



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

- A [report](#) by Carbon Market Watch with recommendations for revising the European ETS system.
- How can the ETS system ensure more sustainable production of plastics? ([Carbon Market Watch](#))
- Some countries have expressed concerns about the EU proposal for a carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM) ([Euractiv](#), [Climate Home News](#))
- A [new EEA report](#) on the importance of nature-based solutions to climate change.
- Simone Tagliapietra on a [new green social contract](#).
- Renewable energy capacity rose sharply in 2020. ([Modern Diplomacy](#))
- Europe needs a substantial further expansion of renewable energy, according to the Commission. ([Euractiv](#))
- What about the [investments in wind energy](#) in 2020?
- [Michaela Kauer](#) on women and energy poverty.
- A number of companies call on the Commission to prioritise [renewable hydrogen](#).
- EUASE on the revision of the [Energy Performance of Buildings Directive](#).
- What can the construction sector do in terms of energy storage? ([Construction 21](#))
- [IEEP's response](#) to the consultation on the new Battery Directive.
- An [article](#) on the 'lithium war'.
- UNECE on the [importance of the circular economy](#).

- The EU should do more to strengthen the market for secondary raw materials. ([Laurent Chokoualé Datou](#))
- A Dutch report on a [circular economy for plastics](#).
- Some European cities want to become [circular](#).
- An [article](#) on the impact of the sharing economy on urban sustainability.
- An article about [circular economy and industry 4.0](#).
- How is the [EIB](#) supporting the circular economy?
- A report on circular economy in Africa. ([African Circular Economy Alliance](#))
- In a [briefing](#), Transport & Environment calls for more ambition under the Climate Effort Sharing Regulation. ([William Todts](#))
- A [briefing](#) on urban electric mobility and its impact on energy use.
- Is there still a future for plug-in hybrid vehicles? ([Reuters](#))
- A majority of city residents support a ban on the sale of fossil fuel cars by 2030. ([Transport & Environment](#))
- Transport & Environment calls for [stronger policies](#) to accelerate electrification of corporate and urban fleets.
- In a joint letter, carmakers and environmental groups call for binding targets for better infrastructure for [electric trucks](#).
- The development of charging infrastructure for electric vehicles is proceeding too slowly, according to [a new report](#) by the European Court of Auditors. ([Euractiv](#))
- More cooperation at local level is needed to promote the development of car-sharing systems. An [article](#).
- An article about [self-driving vehicles](#).
- An article on [sustainable 'last mile logistics'](#).
- A briefing from McKinsey on [investments in the automotive industry](#).
- UNECE has recommendations for [sustainable mobility](#).
- The rail industry proposes to extend the Year of Rail to 2022. ([Euractiv](#))
- France introduces restriction on domestic flights. ([The Guardian](#))
- WEF on a [just transition](#) to a green economy.
- A report with [future scenarios for the bioeconomy](#). ([Science | Business](#))
- The [chemical industry](#) sees many opportunities in the bioeconomy.
- Microplastic pollution has become a global problem. ([The Guardian](#))
- As a result of the first lockdown, fewer people died from air pollution in France. ([Euractiv](#))
- An overview of the [Horizon Europe](#) programme.
- A report by a group of young Dutch economists on a '[wellbeing economy](#)'.
- Some countries ask the Commission to speed up the evaluation of the submitted recovery and resilience plans. ([Euractiv](#))
- [Paul Polman](#) pleads for strong standards to prevent greenwashing by companies.
- Client Earth launched [a lawsuit](#) against the National Bank of Belgium for doing too little for the climate.
- The chairman of the Sustainable Financial Policy Advisory Group says the EU should not give in to pressure to weaken the proposed taxonomy. ([Reuters](#), [Euractiv](#))
- In the discussion on the taxonomy, the Commission is said to be working on a deal to defer a decision on the role of gas and nuclear power to a later date. ([Euractiv](#), [Reuters](#))
- Europe continues to invest heavily in gas infrastructure that risks becoming a stranded asset. This is according to a [new report](#). ([Euractiv](#))
- Which countries are financing the construction of coal plants in Asian countries? ([CarbonBrief](#))
- An article on European [green funds](#).
- A [report](#) by EY on 1,000 climate-friendly investment projects in Europe.

- A large proportion of global investors does not consider climate risks. This is shown in a [new study](#).
- How can we improve financing for climate-neutral cities? ([SEI](#))
- Climate change will hit 'endemic' plant and animal species hardest. ([CarbonBrief](#))
- The EU is responsible for much of the imported deforestation. A new [report by WWF](#).
- There should be more focus on soil biodiversity. ([The Guardian](#))
- A briefing by Fern on the [impact of bioenergy](#) on biodiversity.
- Fern made an [analysis on the role of biomass](#) in the national energy and climate plans.
- Janice Weatherley-Singh on the [biodiversity crisis](#).
- Only 3% of the world's ecosystems are still intact. ([The Guardian](#))
- More support is needed to convince consumers to buy organic as part of the Organic Farming Action Plan. ([Food Navigator](#))
- A campaign to put an end to intensive livestock farming is receiving a great deal of support. ([Euractiv](#)) The initiators of the citizens' initiative on the subject came to present their case at [a hearing](#) in the European Parliament. ([Eurogroup for Animals](#))
- ETTG on the [EU-Africa partnership](#).
- The EU should help Africa in its ecological transition. ([Euractiv](#))
- Rich countries are still giving far too little in development aid. ([Eurodad](#))
- IEEP made [an analysis](#) of the environmental dimension of some European free trade agreements.
- There is an agreement on a successor to the Cotonou Agreement. ([Euractiv](#))

