



## 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

- Polish government's stance endangers European recovery and resilience mechanism ([Politico](#))
- An agreement has been reached on a financing mechanism for cross-border infrastructure projects. ([Euractiv](#))
- A meeting of [environment ministers](#) was held on 18 March. Preliminary reactions: [EEB](#), [CAN Europe](#), [WWF](#), [Can Europe](#). [Results](#) of the consultation.
- A recent study shows that the droughts and heat waves of the last few years are the most extreme of the last two thousand years. ([The Guardian](#))
- CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere is now 50% higher than pre-industrial levels. ([CarbonBrief](#))
- A comprehensive [study](#) on European climate policy.
- The Commission hopes that negotiations for the European climate law will be completed soon. ([Reuters](#))
- A group of [CEOs of major European companies](#) call for a strong European climate ambition.
- How can national and local governments accelerate the climate-neutral energy transition? A new [report](#).
- Climate-neutral cities can increase support for the Green Deal. ([EnergyPost](#))
- France wants to make the carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM) dossier a priority. ([Bloomberg](#))
- A new [report by IRENA](#) shows the need for an acceleration of the energy transition. ([The Guardian](#))

- If energy companies offer green energy as the [default option](#), this could accelerate the energy transition.
- A new report by IRENA on the potential of renewable energy for [district heating and cooling](#).
- A briefing paper on the revision of the [Energy Efficiency Directive](#).
- A briefing paper on the revision of the [Renewable Energy Directive](#).
- A briefing paper from some NGOs on the revision of the [Trans-European Energy Infrastructure Regulation](#).
- [Lina Strandvåg Nagell and Lee Beck](#) on the revision of the Trans-European Energy Infrastructure Regulation.
- A report on the directive on the [deployment of alternative fuel infrastructure](#).
- A [new report](#) by the IEA shows that oil demand could rise again above pre-Covid-19 levels if there are no strong policies in favour of renewable energy. ([The Guardian](#))
- A study on green hydrogen. ([EnergyPost](#))
- Some business leaders are calling for hydrogen to be mixed with natural gas in some parts of Europe. ([Euractiv](#))
- [WWF](#) is concerned about a vote in the European Parliament on hydrogen.
- A new [report by WBCSD](#) with a roadmap for how utilities can accelerate the realisation of the SDGs.
- A [study](#) on energy performance contracting in the public sector.
- Plans to include emissions from buildings in the ETS should not lead to more homelessness. ([Euractiv](#))
- A paper with the position of a number of NGOs on the new European framework for batteries. ([ECOS](#))
- What are the effects of technological change on material circularity? Is there any real decoupling at all? An [article](#).
- A briefing paper on the [employment potential](#) of the circular economy, among other things.
- A [report](#) on the labour market implications of a transition to a circular economy.
- The [Circular Electronics Partnership](#) was launched.
- An [article](#) about the information deficit of stakeholders in the circular economy.
- An article about [circular economy and the water industry](#).
- An article on [artificial intelligence and the circular economy](#).
- A briefing on [medical waste and the circular economy](#).
- An [article](#) about the intrinsic value of cultural heritage and the circular economy.
- Can we still eat as much meat in a circular economy? ([Circle Economy](#))
- A new public consultation of the Commission, about the [Sustainable Products Initiative](#).
- The EP's transport committee discusses the passenger rights of people with disabilities. ([Politico](#))
- A [report](#) by the International Transport Forum on reducing car dependence.
- A [report](#) by EAFO on the electrification of car traffic.
- An interview on intelligent transport systems. ([Euractiv](#))
- An [article](#) about technologies for smart mobility in cities.
- Corsia, the international system to capture emissions from aviation, could be detrimental to European climate policy. This is shown in a study by the EU. ([Transport & Environment](#))
- A number of employers' organisations have questions on the European Pillar of Social Rights. ([Euractiv](#))
- [Barbara Praetorius](#) on a new green industrial policy for Europe.
- [Chris Carroll](#) on recovery and industrial policy.
- [Bruegel](#) on the Commission's new digital strategy.
- [Alliance](#) on recovery policy after Covid-19.

