

General

- The European Commission presented the <u>European Green Deal</u> proposal (<u>communication + roadmap</u>) 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 <u>a resolution</u> 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: <u>Fergus Lyon</u>, <u>secretaris-generaal Ángel Gurría van de OESO</u>, <u>Tanja Gönner</u>, <u>Inger Andersen</u>.
- Investors are concerned that implementation of the European Recovery Plan is not moving fast enough. (<u>Euractiv</u>)
- META on the Portuguese presidency.
- A policy brief from Germanwatch on <u>the role of the European Semester</u> for green recovery policies.
- How can recovery plans contribute to a more sustainable and resilient world? A new report.
- Positive reactions to the appointment of Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala as the new Director-General of the World Trade Organisation. (<u>Climate Home News</u>)
- How do G20 countries invest public funds for energy? <u>Energy Policy Tracker</u> provides an overview.
- Globally, a large part of heavy industry is not yet on track to meet the Paris climate targets. European companies do better on average. (Euractiv)
- Is climate change causing oil, gas or nuclear power plants to produce less electricity? (CarbonBrief)
- Sustainable cooling must become an important part of recovery plans. This is shown in a new report.
- Is the focus on 'carbon removal' distracting from the need to reduce emissions? (<u>Coralie Boulard</u>)

- A letter from CAN Europe to Commissioner Timmermans on climate adaptation.
- How big is the remaining carbon budget? (EnergyPost)
- A recent report shows that some members of the Commission seem to have had close ties to the fossil industry until recently. (<u>Euractiv</u>, <u>Global Witness</u>)
- NGOs are concerned about the place of <u>fossil fuels</u> in member states' recovery plans.
 (<u>Euractiv</u>)
- Pieter de Pous on Nord Stream 2.
- Is the fossil industry looking for a new market in the production of plastics? (ClientEarth)
- Europe is a frontrunner in hydrogen. (Euractiv)
- The position of CAN Europe on hydrogen.
- In the Netherlands, <u>energy cooperatives</u> are playing an increasingly important role in the energy system.
- Were the power cuts caused by the severe winter weather in Texas the result of renewable energy, as some claim? Or is the reality more nuanced? (<u>The Guardian</u>, <u>The Guardian</u>, <u>CarbonBrief</u>)
- What were the consequences of the Covid-19 economic shocks for Member States? Did they represent an opportunity for a more sustainable economy? An <u>article</u>.
- <u>EASAC</u> on the revision of the Renewable Energy Directive.
- Carbon Market Watch on alternatives to carbon offsetting.
- Discussions on the Energy Charter Treaty continue among the EU Member States. The Commission will make proposals for a reform(<u>Politico</u>, <u>Euractiv</u>, <u>Euractiv</u>, <u>EU Observer</u>, Climate Home News, META)
- <u>CAN Europe</u>, <u>Frank Umbach</u> and <u>Marine Seghezzi</u> on the Energy Charter Treaty.
- How can cohesion policy contribute to the new Bauhaus? A briefing.
- France wants Europe to produce more electronic components itself. (Reuters)
- A report by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation and the IEEP on a <u>circular and climate neutral</u> industry.
- META on European <u>'repair heroes'</u>.
- An <u>article</u> about recycling of concrete and circular construction.
- An <u>article</u> on data and information in circular business strategies.
- An <u>article</u> on the role of artificial intelligence in a circular waste policy.
- An <u>article</u> on the ecological impact of clothing rental systems in a product-service system.
- PWC on the challenge for the EU on plastic waste.
- An NGO paper on determining the presence of recycled plastic in products.
- The EU is now a frontrunner for electric mobility. But whether it will remain so depends on new EU rules. (Transport & Environment)
- Can the EU learn from the US when it comes to green mobility? (IEEP)
- The aviation industry has published a plan to become climate neutral by 2050. (Euractiv)
- TUMI published the report '21Heroes2021', about 21 people who have made an outstanding contribution to a better mobility policy in 2020.
- The Commission will give 60,000 young people an Interrail pass to travel by train across the EU by 2022. (Euractiv)
- An <u>article</u> on sustainable mobility and 'lock-in' in rural areas.
- Air pollution is probably partly responsible for the decline in human fertility. This is shown in a new study. (The Guardian)
- An <u>article</u> with a discourse analysis of the Green Deal.
- Meeting Paris climate targets could save millions of lives by 2040. (CarbonBrief)
- GRI strongly supports the EU's <u>due diligence</u> plans.
- There is a need for better data for ESG investments. (Reuters)
- Janine Guillot on the EU framework for non-financial reporting. (<u>Euractiv</u>)

