



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 2022](#).

Current affairs

- Reflections after COP26: [GlobalVoices](#), [CAN Europe](#), [ETTG](#), [WRI](#), [E3G](#).
- How can governments accelerate the climate transition? ([EY](#))
- [META](#), [Arianna Vitali Roscini](#) on high energy prices.
- An [article](#) on how investments in renewable energy can be steered in favour of the reliability of the energy system. A plea for a hybrid model.
- To ensure that 'Fit for 55' is socially just, more is needed than just financial compensation. ([E3G](#))
- [ETUC](#) calls for a legal framework for a just transition to complement the 'Fit for 55' package.
- Energy saving schemes need to be better targeted at the poorest households, experts say. ([Euractiv](#))
- The revised Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) should ensure that EU Member States take immediate action and do not delay their efforts until the end of the decade. ([Euractiv](#))
- [Orgalim](#) and [CEMA](#) on CBAM.
- New research shows that wind turbines, when properly configured, can provide grid stability. ([EnergyPost](#))
- A [study](#) on the potential of hydrogen for decarbonising EU industry.
- An [article](#) on the development of green hydrogen, seen from a global perspective.
- [Stephan Windels](#) and [Science | Business](#) on the underexploited potential of green hydrogen in Europe.
- [CAN Europe](#) on the package of proposals to decarbonise hydrogen and gas.

- The European reference price for carbon could reach 100 euros per tonne by the end of the year. ([Euractiv](#))
- [CAN Europe](#) on the proposed new rules to reduce anthropogenic methane emissions from the energy and petrochemical sectors.
- New EU rules on methane should cover petrochemical products and the supply chain. ([CIEL](#))
- [CAN Europe](#) on the Energy Charter Treaty.
- Do EU plans to defend the energy performance of buildings go far enough? ([META](#))
- [E3G](#) on the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive.
- Energy performance certificates (EPCs) offer a huge untapped potential to help Europe decarbonise. ([Adrian Joyce](#))
- A [study](#) on the impact of minimum energy performance standards in the revision of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive.
- An [article](#) on difficulties in energy renovation of district heating buildings.
- An [article](#) on enabling technologies for sectoral coupling, with an overview of the role of heat pumps and thermal energy storage.
- In a joint statement, some organisations active in the circular economy call for more removable, replaceable and repairable batteries. ([Zero Waste Europe](#), [EEB](#), [Reuse](#), [Right to Repair](#))
- Some organisations are concerned that the proposed rules for a sustainable battery industry will come too late. ([Transport & Environment](#), [EEB](#))
- What does the transition to a circular economy mean in terms of jobs? A [study](#).
- The EU is working on a 'digital product passport' to boost the circular economy. ([Euractiv](#))
- How can the aluminium industry become more circular? ([WEF](#))
- How can companies develop circular innovations in collaboration with stakeholders? An [article](#).
- A new book on circular design of fashion. ([Ellen MacArthur Foundation](#))
- [META](#) on green labels for fashion.
- The Commission has [a proposal](#) on the position of platform workers. ([Politico](#), [Euractiv](#), [Politico](#), [Euractiv](#), [Briefing EP](#), [Move EU](#))
- A [study](#) on 'working for nothing' in the platform economy.
- A report on the [role of MaaS](#) as a regulatory tool for the introduction of sustainable urban mobility.
- Running cars on e-fuels will not reduce air pollution problems. ([Transport & Environment](#), [Euractiv](#))
- A [study](#) proposing a new design of charging tariffs for electric vehicles.
- The [rail sector](#) is calling for a reform of the ETS system and the Energy Taxation Directive.
- How will green chemistry provide answers to the climate crisis? ([WEF](#))
- [Bruegel](#) on the 'Global Gateway'.
- Eurocities on a just green and [digital transformation](#).
- The vast majority of Europe's urban population is exposed to levels of air pollutants above the new WHO guidelines. A new [report](#) from the EEA.
- Microplastics cause damage to human cells, study finds. ([The Guardian](#))
- The Commission proposed a Social Economy [Action Plan](#). ([Social Economy](#), [EVPA](#))
- A [briefing](#) on the Social Economy Action Plan.
- The EU Council reached an [agreement](#) on the negotiating position on the minimum wage directive. ([Euractiv](#))
- Finance ministers agreed to amend the rules in order to allow them to reduce value added tax (VAT) on goods and services linked to the fight against climate change, the protection of health and the transition to a more digital economy. ([Council](#), [Commission](#), [Euractiv](#))