- Finland wants to invest 50% of funds it receives from the European Recovery Fund in the green transition. ([Euractiv](#))
- The [Green Recovery Tracker](#) analyses the recovery plans of the different Member States. ([Science | Business](#))
- Green recovery policies start in the cities. ([WRI](#), [Eurocities](#))
- The [EESC](#) believes that civil society has an important role to play in Europe's sustainable recovery.
- Did the Covid-19 lockdown cause people to buy more sustainable products? An [article](#).
- META on the [right to clean air](#).
- [ETUC](#) on the European Parliament's position on due diligence.
- What proposal will the Commission make for a due diligence regime? ([Euractiv](#))
- A Commission proposal on due diligence is expected for June. ([Euractiv](#))
- An article on [ESG in the real estate sector](#).
- What are the prospects for ESG funds? ([Reuters](#))
- [Germanwatch](#) on the revision of the EU directive on non-financial reporting.
- The three European supervisory authorities (EBA, EIOPA and ESMA) published a [consultation paper](#) asking for input on a section of the taxonomy for sustainable finance.
- The ECB on the [climate stress test](#).
- Central banks have an important role to play in helping countries become climate neutral. A [new report](#).
- IEEP on the [greening of bank deposits](#).
- What is needed to better align financial flows with the Paris climate agreement? A [study](#) by IDDRI.
- An update from PRI on the policy instruments for [responsible investment](#).
- [Franziska Cooman](#) on the role of venture capital for the Green Deal.
- Is there enough attention for [biodiversity](#) in sustainable finance?
- A study on the taxonomy for [sustainable finance and the aviation sector](#).
- The EU supports a project to reduce the [impact of transport](#) on biodiversity.
- The major [UN conference on biodiversity](#) has again been postponed for several months. ([The Guardian](#))
- Meanwhile, the preparatory negotiations for that conference continue (virtually). ([IISD](#))
- What can the EU do to strengthen the resilience and climate contribution of forests? A [report](#) by Fern.
- The Portuguese Presidency is optimistic that an agreement can be found for the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy. ([Euractiv](#))
- The president of a major European farmers' organisation is concerned about the Farm to Fork strategy. ([Euractiv](#))
- Many farmers are already working with fewer pesticides, as called for in the Farm to Fork strategy. ([EuroNews](#))
- An [open letter](#) from a number of scientists about the Farm to Fork strategy.
- The European recovery fund is a missed opportunity for a more sustainable agriculture. ([Arc2020](#))
- Eurogroup for Animals on European [animal welfare legislation](#).
- Via Campesina calls for a better European [food security](#) plan.
- African farmers need extra support to be able to comply with the principles of the Farm to Fork strategy. ([Euractiv](#))
- The growing [export of food](#) from developing countries to rich countries can have major consequences for biodiversity.
- A paper by UNCTAD on [sustainable food systems](#).
- [IDDRI](#) and [Isabelle Brachet](#) on the Trade Policy Review.

- A [letter](#) from a number of European and African NGOs about the EU Africa Green Energy Initiative.
- UNCTAD expects the poorest countries to be the main victims of the current global crisis. ([The Guardian](#))
- This is a critical moment for the realisation of the 2030 Agenda, says Amina Mohammed. ([Modern Diplomacy](#))
- An interview on the role of European citizens and institutions in achieving the SDGs. ([Innovation Network](#))