- Is there pressure to delay the introduction of the taxonomy for sustainable finance? (Novethic)
- An article on green finance and a sustainable recovery after Covid-19. (<u>Economics</u>
 Observatory)
- UNEP FI presented three reports on financial institutions' management of climate risks.
- A call from Finance Watch and others to review the <u>European fiscal framework</u>.
 (Greenpeace, CAN Europe)
- How can banks manage climate risks? A report by I4CE.
- How do asset managers react to the European plans for sustainable finance? (IPE)
- Financial regulators in the EU and the US deal with climate risks differently. (Bruegel)
- In the report <u>'Making Peace with Nature'</u>, UNEP explains how the climate crisis, the loss of biodiversity and pollution can be tackled together within the framework of the SDGs. (<u>The</u> Guardian)
- The EU wants to protect 30% of its land and sea. (Euractiv)
- The EU wants to reduce deforestation caused by products placed on the European market. WWF's vision. (IEEP)
- For a green recovery policy, should we ban the trade in wild animals altogether? Or does that option also carry risks? (<u>Hollie Booth</u>)
- Globally, only a small proportion of rivers are unaffected by man. (<u>The Guardian</u>, <u>New Scientist</u>)
- An overview of <u>the timeline</u> for the implementation of the biodiversity and farm to fork strategies.
- Arc2020 analysed the Commission's response to the Member States' <u>strategic plans</u> for the Common Agricultural Policy.
- A group of organisations calls for more attention to be paid to social rights of workers under the new Common Agricultural Policy. (<u>Euractiv</u>, <u>Arc2020</u>, <u>EFFAT</u>, <u>FoEE</u>)
- Organic farming continues to grow.
- An article on the importance of agroecology for the Green Deal.
- Are the EU's trade agreements sufficiently adapted to the Green Deal? (WIIW, ClientEarth)
- The Commission proposed a new EU vision for <u>trade policy</u>. (<u>Euractiv</u>, <u>Business Europe</u>, <u>CEPI</u>,
 Orgalim, <u>Eurogroup for Animals</u>, <u>AICGS</u>, <u>BEUC</u>, <u>Fair Trade Advocacy</u>, <u>Reuters</u>, <u>Digital Europe</u>)
- An OECD paper on <u>international trade and the circular economy</u>.

Activities

- 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 | <u>Sustainable Bioenergy</u>: A <u>Circular Approach to EU Strategic Autonomy</u> and Green Transition
- 23/02 | Webinar | <u>Launch of The Circular Innovation City Challenge</u>
- 23/02 | Webinar | Climate change and forced migration: a crisis in the making
- 24/02 | Webinar | Taking the Pulse of the EU Green Deal
- 25/02 | Online | Launch of the EU Climate Adaptation Strategy
- 25/02 | Online | <u>Technical webinar on the Just Transition Fund</u>
- 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
- 02/03 | Webinar | <u>Blue Economy Forum The Way to Green Recovery</u>
- 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 | <u>Hydrocarbons exporters and the EU's decarbonization plans: what coping strategies?</u>
- 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
- 05/03 | Webinar | The Sustainable Finance Strategy in the EU
- 08/03 | Webinar | MaaS: Digital revolution and challenges of urban mobility
- 09/03 | Webinar | Water reuse and the European Green Deal
- 09/03 | Webinar | <u>Tackling the COVID-19 Pandemic of Inequality to Build a Green, Inclusive,</u> 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
- 11/03 | Webinar | MaaS: Multimodal mobility strategies and digitalisation
- 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?
- 16/03 | Webinar | <u>Bioeconomy and the Green Deal: matching Europe's climate neutrality</u> and competitiveness goals?
- 16-18/03 | Online | The Future of Finance
- 17/03 | Webinar | Pyrolysis Hydrogen: truly neutral or negative, will it be competitive?
- 18/03 | Webinar | Carbon pricing as a win-win solution for a green recovery
- 23/03 | Online | Intercropping to boost agroecology in European Agriculture
- 25/03 | Online | Zero Waste: The Circular Economy Inspiration Sessions
- 25/03 | Webinar | Energy Regulation In The Green Transition: An Anthology
- 04-05/05 | Online | <u>Euroheat & Power Congress</u>
- 25-27/05 | Online | Innovate4Climate
- 24/06 | International workshop 'Urban climate resilience: the role of law'
- 08-09/09 | International Conference on Sustainable Development
- 11-14/10 | The European SDG Summit 2021
- 24-26/11 | 2nd International Conference on Circularity in the Built Environment

Commission documents

- 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 | 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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