- Many NGOs are concerned about the delay of the Sustainable Corporate Governance proposal. ([ECNL](#), [ETUC](#), [Amnesty International](#), [CIDSE](#), [ECCJ](#))
- According to [ClientEarth](#), the 'Big Four' audit firms are failing to meet audit standards and their core legal obligations by not taking climate risks into account.
- The [ECB](#) has said that EU tax rules should be adjusted to support more investment in the green transition.
- An [article](#) on green bonds.
- The [EESC](#) calls for more ambition from the Commission on sustainable finance.
- [EIOPA](#) will give more attention to sustainable finance.
- [Mariana Mazzucato](#) on financing the Green Deal.
- The first two chapters of the sustainable taxonomy - the so-called "first delegated act" - were approved on 9 December. [WWF](#), [Transport & Environment](#), [Julian Popov](#), [Reuters](#), [Euractiv](#), [Euractiv](#), [PRI](#), [ECOS](#), [Climate Bonds](#), [ESG Today](#), [Reuters](#), [Eurosif](#), [IEEP](#).
- An [article](#) about the taxonomy.
- Why transit risks should be taken into account in climate mitigation scenarios. ([PRI](#))
- More investors are positive about 'divestment' after COP26, [research shows](#).
- The COP15 biodiversity conference may be postponed again. ([Reuters](#))
- [IUCN](#) on post-2020 biodiversity framework.
- BirdLife's [ten-point plan](#) for restoring nature.
- Tropical forests can recover surprisingly quickly, new study finds. ([The Guardian](#))
- The EU wants three billion extra trees by 2030 and launched '[MapMyTree](#)'.
- How can the EU's seas be protected and restored? A [report](#) by BirdLife.
- Researchers warn that deep-sea mining could drive hundreds of species to extinction. ([The Guardian](#))
- [IEEP](#) on the challenges facing the Common Agricultural Policy.
- The President of the European Farmers' Organisation on the Common Agricultural Policy. ([Euractiv](#))
- Rules on the duration and conditions of animal transport must be tightened according to a European Parliament committee. ([Euractiv](#))
- SDSN publishes [a study](#) on international spillovers in EU food supply chains.
- The EEA published a new indicator for [pesticides](#) in European waters.
- An FAO [report](#) on the use of plastics in agriculture. ([The Guardian](#))
- What skills do agricultural professionals need in the transition to sustainable agriculture? An [article](#).
- The WTO Ministerial Conference (MC12) is postponed. ([E3G](#))

Activities

- 13/12 | Online | [Digital food transition in Europe](#)
- 13-17/12 | Online | [Just Transition Forum 2021: Energy and Jobs to Power the Future](#)
- 14/12 | Webinar | [Planetary Health: How do we want to shape our future?](#)
- 14/12 | Webinar | [A Just Transition to a Circular Economy—Employment Trends and Visions for the Future](#)
- 15/12 | Online | [Launch of the new EU biodiversity governance](#)
- 15/12 | Online | [Energy sufficiency: how to shape sustainable behaviours](#)
- 16/12 | Online | [Delivering on the European Green Deal: What's in the winter package for energy?](#)
- 16/12 | Online | [The European Citizens' Panels and the future of democracy in the EU](#)
- 16-17/12 | Online | [Measuring the effectiveness of environmental law through legal indicators](#)

- 02/02 | Online | [Due diligence and responsible sourcing: Can a common approach for all sectors work?](#)
- 18/02 | Webinar | [The Future Europe Wants: A Green and Digital, Job-Based and Inclusive Recovery](#)

Commission documents

- 14/12 | [Energy and climate](#) | - Reducing methane emissions in the energy sector / - Revision of the third energy package for gas / - Revision of the energy performance of Buildings Directive / - Commission communication - Restoring sustainable carbon cycles / - Council Recommendation to address the social and labour aspects of the climate transition | [Efficient and green mobility package](#) | - Revision of the Regulation on the trans-European transport network, including the alignment of rail freight corridors / - Revision of the Directive on Intelligent Transport Systems / - New EU urban mobility framework / - Action plan to boost long-distance and cross-border passenger rail | Improving environmental protection through criminal law
- 22/12 | Own resources package | Proposal on implementation of the OECD global agreement on minimum effective taxation

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

[ARCHIVE BRIEFING European Green Deal](#)