



General

- The European Commission presented the [European Green Deal](#) proposal ([communication + roadmap](#)) on 11 December 2019.
- The European Council of [12 December 2019](#) confirmed the principle of climate neutrality.
- The European Parliament on 15 January 2020 adopted [a resolution](#) supporting the Green Deal by a large majority.
- The roadmap accompanying the Commission's communication gives an indicative timing of the expected initiatives.
- The Commission has published the [work programme for 2021](#).

Current affairs

- New reflections and analysis on the importance of a Green Deal in economic recovery: [The Guardian](#).
- The European Parliament gave its verdict on [the recovery and resilience fund](#). ([Report](#)) Discussion continues on possible support to fossil fuel projects ([Euractiv](#), [Vlasios Oikonomou en Haris Doukas](#), [CAN Europe](#), [Politico](#), [Euractiv](#), [ECSA](#), [Reuters](#), [Euronews](#), [PV Magazine](#))
- Eight member states have not yet submitted their national recovery and resilience plans to the Commission. ([Euractiv](#))
- The Commission considers plans submitted so far lacking in ambition. ([Reuters](#))
- Do member states follow the rules of the Aarhus Convention on consultation with citizens when developing their national recovery and resilience plans? ([CAN Europe](#))
- António Guterres urges preparations for COP26 to start virtually already. ([The Guardian](#), [UN News](#), [Climate Home News](#))
- The Commission published [a toolkit](#) for youth participation in the Just Transition Fund.
- Negotiations for a European climate law are progressing too slowly according to some MEPs. ([Euractiv](#))
- The EESC on the [European climate ambition](#).
- How can the EU, China and the US work together on climate policy? ([Climate Home News](#))
- [A report](#) on the carbon border adjustment mechanism was adopted in the European Parliament's Environment Committee. The vote in plenary is scheduled for the week of 8 March. ([Euractiv](#), [EUReporter](#), [CAN Europe](#))

- How does the Chinese carbon trading scheme work? ([Euractiv](#))
- An article on [sustainable tourism and climate change](#).
- 2020 was a bad year for oil and gas. This will have an impact on the position of the oil industry. ([EnergyPost](#))
- National oil companies still want to invest in projects that will jeopardise the Paris climate agreement. ([The Guardian](#))
- 500 scientists call for an end to the practice of industrial-scale burning of wood for energy production. ([Climate Home News](#), [WWF](#))
- SolarPower Europe wants the Commission to raise the [renewable energy share](#) target to 45% by 2030.
- [EASE](#) responded to the public consultation on the Renewable Energy Directive.
- Europe invested €26.3 billion in offshore wind in 2020. ([Euractiv](#))
- A [report](#) on the risks of a climate-neutral transition. ([Phys.Org](#))
- The German company RWE is suing the Netherlands on the basis of the Energy Charter Treaty. ([Euractiv](#))
- Luxembourg has changed its position on the Energy Charter Treaty. ([Euractiv](#))
- Yamina Saheb on the Energy Charter Treaty. ([Euractiv](#))
- A WEF report on '[net zero carbon cities](#)'. [ISO](#) reacts to that report.
- Oliver Rapf on the plans for a new European Bauhaus. ([Euractiv](#))
- The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the [Circular Economy Action Plan](#) on 9 February. ([Resolution](#)) In this text, the EP calls, among other things, for [binding targets](#). ([Euractiv](#), [FEAD](#), [Orgalim](#), [Glass International](#), [EUReporter](#), [EEB](#))
- Climate emissions and resource use are strongly interconnected. ([Laxmi Haigh](#))
- Three major shifts are needed to achieve a circular economy. ([Ellen MacArthur and Frans van Houten](#))
- An article about the importance of [repair](#) in a circular economy.
- Ralph Büchele on [circular construction](#).
- Companies can now use the [GRI guidelines](#) for sustainable reporting to chart their progress towards circular business operations.
- The use of [recycled plastics](#) is not promoted enough, according to research by Wageningen University.
- Can we make textiles fossil-free? ([META](#))
- WEF on [circular economy and innovation](#).
- Via '[Global Shapers](#)', young people provide circular innovation in cities. ([Modern Diplomacy](#))
- Sales of electric vehicles rose above 10% for the first time. ([Euractiv](#))
- [EASE](#)'s response to the Commission's public consultation on the ITS (Intelligent Transport Systems) Directive.
- Piia Karjalainen on [MaaS](#) (mobility as a service).
- A report on a recent debate about [MaaS](#).
- An article about [MaaS, autonomous vehicles and the will to own a car](#).
- If companies opt for electric company cars, this could have a major impact on the market. ([Euractiv](#))
- In a joint letter, carmakers, environmentalists and consumers call for [more charging stations](#) for electric vehicles.
- Transport & Environment on the [maritime ETS system](#).
- A Transport & Environment FAQ on [e-kerosene](#).
- Eight EU countries want more attention paid to 'sustainable aviation fuel'. ([Euractiv](#))
- France does not want to sign the current version of the Mercosur agreement. ([Euractiv](#))
- [Perrine Fournier](#) and [Muhammed Magassy](#) on the Mercosur Agreement.
- Is the European steel industry ready to become climate neutral? ([Politico](#))

