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Poland

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Polish city more polluted than Beijing

Coal burning makes Poland Europe's capital of smog

Surpassing Beijing would be an accolade for many cities. But for Skala in Poland, it was in a category not to be celebrated: air pollution.

With a staggering 33 out of Europe's 50 most polluted cities, according to a World Health Organisation [report](#) this year, Poland is the continent's capital of smog. It regularly surpasses EU limits on pollution owing to a heavy reliance on coal and a lack of government action on green technology.