

Indoor Air Quality is not about policing – it's about enabling

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What you will learn

- IAQ often good at workplace, less in public and private spaces
- Breaking the myth: good IAQ is possible without spying
- There is a precedent for how to build good IAQ
- Need to focus on building properties, not private behaviour



Good air quality
improves productivity

- Financial incentive



Workers have a right
for healthy air quality

- Enforced legal obligation

IAQ at the workplace: a joint effort

Employer

- Provide safe workplace
- Develop and instruct safe work procedures



Worker

- Follow procedures
- Participate in trainings
- Refrain from polluting



IAQ in public indoor spaces

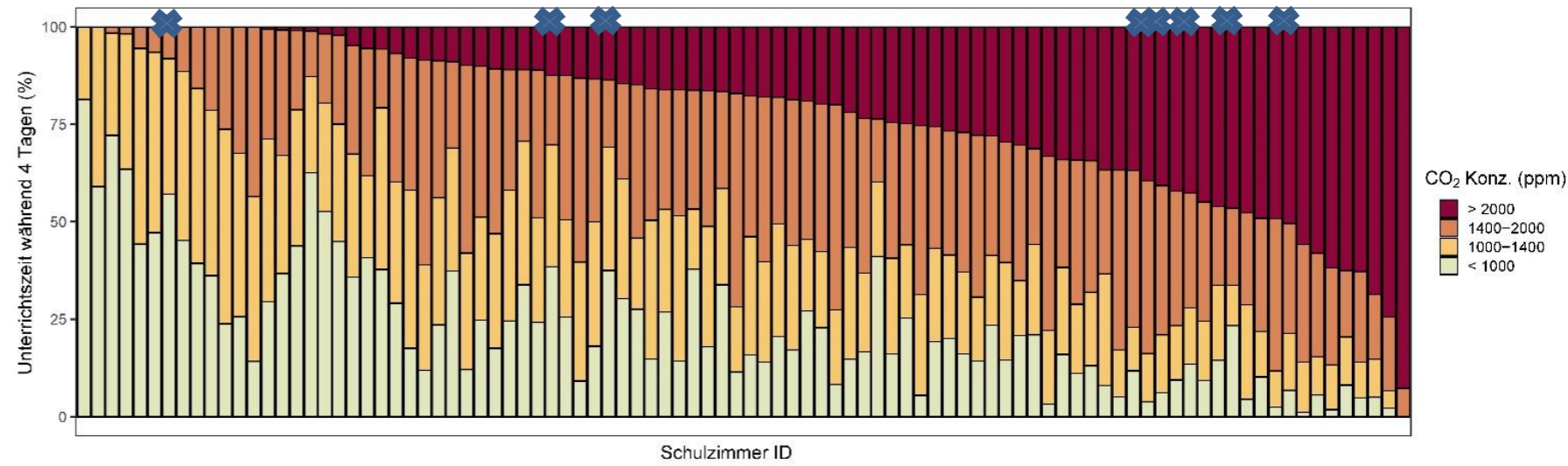
Authorities (regulatory framework)

- Technical Standards (Building Codes)
 - Mandatory (Law)
 - Voluntary (ISO/SIA)
- Operational Rules (Public Law)
 - Behaviour/conduct: some are binding (e.g. No smoking)
 - Health targets: mostly non-binding (e.g., CO₂ targets)

Users

- Mandatory compliance with hard regulations
- Voluntary alignment with soft targets

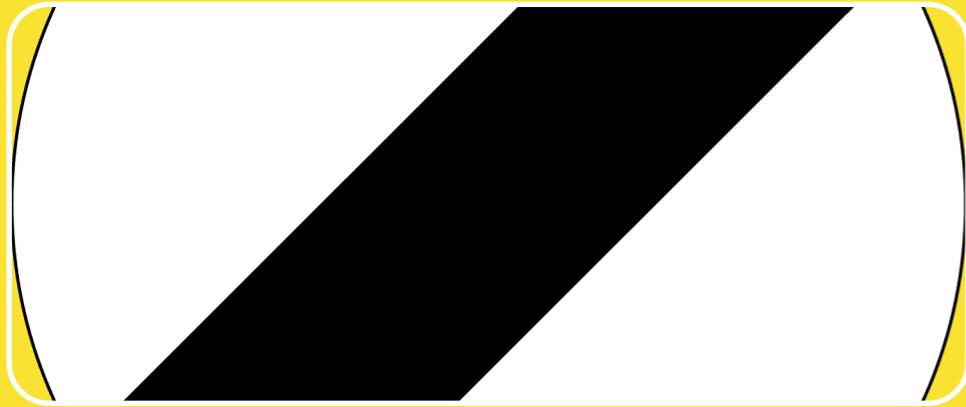
The limits of voluntary measures: IAQ in schools



Air meets health target!