- WindEurope on the [new industrial strategy](#).
- According to a new report, 8.7 million people have died in 2018 due to fossil fuel pollution. ([The Guardian](#))
- Sustainability must be at the heart of digital policy, says Germany's environment minister. ([Euractiv](#))
- EESC on the Commission's proposals for revising the [Aarhus Convention](#).
- LIFE calls on NGOs to submit proposals to strengthen [public participation in the Green Deal](#).
- [Finance Watch](#) and [Better Finance](#)'s contribution to the Commission's consultation on Sustainable Corporate Governance.
- Europe must be a leader on ESG, say [Olivia Grégoire and Bertrand Badré](#).
- The [final report](#) of the European Supervisory Authorities on the 'Regulatory Technical Standards (RTS)' has been published. ([WWF](#))
- [Ingmar Schuurmans](#) on the taxonomy for sustainable finance.
- A briefing from the Jacques Delors Centre on [greening the financial system](#).
- [KPMG](#) on recent developments in the field of sustainable finance.
- UNEP FI published two new papers on [sustainable finance](#).
- Barry Eichengreen on the changing role of central banks in society. ([The Guardian](#))
- Larry Elliott on the Dasgupta Review on biodiversity. ([The Guardian](#))
- Biodiversity decline threatens human quality of life. ([Earth.Org](#))
- An EEA briefing on [river barriers](#) and their impact on ecosystems.
- A WWF report on [deep seabed mining](#).
- A number of NGOs are concerned about a vote in the European Parliament's [fisheries committee](#).
- A series of papers by IEEP on [rural land use](#).
- An EEA briefing on [the impact of climate change](#) on agricultural supplies to Europe.
- Arc2020 on [precision farming](#).
- CarbonBrief on [maladaptation](#).
- Some countries that depend heavily on oil for their income - including poor developing countries - may be severely affected by the energy transition. ([Euractiv](#))

Activities

- 15/02 | Webinar | [Can the EU Green Deal empower business and consumer change?](#)
- 15/02 | Online | [The New Climate War: The Fight to Take Back Our Planet: Michael E. Mann](#)
- 15/02 | Webinar | [Workshop on the Energy Transition Game- TripleA-Reno a Horizon 2020 project](#)
- 16/02 | Webinar | [Labour law, climate change and the just transition](#)
- 16/02 | Webinar | [All aboard for the green economy: Can Europe perform an energy transition that leaves no one behind?](#)
- 16/02 | Webinar | [Digital Transformation in the Energy Sector](#)
- 16/02 | Webinar | [COVID-19 and climate change: prospects for a green recovery](#)
- 17/02 | Online | [The role of social economy in a fair and sustainable recovery: input for the future Action Plan on social economy](#)
- 17/02 | Online | [Improving the framework for sustainable finance](#)
- 17/02 | Webinar | [Future of sustainable data and its role in achieving global sustainability goals](#)
- 17/02 | Webinar | [The Renovation Wave – making a step change on the EU's energy objectives](#)
- 18/02 | Webinar | [The State of Urban Climate Finance](#)

