



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

- There was a meeting of the [European Council](#) on 16 December. ([Conclusions](#), [Politico](#), [Euractiv](#), [Euractiv](#))
- The [French Presidency](#) is getting ready. ([Euractiv](#), [Euractiv](#), [Euractiv](#))
- US Secretary of State John Kerry on CBAM. ([Euractiv](#))
- [CAN Europe](#) on CBAM.
- A [briefing](#) on climate action in the EU.
- [META](#) on the geopolitical dimension of the Green Deal.
- The Commission presented a series of proposals in the field of energy and climate. (Winter package 'Fit for 55') [Eurocities](#), [Agora Energiewende](#), [SolarPower Europe](#), [BEUC](#), [EEB](#), [CAN Europe](#), [EnergyCities](#). (1) Reducing methane emissions in the energy sector. [Dagmar Droogsma](#). (2) Revision of the Third Energy Package for gas. [Commission](#), [E3G](#), [Euractiv](#), [Euractiv](#), [Briefing EP](#), [Euractiv](#), [Hydrogen Europe](#), [ECOS](#), [Climate Home News](#). (3) Revision of the directive on the energy performance of buildings. [Commission](#), [Euractiv](#), [The Guardian](#), [Social Europe](#), [Transport & Environment](#), [Euractiv](#), [ECOS](#), [CEPI](#), [Housing Europe](#), [REHVA](#), [Reuters](#), [Copper Alliance](#), [Lighting Europe](#), [ChargeUp Europe](#), [EUASE](#), [DIGITALEUROPE](#), [SMEunited](#). (4) Restoring sustainable carbon cycles. [Commission](#), [Carbon Market Watch](#), [ECVC](#), [WWF](#), [Wijnand Stoefs](#), [Euractiv](#). (5) Council Recommendation on social and labour aspects of climate transition. [Commission](#), [ETUC](#).
- An effective way of not being exposed to gas price volatility would be for the EU to produce its own renewable energy. ([Dirk Vansintjan](#), [Rescoop](#))

- The Commission has proposed rules allowing EU countries to jointly buy strategic gas reserves. ([Euractiv](#))
- A [briefing](#) on the recast of the Energy Efficiency Directive.
- [SMEunited](#) on the recast of the Energy Efficiency Directive.
- [Eurochambres](#) on the recast of the Renewable Energy Directive.
- Intelligent, flexible sector coupling in cities can double the potential for wind and solar. ([EnergyPost](#))
- An [article](#) on optimal planning of battery energy storage systems within renewable energy communities.
- A [report](#) by ETUI on the employment effects of the transition to renewable energy in the electricity sector.
- A preliminary political agreement on the revised rules of the Trans-European Network for Energy (TEN-E) Regulation. ([Council](#), [OffshoreWIND.biz](#))
- There is a meeting of [energy ministers](#) on 20 December. ([CAN Europe](#), [WWF](#))
- What does the future look like for carbon capture? ([EnergyPost](#))
- A [briefing](#) on the revision of the LULUCF regulation.
- A [report](#) by the Wuppertal Institute on carbon markets in a world below 2 degrees Celsius.
- Is it a good idea to include housing in the ETS system? An interview. ([Euractiv](#))
- [Glass for Europe](#) on ETS.
- EU suffers from lack of skilled labour for building renovation wave. ([Euractiv](#))
- The Commission published a proposal for improving environmental protection through criminal law. ([EEB](#), [META](#), [Client Earth](#), [Euractiv](#))
- EU companies warn of "counterproductive" delay of battery legislation. ([Transport & Environment](#))
- The future of energy storage and conversion relies on circularity and traceability. ([EIT Raw Materials](#))
- A [report](#) by Circle Economy on financial solutions for the circular service economy.
- A [report by CLG](#) on accelerating the transition to a climate neutral and circular economy. How can the EU achieve results through the Sustainable Products Initiative?
- An [article](#) about circular business models.
- An [article](#) about circular public procurement in Germany.
- What will a circular household look like in the future? ([WUR](#))
- An [article](#) about hubs for circularity.
- A [new report](#) by the EEA on ways to prevent waste more effectively, with textiles in the spotlight.
- An [article](#) on slow fashion.
- Current trade rules slow down the transition to a circular economy, according to [an ICC report](#).
- The Commission presented a [package of proposals](#) for efficient and sustainable mobility. (Winter package 'Fit for 55') [IRJ](#), [Jill Warren](#), [Euractiv](#), [ETF](#), [Cycling Industry News](#). (1) [Revision of the Trans-European Transport Network Regulation, including adaptation of rail freight corridors](#). (2) [Revision of the Intelligent Transport Systems Directive](#). (3) [New EU framework on urban mobility](#). (4) [Action plan for the promotion of long-distance and cross-border passenger rail transport](#). [CER](#).
- An [article](#) on research and innovation in support of the European strategy for sustainable and smart mobility.
- A [study](#) by the Wuppertal Institut with eight propositions to pave the way towards a digitised and sustainable mobility transition.
- Current EU agrofuels policy is driving up demand for soy, promoting the destruction of the Amazon forest and other fragile ecosystems. ([Transport & Environment](#))

