July.

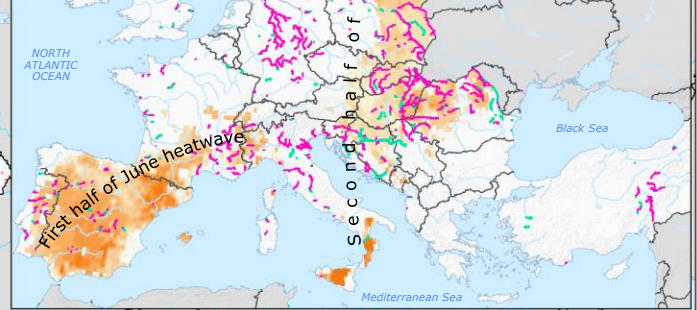
EDO: European Drought Observatory.  
 EFFIS: European Forest Fire Information System  
 MARS: Monitoring Agricultural Resources.



### June heatwaves in Europe

The map represents the duration in days of the identified heatwaves. Hot temperatures increase evapotranspiration and trigger higher water demand, contributing to enhance drought severity. Western Europe experienced a prolonged heatwave in the first half of June, dragging temperatures above the long-term average for the same period. From the second half of June till the beginning of July the heatwave affected most of eastern and northern Europe as well as southern Italy.

More info: JRC [EDO](#) Heat and Cold Wave Index (HCWI)



**Heatwaves duration (days)**  
 1 June – 1 July  
 Source: JRC [EDO](#)

**Rivers Low-Flow Index (LFI) 1-10 July**  
 Source: JRC [EDO](#)

- High to very high hazard (0.51-1)
- Low to medium hazard (0.007-0.50)

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.  
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