- 18/02 | Webinar | [Resilient Recovery Series: How Can We Turn Climate Goals into Climate Action?](#)
- 19/02 | Online | [Innovating for organic food processing](#)
- 23/02 | Webinar | [The European Green Deal one year after/Perspective for 2021](#)
- 23/02 | Online | [CirClean – Industrial Symbiosis as an opportunity for carbon neutrality](#)
- 23/02 | Webinar | [Sustainable Bioenergy: A Circular Approach to EU Strategic Autonomy and Green Transition](#)
- 24/02 | Webinar | [Taking the Pulse of the EU Green Deal](#)
- 25/02 | Online | [Technical webinar on the Just Transition Fund](#)
- 25/02 | Webinar | [The Just AI Transition: Where are the opportunities and threats?](#)
- 25/02 | Webinar | [Envisioning a successful Europe: matching convenience, quality and fairness with public-private investment and education](#)
- 26/02 | Webinar | [Integrated home renovation services in Europe](#)
- 01-05/03 | Online | [EESC Civil Society Days](#)
- 01/03 | Webinar | [JICE - Circular Textiles and Fashion as part of the Climate Action Agenda](#)
- 01/03 | Webinar | [Opportunities with Green Bonds and EU's Sustainable Finance Reform](#)
- 02/03 | Webinar | [Green transition under the European recovery and resilience facility](#)
- 02/03 | Webinar | [Financing a Green and Just Recovery from COVID-19](#)
- 03/03 | Webinar | [Towards the Digital Circular Economy](#)
- 04/03 | Webinar | [What are the realities of the Biodiversity and Farm to Fork strategies?](#)
- 04/03 | Webinar | [Hydrocarbons exporters and the EU's decarbonization plans: what coping strategies?](#)
- 04/03 | Webinar | [The role of key civil society groups in the renovation wave](#)
- 04/03 | Webinar | [Financing connectivity: Building the Trans-European Nature Network](#)
- 09/03 | Webinar | [Water reuse and the European Green Deal](#)
- 09/03 | Webinar | [Tackling the COVID-19 Pandemic of Inequality to Build a Green, Inclusive, and Resilient Recovery](#)
- 09/03 | Webinar | [Towards a mandatory EU system of due diligence for supply chains - Realities and consequences](#)
- 09/03 | Webinar | [Industrial decarbonisation through business model innovation](#)
- 11-12/03 | Online | [Air transport in crisis and the climate challenge](#)
- 15/03 | Online | [Smart and green recovery in the transport sector](#)
- 16/03 | Webinar | [Hydrogen, sun, wind: Which ones can make the best contribution to Europe's energy transformation?](#)
- 30-31/03 – 01/04 | [2nd International Conference on Circularity in the Built Environment](#)
- 04-05/05/21 | [Euroheat & Power Congress](#)
- 25-27/05/21 | [Innovate4Climate](#)
- 24/06 | [International workshop 'Urban climate resilience: the role of law'](#)
- 08-09/09/21 | [International Conference on Sustainable Development](#)
- 11-14/10 | [The European SDG Summit 2021](#)

Commission documents

- 17/02 | Joint Communication on strengthening the EU's contribution to rules-based multilateralism | Trade policy review, including WTO reform initiative
- 24/02 | New EU strategy on adaptation to climate change | Improving the working conditions of platform workers
- 03/03 | Action plan on the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights
- 09/03 | Europe's Digital Decade: 2030 Digital Targets

- 17/03 | Updating the new industrial strategy for Europe | Communication on better regulation
- 31/03 | Action plan for the development of organic production: on the way to 2030
- 14/04 | Signature and conclusion of the Agreement between the EU and the countries of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (tbc) | Review of the Non-Financial Reporting Directive
- 21/04 | Communication on Horizon Europe research and innovation missions (tbc) | Communication on the global approach to research, innovation, education and youth (title tbc)

This briefing has been compiled by the FRDO-CFDD secretariat. The selection does not bind the members of the FRDO-CFDD in any way.

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