



*Europe's toxic air crisis, an Armenian exodus - and understanding Elon Musk*

**The Guardian launched its new Europe website last week with an exclusive investigation into the dangerous levels of air pollution being measured across the continent.** The research found that 98% of Europeans live in areas with highly damaging fine particulate pollution that exceed World Health Organization guidelines, and for almost two-thirds the pollution levels are more than double the safe recommended levels.

Matthew Taylor and Pamela Duncan crunch the numbers, while Gary Fuller looks at the causes - and potential solutions. Then our new Europe environment correspondent, Ajit Niranjani, reports from smog-choked Belgrade.

**The big story** [Page 10](#) →

**Thousands of ethnic Armenians were fleeing the breakaway territory of Nagorno-Karabakh this week** after the Azerbaijani military reclaimed full control of it in a lightning offensive. Andrew Roth reports from Goris, a resort town near the border with Armenia that is now at the centre of an exodus that could swell to up to 120,000 people.

**Spotlight** [Page 15](#) →

**The photojournalist Stefanie Glinski is one of the few reporters to have made it into Derna,** the Libyan town recently devastated by flooding. Her photo essay is a moving insight into how people there are coping with an unimaginable tragedy.

**Spotlight** [Page 20](#) →

**What makes Elon Musk tick?** It's a question that many have tried and failed to answer. Until now perhaps, after David Runciman spent a summer on Twitter following the same accounts as Musk, to try to build up a mind map of the world's richest man.

In Culture, Claire Armitstead speaks to the actor Gabriel Byrne about portraying the legendary Irish dramatist Samuel Beckett in his latest film.

**Inside the mind of Elon Musk** [Page 34](#) →

**Being Beckett** [Page 51](#) →

**On the cover**

The hazy texture of this week's cover draws a visual link to the tiny airborne PM2.5 particles mostly produced by burning fossil fuels, some of which can pass through the lungs and into the bloodstream and affect almost every organ. Experts say PM2.5 pollution causes about 400,000 deaths a year across Europe.

*Illustration: Guardian Design*



4-14	<b>GLOBAL REPORT</b> <i>Headlines from the last seven days</i>
10	<b>Europe</b> A growing air pollution problem
15-33	<b>SPOTLIGHT</b> <i>In-depth reporting and analysis</i>
15	<b>Nagorno-Karabakh</b> The rush to evacuate
18	<b>Ukraine</b> Far-right friends
20	<b>Libya</b> After the floods
22	<b>Italy</b> Lampedusa on the migration frontline
24	<b>UK</b> Sunak's net zero slide
30	<b>Science</b> Aerated concrete and a hard place
33	<b>Finance</b> Lachlan's rise
34-44	<b>FEATURES</b> <i>Long reads, interviews and essays</i>
34	<b>The Musk mindset</b> <i>By David Runciman</i>
40	<b>Standing up for Neanderthals</b> <i>By Nikhil Krishnan</i>
45-50	<b>OPINION</b>
45	<b>Jonathan Freedland</b> Murdoch's toxic legacy
47	<b>Chietigj Bajpae</b> India-Canada ties fray
48	<b>Gordon Brown</b> A global windfall tax could tackle the climate crisis
51-59	<b>CULTURE</b> <i>TV, film, music, theatre, art, architecture &amp; more</i>
51	<b>Screen</b> Gabriel Byrne on being Samuel Beckett
54	<b>Performance art</b> In London, Marina Abramović is finally here
57	<b>Books</b> Peak British empire
60-61	<b>LIFESTYLE</b>
60	<b>Ask Annalisa</b> Absent friends



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