Activities

- 19-22/04 | Online | [Global Symposium on Soil Biodiversity](#)
- 20/04 | Webinar | [Active building Energy Performance Contracting \(AEPC\)](#)
- 20/04 | Webinar | [Connecting European Sustainable Finance to standardization](#)
- 20/04 | Webinar | [Conference on Energy poverty at the crossroads of the European Pillar of Social Rights and the European Green Deal](#)
- 20/04 | Webinar | [Legal Implications of the Green Deal Across Europe](#)
- 20/04 | Webinar | [State of the European Green Deal – from strategy to delivery](#)
- 20/04 | Webinar | [The CAP close to the finishing line - can the European Green Deal promises be kept?](#)
- 20-22/04 | Online | [3rd EU Conference on Connected & Automated Driving](#)
- 21/04 | Webinar | [Reducing the use of antibiotics in the meat sector](#)
- 21/04 | Webinar | [EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation \(SFDR\): Measuring Portfolio Alignment and Company Reporting](#)
- 21/04 | Webinar | [Europe's green moment: How to meet the climate challenge](#)
- 22/04 | Webinar | [Clean Aviation for a Competitive Green Recovery in Europe: Innovative Ideas Take Flight](#)
- 22/04 | Webinar | [Creating a mobility system of the future](#)
- 22/04 | Online | [Brainstorming seminar on Circular Economy: launch of bounCE4ward](#)
- 22/04 | Webinar | [The Role of Energy Storage in the Renovation Wave](#)
- 23/04 | Webinar | [How to finance the transition in the EU: the role of the EU taxonomy](#)
- 26/04 | Webinar | [Rebuilding smart mobility: shared, safe and sustainable](#)
- 26/04 | Webinar | [Circularity in the Clean Energy Transition](#)
- 27/04 | Webinar | [Exploring interfaces between labour and environmental law](#)
- 28/04 | Webinar | [The New Industrial Strategy for \(Post-Pandemic\) Europe](#)
- 28/04 | Webinar | [Strategic autonomy and the transformation of the EU](#)
- 28/04 | Webinar | [Post 2021 Summit on Climate & Road to COP 26 in Glasgow](#)

- 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](#)
- 03/05 | Webinar | [The Twin Transition: How can Green Growth and Digital Transformation go hand in hand to drive Europe’s recovery?](#)
- 04/05 | Webinar | [Circular economy and bioeconomy](#)
- 04/05 | Webinar | [The role of gas in Europe’s future energy mix and the transition to zero carbon of Europe’s power sector](#)
- 04/05 | Webinar | [Hydrogen Policy Developments, Needs and Reality](#)
- 04-05/05 | Online | [Euroheat & Power Congress](#)
- 05/05 | Webinar | [Climate Compliance and the European Green Deal](#)
- 05/05 | Webinar | [European conference on green mining](#)
- 06/05 | Webinar | [The Role of Modal Shift in Achieving Transport Decarbonisation Objectives](#)
- 06/05 | Webinar | [Digital solutions in support of the Green Deal](#)
- 06/05 | Online | [High-level conference on the review of the Non-Financial Reporting Directive – the way forward](#)
- 07/05 | Webinar | [Building Renovation Passports and One-Stop-Shops: How can they contribute to the Renovation Wave?](#)
- 07/05 | Webinar | [What can the US and the EU learn from each other to accelerate climate action?](#)
- 11/05 | Webinar | [Are we getting closer to a circular economy in Europe?](#)
- 11/05 | Webinar | [Faculty Research Day: Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services](#)
- 11/05 | Webinar | [European Mobility Atlas 2021 - Night Trains](#)
- 12/05 | Webinar | [Human Rights Compliance in the Financial Sector](#)
- 12/05 | Webinar | [Sustainable Finance: Impact and Implications for the Real Economy](#)
- 15/05 | Webinar | [Mining for metals – can it be fair?](#)
- 18-20/05 | Online | [Renewable Materials Conference](#)
- 20/05 | Webinar | [Cogeneration and district heating: An enabler of the green transition?](#)
- 20/05 | Webinar | [Meet & Greet with international circular economy frontrunners](#)
- 25-27/05 | Online | [Innovate4Climate](#)
- 27/05 | Webinar | [Enabling a Circular Economy: How to encourage a viable agricultural market for nutrients recovered from biowaste](#)
- 31/05-04/06 | Online | [EU Green Week](#)
- 15-16/06 | Online | [Covenant of Mayors Investment Forum: Energy efficiency finance market place](#)
- 21-23/06 | Online | [Healthy Buildings Europe 2021](#)
- 21-25/06 | [Transport and Climate Change Week](#)
- 23-25/06 | Online | [European Energy Efficiency Conference 2021](#)
- 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](#)
- 30/08-03/09 | Online | [„Natural“ boundaries of climate protection under EU Law – A clash of ecological interests](#)
- 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

- 21/04 | Communication on a climate change mitigation and adaptation taxonomy | Review of the Non-Financial Reporting Directive | Follow-up to the white paper on artificial intelligence
- 27/04 | Updating the new industrial strategy for Europe | Communication on better regulation
- 18/05 | Communication on zero-pollution for water, air and soil | Communication on a new approach for a sustainable blue economy in the EU | Communication on the global approach to research and innovation

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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