

Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA) report on 'More Chilling Than Ever'

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The **Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA)** recently published a report titled '**More Chilling Than Ever,**' which reveals that traders are smuggling a powerful **Greenhouse Gas (GHG)** into Europe.



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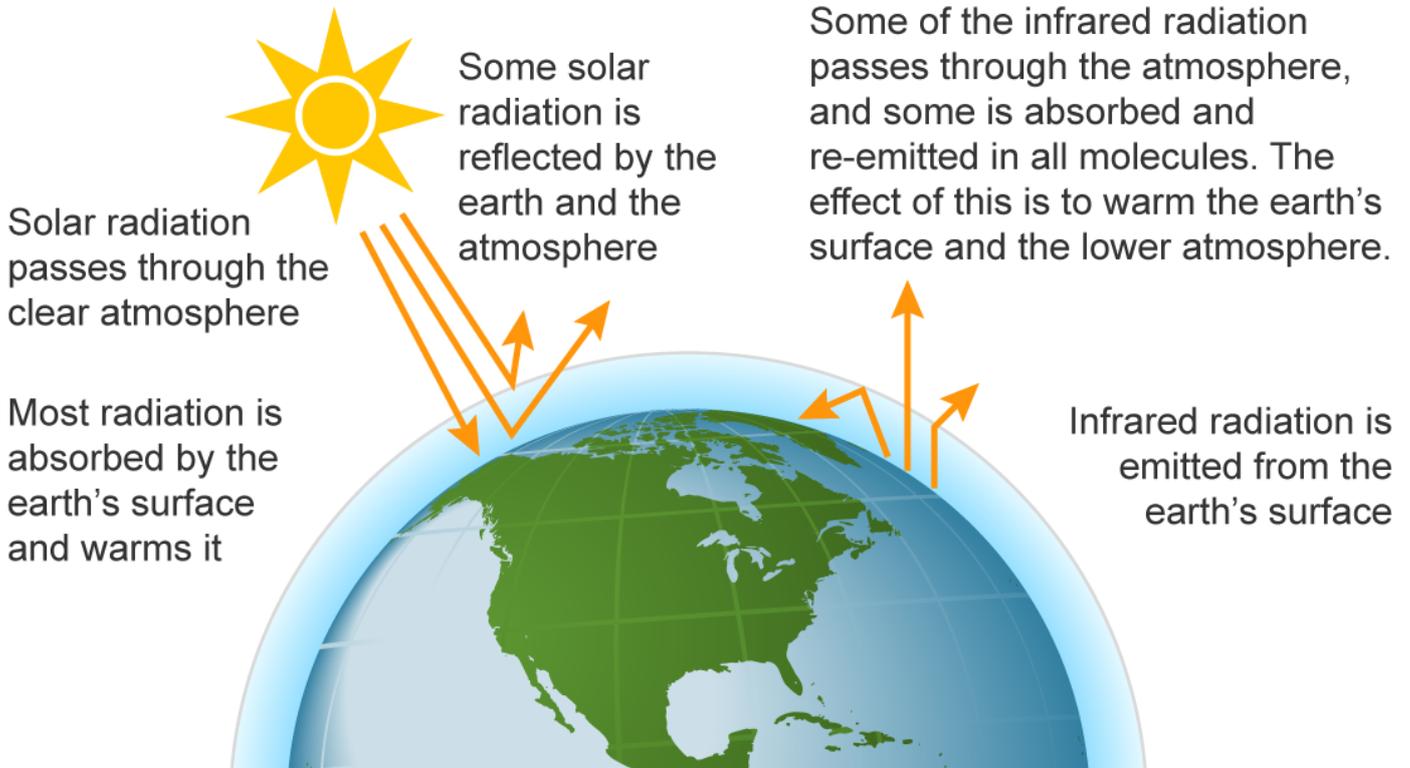
About the Greenhouse Gas (GHGs):

- **GHGs** are atmospheric gases that absorb solar radiation from the Sun as heat and redistribute it around the Earth, increasing the planet's surface temperature; examples include **Carbon dioxide (CO₂)**, **Methane (CH₄)**, **Nitrous oxide (N₂O)**, water vapor, **HFCs**, **HCFC 22**, and **Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)**.

About Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs):

- **Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)**, which consist of hydrogen, fluorine, and carbon, are synthetic gases used in cooling, refrigeration, insulating foams, fire protection, and aerosol propellants, developed to replace **Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS)** and meet the increasing demand for cooling agents.
- Despite having **zero Ozone-Depleting Potential (ODP)**, HFCs possess a **global warming potential thousands of times greater than CO₂** and contribute **2.3%** to global GHG emissions; they have an average atmospheric lifetime of **15 years**.
- The trade in HFCs hinders private sector innovation towards substances with lower **Global Warming Potential (GWP)**.

The greenhouse effect



[ref-EIA]