## Activities

- 22/03 | Webinar | [Circular Economy – Are we delivering?](#)
- 22/03 | Webinar | [Webinar to launch European Cultural Heritage Green Paper](#)
- 22-23/03 | Online | [Climate risks and policies: Towards resilient low-carbon economies](#)
- 23/03 | Online | [Intercropping to boost agroecology in European Agriculture](#)
- 23/03 | Webinar | [How green are the national recovery plans?](#)
- 23/03 | Webinar | [How to decarbonise heavy industry: From quick wins to long-term solutions](#)
- 23/03 | Webinar | [Holland House debat over de Europese Green Deal in 2021](#)
- 24/03 | Webinar | [Online workshop on trade and biodiversity for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework](#)
- 24/03 | Webinar | [Investing in Climate Action](#)
- 24/03 | Webinar | [EU Industry at the crossroads of Covid-19 pandemic, Green Growth and digital transformation](#)
- 24/03 | Webinar | [Towards 2021 UN Food Systems Summit: The role of Fisheries & Aquaculture](#)
- 24/03 | Webinar | [COVID-19 recovery and Aid for Trade](#)
- 25/03 | Online | [Zero Waste: The Circular Economy Inspiration Sessions](#)
- 25/03 | Webinar | [Energy Regulation In The Green Transition: An Anthology](#)
- 25/03 | Webinar | [Beyond Buying: How can the circular economy principles feed sustainable public procurement policies and practices?](#)
- 25/03 | Webinar | [Ways out of the Biodiversity Crisis - Continuing as is or Reorienting?](#)
- 26/03 | Webinar | [Inland ports boosting green and circular mobility transition](#)
- 26/03 | Webinar | [EU Regions moving to a Circular Economy - Policy Lab for stakeholders](#)
- 29/03 | Webinar | [Advocating for Green Taxation: Stakeholder workshop](#)
- 29/03 | Webinar | [Tackling the COVID-19 Pandemic of Inequality to Build a Green, Inclusive, & Resilient Recovery](#)
- 30/03 | Webinar | [Sector integration: How can the EU best create and leverage an integrated energy system?](#)
- 30/03 | Webinar | [The role of the European Union's vehicle CO2 standards in achieving the European Green Deal](#)
- 31/03 | Webinar | [Building a sustainable future – Transitioning towards a circular and low-carbon construction sector](#)
- 06/04 | Webinar | [Economic Recovery: Toward a Green, Resilient, and Inclusive Future](#)
- 08/04 | Webinar | [How can technology support the transition towards more sustainable finance?](#)
- 08-19/04 | Online | [EU-Africa Green Talks \(EIB\)](#)
- 12/04 | Webinar | [Waste-to-Energy: an essential element for circularity](#)
- 13/04 | Webinar | [Forum for Mobility & Society – Smart and Sustainable Mobility Strategy](#)
- 20/04 | Webinar | [Active building Energy Performance Contracting \(AEPC\)](#)

- 22/04 | Webinar | [Clean Aviation for a Competitive Green Recovery in Europe: Innovative Ideas Take Flight](#)
- 28/04 | Webinar | [The New Industrial Strategy for \(Post-Pandemic\) Europe](#)
- 29/04 | Webinar | [Achieving the 2030 climate goals – One-stop-shops for the residential sector](#)
- 29/04 | Webinar | [Blue economy: the potential of our oceans to contribute to a green recovery](#)
- 04/05 | Webinar | [Circular economy and bioeconomy](#)
- 04-05/05 | Online | [Euroheat & Power Congress](#)
- 05/05 | Webinar | [Climate Compliance and the European Green Deal](#)
- 06/05 | Webinar | [The Role of Modal Shift in Achieving Transport Decarbonisation Objectives](#)
- 06/05 | Webinar | [Digital solutions in support of the Green Deal](#)
- 11/05 | Webinar | [Are we getting closer to a circular economy in Europe?](#)
- 11/05 | Webinar | [Faculty Research Day: Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services](#)
- 12/05 | Webinar | [Human Rights Compliance in the Financial Sector](#)
- 25-27/05 | Online | [Innovate4Climate](#)
- 31/05-04/06 | Online | [EU Green Week](#)
- 15-16/06 | Online | [Covenant of Mayors Investment Forum: Energy efficiency finance market place](#)
- 21-25/06 | [Transport and Climate Change Week](#)
- 24/06 | [International workshop 'Urban climate resilience: the role of law'](#)
- 19-20/07 | Online | [International Conference on Ecology, Biodiversity and Environment](#)
- 30/08-03/09 | Online | [Environmental litigation and compliance beyond the nation-state](#)
- 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

- 24/03 | Action plan for the development of organic production: on the way to 2030
- 14/04 | NextGenerationEU funding strategy to finance the recovery plan for Europe
- 21/04 | Communication on a climate change mitigation and adaptation taxonomy | Review of the Non-Financial Reporting Directive | Communication on the global approach to research, innovation, education and youth
- 27/04 | Communication on business taxation for the 21st century | Updating the new industrial strategy for Europe | Communication on better regulation

*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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