

## 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 2024.

## **Current affairs**

- Copernicus: 2023 is the warmest year on record, with global temperatures close to the 1.5°C mark. (Copernicus, The Guardian, Euronews, Copernicus)
- Oil industry veteran leads COP29. (<u>The Guardian</u>, <u>Global Witness</u>, <u>Oil International</u>, <u>Euronews</u>)
- COP29 host country Azerbaijan wants to increase gas production by a third over next decade. (The Guardian, Global Witness)
- Global warming will pass 1.5°C threshold this year, says ex-Nasa top scientist. (<u>The Guardian</u>)
- Analysis: The climate papers most prevalent in the media in 2023. (CarbonBrief)
- Overview World economic situation and outlook 2024. (UN, Euronews)
- Global risks 2024: Disinformation tops global risks 2024 as environmental threats rise. (<u>WEF</u>, WWF)
- Data shows 'astonishing' ocean temperatures worsen extreme weather in 2023. (<u>The Guardian</u>)
- Dozens of organisations and scientists demand separation of EU 2040 climate targets.
   (<u>Carbon Market Watch</u>, <u>Euronews</u>, <u>EEB</u>)
- The EU's implementation of the Paris Agreement. An article.
- Bold action to close the Climate Gap: a call for systemic change by governments and businesses. (WEF)
- Regional and local adaptation to climate change: Gaps, challenges and opportunities. A study.

- Priority dossiers under the Belgian EU Presidency. A briefing.
- Expertise in complex national politics will save EU Council agenda, claims Belgium. (Euractiv)
- Huge expansion of renewable energy opens door to COP28 global tripling target (<u>IEA</u>, <u>Euronews</u>, <u>The Guardian</u>, <u>Euractiv</u>)
- 2023: A peak year for Germany's renewable electricity sector. (Euractiv)
- The European energy crisis: Shock therapy for the EU's transition to clean energy. (EPC)
- Building and financing the expansion of the European electric interconnection market. (<u>Jean-Baptiste Vaujour</u>)
- Electricity tarification is Europe's hidden industrial policy. (<u>Ben McWilliams, Georg</u>
   Zachmann, Giovanni Sgaravatti and Simone Tagliapietra)
- Gender aspects of the rising cost of living and the impact of the energy crisis. A <u>study</u>.
- Battery production: Germany first EU country to match US subsidies. (Euractiv)
- Deep sea mining: why is interest growing and what are the risks? (The Guardian)
- Norwegian parliament gives green light to controversial deep-sea mining. (<u>Euractiv</u>, <u>Euronews</u>)
- The rush for raw materials. A report. (TNI)
- EU's climate agenda must not destroy our natural ecosystems. (Sirpa Pietikainen)
- How AI can drive data-driven policy-making in the circular economy. (Circle Economy)
- External implications of the circular economy transition of the Netherlands and the EU.
   (ECDPM)
- Top 4 priorities of recyclers for 2024 2029. (Euric)
- Recycling market in Europe risks collapse after EU ban on waste exports, says industry. (<u>Euractiv</u>)
- 2024-2029: Five years to deliver on Green Deal mobility promises. (<u>Céline Domecq and Julia</u> Poliscanova)
- EU targets under pressure as consumers shun used electric vehicles. (Euractiv)
- Research and innovation pave the way to climate neutrality in urban transport: Analysis of 362 cities towards zero emissions. An article.
- Without more action, LNG could pull international shipping off its decarbonisation course.
   (ICCT)
- Combating microplastic pollution in the EU: Unintentional release of plastic pellets. A <u>briefing</u>.
- 'Forever chemicals' (PFAS) found in foetuses pose risk of diseases in adulthood. (Euractiv)
- Evidence is growing for the link between air pollution and the risk of dementia and strokes. (The Guardian)
- War gave us the Red Cross. Now, because of climate disasters, we also need a Green Cross.
   (Lorenzo Marsili)
- The climate costs of war and the military can no longer be ignored. (<u>Doug Weir</u>)
- 2024: Europe again at a turning point. (<u>Sébastien Treyer</u>)
- 2024: a year that will define the future. (Patrick ten Brink)
- Public ownership for sustainability transitions: Empirical insights for EU policymakers. An article.
- Macroeconomic impacts of green recovery programmes. An article.
- The role of environmental technologies, institutional quality and globalisation on environmental sustainability in European Union countries: new evidence from advanced panel data estimation. An article.
- New system guides companies to act within planetary boundaries. (<u>Stockholm Resilience Centre</u>)
- Submission to the UN consultation on corporate responsibility in the context of human rights and climate change. (<u>LSE</u>)

- A proposal to revise the EU's multiannual financial framework. (BirdLife)
- EU banks lending disproportionately to carbon-intensive sectors. (Green Central Banking)
- Central banks must fight the climate crisis here's why. (<u>Martin Sokol and Jennie C. Stephens</u>)
- The ECB is wrong. Green dual interest rates are possible and necessary. (Vicky Van Eyck)
- European asset managers greener than Americans, survey shows. (Euronews, ShareAction)
- Promoting regenerative agriculture in the EU and UK. A report. (EEB)
- Circular economy and employment in agriculture: a panel analysis of advanced and emerging economies in the EU. An article.
- Agricultural practices to improve biodiversity in different biomes: a systematic review. An
  article.
- EU top court fails to apply clear overfishing rules to all EU fish stocks. (ClientEarth)
- Climate finance and conflict: adaptation in the midst of instability. An article.
- It's time to tackle 'the elephant' in Africa switching to renewable energy won't be easy.
   (Oxford Economics)
- European Union and UK regulations for deforestation-free supply chains: implications for Brazil. (<u>SEI</u>)

(Highlight means: NEW or CHANGED)

## **Activities**

- 2024-01-15 2024-01-18 | <u>Belgian Renovation Week</u>
- 2024-01-16 | Webinar | Remining for the energy transition
- 2024-01-17 | Webinar | SEI Currents 2024
- 2024-01-18 | Expert meeting: nature in tomorrow's education
- 2024-01-18 | Online | Book launch: Making the European Green Deal Work
- 2024-01-18 | Hybrid | Should nature have rights?
- 2024-01-25 | Hybrid | It's in the news: we're decarbonising!
- 2024-01-29 | Beyond borders: how can the EU become a leader in consumption-based emissions reduction?
- 2024-01-30 | Webinar | Eco-social crisis and judicial activism
- 2024-02-07 | Webinar | Webinar on articles on methodology for climate risk stress testing and analysis of the financial impact of greenwashing controversies
- 2024-02-08 | Hybrid | Environmental Law Lecture #10: Strengthening EU Environmental Law
- 2024-02-08 | Workers and the climate challenge
- 2024-02-10 | Online | The future of EU forests A new EU Framework for Forest Monitoring and Strategic Plans
- 2024-02-19 2024-02-20 | Climate Extremes, Causes and Consequences
- 2024-02-21 2024-02-22 | Future of work: rethinking workers' rights in the digital age
- 2024-03-07 | Teach Up! 2030
- 2024-03-11 | Hybrid | Global ocean governance: past, present, and future
- 2024-03-19 2024-03-20 | <u>CEPR-NBB Joint Research Workshop on Reaching Net-Zero:</u> Electricity Markets, Carbon Pricing, and Firms' Responses
- 2024-03-25 2024-03-26 | Empowering Biodiversity Research III
- 2024-04-15 2024-04-18 | World Circular Economy Forum 2024

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## **Commission documents**

- 2024-02-06 | 2040 climate target | Communication on industrial carbon management
- 2024-02-14 | Advanced materials for industrial leadership A coordinated plan with Member States



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