(if nobody is in the room, or if you open the windows every 15' for 5')

In private homes, it's even worse



No IAQ limits



Tenancy laws for obvious defects



Reactive, tenant must go to court

Why is the government not stepping in?

IAQ-monitoring? That's intruding on our privacy!
Don't you spy on us!

This will create a bureaucratic monster!

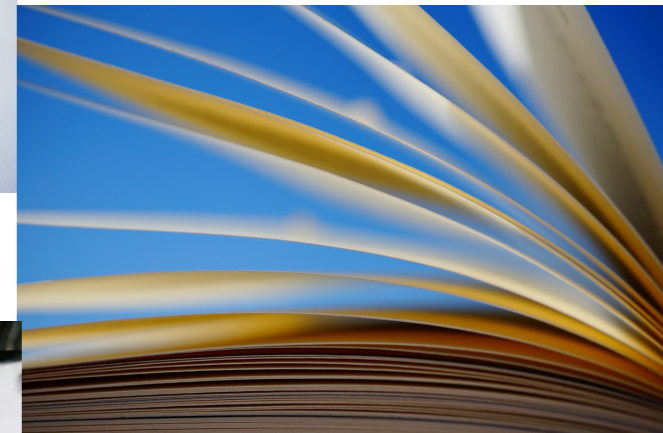
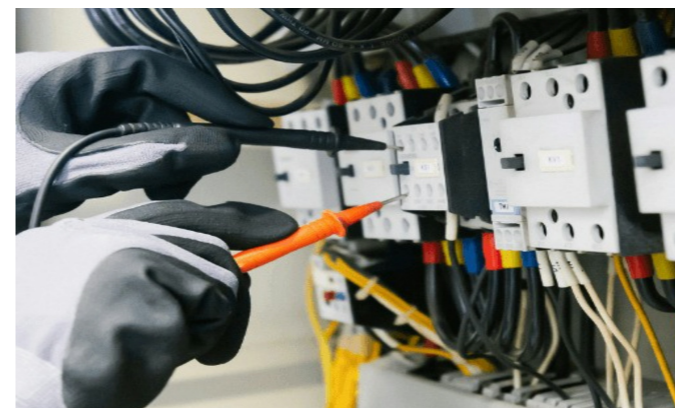
We don't want a nanny state telling us when to open windows!

Housing will become unaffordable!

We need a rational answer to such
conspiracy theories and populism!

The answer: Electrical Safety Regulations

- Installed by certified staff
- Mandatory technical standards
- Independent commissioning
- Fail-safe design
- Periodic compliance checks



- Certify planners & installers of ventilation systems
- Binding performance codes for IAQ concepts and systems
- Require independent IAQ commissioning (similar to Minergie)
- Fail-safe buildings that maintain healthy IAQ during normal use
- Periodic mandatory functional checks of the IAQ systems

Vision:

*Make healthy indoor air as
self-evident as electricity!*

I hope you retained

Status quo: IAQ ensured at work, a gamble in public & private

Myth Busted: Mandating IAQ doesn't create a surveillance state

The precedent: Like electrical safety, we can mandate good IAQ

The path: Regulate building performance, not private behaviour

Vision: Make healthy indoor air as self-evident as electricity!

Thank you!

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	Core principle	Enforcement and enablement
Workplace	<p>Statutory duty of protection</p> <p>Employer guarantees safety and health</p>	<p>Active, penal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> labour inspectors can enforce compliance System must work regardless of user
Public space (incl. schools)	<p>Technical standards and guidelines</p> <p>Design standards for high air quality</p>	<p>Passive, partial:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> exemptions common; enforcement after complaints. Operation relies on user behaviour (e.g. open windows).
Private space	<p>Tenant Responsibility</p> <p>No right to "good air"</p>	<p>Reactive (Litigation):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tenant must proof a "defect", a failure to deliver as promised. "Just open the window" is often the default legal response.