- [ACEA](#) on the Renewable Energy Directive (RED) and the Fuel Quality Directive (FQD).
- [ICCT](#) on the proposal for the regulation on alternative fuels infrastructure (AFIR).
- [IRU](#) and [ESMIG](#) on 'Fit for 55'.
- A briefing on ETS for transport. How to design a socially just and environmentally efficient system? ([Transport & Environment](#))
- Road hauliers warn EU of green taxes without clean alternatives. ([Euractiv](#))
- An [article](#) on light electric vehicles in a circular economy.
- The EU's approach to controlling fraud in the import of used cooking oil (UCO) is not fit for purpose. ([Euractiv](#))
- The General Block Exemption Regulation, which regulates state aid not covered by the Climate, Energy and Environmental Aid Guidelines (CEEAG), is currently being revised by the Commission. ([Transport & Environment](#))
- The Commission published an [annual report](#) on the challenges of protecting fundamental rights in the digital age.
- A [briefing](#) on a universal right to a healthy environment.
- A review of scientific studies has shown that declining fertility rates may be linked to pollution caused by burning fossil fuels. ([The Guardian](#))
- There was a first meeting of the '[Zero Pollution Stakeholder Platform](#)'.
- More than 700 groups are calling for an [international plastics treaty](#).
- What was the role of the social partners in the national plans for recovery and resilience? ([Social Europe](#))
- The EESC produced [an opinion](#) on a fair transition for the EU's resource and energy-intensive industries.
- Cities play a central role in Europe's sustainability transition. A [new report](#) by the EEA.
- An [EESC opinion](#) on the new sustainable finance strategy.
- Will an EU standard for green bonds solve the problem of greenwashing? ([FBE](#))
- [ESG Investor](#), [CAN Europe](#), [Social Economy Europe](#), [Bellona Europe](#), [Patrick Ten Brink](#), [META](#) on taxonomy.
- UNEPFI produced a [guidance document](#) for banks on setting resource efficiency and circular economy targets.
- An [article](#) on future generations as stakeholders, in the context of a sustainable financial policy.
- NGOs call for ambitious 2030 targets in upcoming EU law on nature restoration. ([WWF](#))
- An [article](#) on 'dark infrastructure' for biodiversity, as a response to light pollution.
- The European Parliament has postponed an important vote on the details of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) reform until January. ([Euractiv](#))
- A new [report](#) from Eurostat on 'farm to fork'.
- [ClientEarth](#) on the agreement of the fisheries ministers.
- The new '[Europe Sustainable Development Report 2021](#)' has been published.
- The EU promises green infrastructure investments for African countries, but Beijing has a better reputation on the continent. ([Climate Home News](#))
- [SEI](#) on the global challenge of adapting coffee to a changing climate.

Activities

- 07/01 | Online | [Fit for 55: delivering the EU's 2030 Climate Target on the way to climate neutrality](#)
- 12/01 | Online | [SEI Currents 2022](#)
- 12/01 | Online | [Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage \(CCUS\): still waiting for Godot?](#)
- 24-28/01 | Online | [Right to Energy Forum 2022](#)

- 02/02 | Online | [Due diligence and responsible sourcing: Can a common approach for all sectors work?](#)
- 10/02 | Webinar | [Co-Building an Inclusive Green Deal](#)
- 18/02 | Webinar | [The Future Europe Wants: A Green and Digital, Job-Based and Inclusive Recovery](#)
- 19/02 | Hybrid | [European Green Deal and Farm to Fork strategy: how innovation can support the transition towards global sustainable food systems](#)
- 01-02/03 | ? | [2022 Circular Economy Stakeholder Conference](#)

Commission documents

- 22/12 | Own resources package | Proposal on implementation of the OECD global agreement on minimum effective taxation
- 15/02 | [Just and sustainable economy package](#): - Communication on decent work worldwide / - Sustainable corporate governance (tbc)
- 23/03 | [Nature protection package](#): - Sustainable use of pesticides – revision of the EU rules / - Protecting biodiversity: nature restoration targets
- 30/03 | [Circular economy package I](#): - Sustainable products policy initiative, including a revision of the Ecodesign Directive / - Review of the Construction Product Regulation / - Proposal for a Regulation on substantiating environmental claims using the Product/Organisation Environmental Footprint methods (green claims) / - Strategy on sustainable textiles / - Empowering consumers for the green transition
- 05/04 | [Emissions and pollutants package](#): - Revision of the Industrial Emissions Directive and update of the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (E-PRTR) / - Review of EU rules on fluorinated greenhouse gases / - Regulation on substances that deplete the ozone layer / - Development of post-Euro 6/VI emission standards for cars, vans, lorries and buses
- 27/04 | New strategy on international energy engagement
- 25/05 | European Semester Spring Package
- 07/06 | Joint Communication on international ocean governance
- 15/06 | 2022 Strategic Foresight Report
- 05/07 | [Consumers package](#): - New design requirements and consumer rights for electronics / - Initiative on the right to repair (tbc)
- 20/07 | [Circular Economy Package II](#): - Policy framework for bio-based, biodegradable and compostable plastics / - Review of the Packaging and packaging waste directive to reinforce the essential requirements for packaging and establish EU level packaging waste prevention measures and targets / - Review of the Urban Wastewater Treatment directive

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