BRIEFING **| European Green Deal |** Issue 233 **|** 7 March 2025

General

- The Political Guidelines 2024-2029.
- The Commission has published the work programme for 2025.

Current affairs

- Copernicus: Lowest ice cover globally and third warmest February globally. (Copernicus, The Guardian)
- EU makes progress on 2030 zero pollution targets, but stronger action needed. (EEA, Euronews, Commission)
- Why the climate fight is critical for Europe's security. (William Todts)
- Countries again fail to set timing of key IPCC climate reports. (Climate Home News, Climate Home News)
- Half of the world's CO_2 emissions come from 36 fossil fuel companies, study shows. (The Guardian)
- Global climate and energy insights: A collaborative report on the future of renewables. (Copernicus)
- Renewable energy for rural areas. (EEB)
- New report reveals European solar equipment manufacturers can support EU solar reindustrialisation targets. (SolarPower Europe)
- Von der Leyen needs to be decisive when it comes to the EU's direction on climate action. (Mats Engström)
- A betrayal of the future: the EU must act now. (Benjamin Van Bunderen Robberechts)
- Towards stronger policies on geoengineering. (CIEL)
- Integrating seismic safety and energy efficiency: an economic pathway for resilient buildings. (BPIE)
- What do we know about policies to reduce building emissions? (Jonas J. Schoenefeld, Mikael Hildén & Sara-Tuuli Siiskonen)
- A vision for data in the built environment: transforming sustainability reporting. (BPIE)
- Looming EU mining pollution surge increases pressure to recycle critical minerals. (Euractiv)
- The battery industry has entered a new phase. (IEA)
- Circling forward to sustainability. (ECOS)

- Global circular economy. Reflections for a just transition. (HBS)
- Maximising public value through social and circular procurement. (RREUSE)
- Commission agrees to weaken car emissions targets. (Politico, The Guardian, Commission, Transport & Environment, BEUC, Euractiv, Euractiv)
- The Commission presented its new action plan for the car industry. (Commission, Euractiv, Transport & Environment, BEUC, Euractiv)
- EU seas: polluting ships can still slip through the net. (ECA, Euractiv)
- Half of new EU city buses to be zero-emission by 2024. (Transport & Environment)
- Sustainable aviation fuel boss wants more EU rules. (Politico)
- Transparency essential for developing reliable AI. (Euractiv)
- Report - Artificial intelligence in finance: how can you trust a black box? (Finance Watch)
- Doubling down, not backing down: defending the EU's digital sovereignty in the Trump era. (EPC)
- Comments continued on Clean Industrial Deal proposals: i4ce, CIEL, ICCT, Bellona, ETUC, ICCT.
- Urgent action needed for a European industrial strategy. (EESC)
- EU releases new steel industry action plan in a fortnight. (Euractiv, Commission)
- How can the EU respond to new US trade measures? (Euractiv, Euractiv, Gabriel Zucman)
- Europe's economic future: should it follow America's lead or forge its own path? (Anders Wijkman)
- Intergenerational justice in the EU: a step forward. (ZOE Institut)
- A European welfare economy - opportunities for political action. (IEEP)
- Unlocking the potential of public procurement for climate and social progress. (CAN Europe)
- Effective implementation: Transparency in EU infringement proceedings. (EEB)
- Comments on 'Omnibus' proposal: CSO Futures, Oxan, CETEX, ECCJ, LSE, Reclaim Finance.
- Making the transition less risky: how northern central banks can lead the way. (Green Central Banking)
- Joint statement: A simpler and more focused EU budget. (WWF, CAN Europe)
- Revealed: how Wall Street makes millions by betting against green laws. (The Guardian)
- Why fear of billion-dollar lawsuits keeps countries from banning fossil fuels. (The Guardian)
- Comments on the outcomes of the COP16 biodiversity conference: Global Issues, Climate Home News, CarbonBrief, Green Central Banking.
- Plant diverse tree species to spread risks in climate crisis, says study. (The Guardian)
- New Commission report shows EU marine legislation lacks binding measures. (WWF)
- At 2°C warming, half the world's arable land could produce less suitable crops. (CarbonBrief)
- Exposure to a combination of pesticides increases risk of cancer in children - study. (The Guardian)
- Crop diversification can improve agricultural productivity, ecosystem services and resilience in farming systems in the EU. (IEEP)
- Major banana exporters may face '60% drop' in growing area due to warming. (CarbonBrief)
- Accelerating innovation and impact in EU-Africa cooperation for sustainable food systems. (IEEP)
- African leaders demand debt relief as continent battles climate crisis. (Green Central Banking)

(Highlight means: NEW or CHANGED)

Activities

- 2025-03-11 | Hybrid | Circular economy in regions and cities: Tackling the challenges and seizing the opportunities
- 2025-03-13 | Online | EIOPA Sustainable Finance Conference 2025: Driving Resilience and Action in a Warming World
- 2025-03-18 | Hybrid | Multi-Level Governance: A Key to EU Climate and Energy Goals
- 2025-03-18 | Hybrid | Rural Energy Dialogue: Advancing the Clean Industrial Deal in Rural Areas?
- 2025-03-18 | Empowering farmers to drive and benefit from European protein diversification
- 2025-03-19 | Online | A critical look at generative AI
- 2025-03-20 | Hybrid | Environmental Law Lecture #23: Environmental Liability
- 2025-03-24 | Online | EU Forest Strategy 2030 - Progress and challenges near the halfway mark
- 2025-03-25 | Agrifood Policy Conference
- 2025-04-02 | Hybrid | Farming for pollinators: unlocking economic and ecological gains
- 2025-04-09 | Green Trade Day 2025: Anchoring trade policy in a just ecological transition
- 2025-05-21 – 2025-05-22 | Circular Wallonia Days. Extending & Improving the Mineral Resources Lifespans : Opportunities, Challenges & Perspectives.
- 2025-04-17 | Hybrid | Environmental Law Lecture #24: Designing the future of European Water Law
- 2025-05-13 – 2025-05-15 | Raw Materials Summit 2025
- 2025-05-22 | The Brussels Economic Forum
- 2025-06-03 – 2025-06-05 | EU Green Week
- 2025-06-25 – 2025-06-26 | The European Sustainable Industry Summit 2024. Shaping the Next Era of Corporate Sustainability Practices
- 2025-07-10 – 2025-07-11 | Hybrid | 7th JRC Summer School on Sustainable Finance
- 2025-10-14 – 2025-10-16 | Energy Storage Global Conference

(Highlight means: NEW or CHANGED)

Commission documents

- 2025-03-19 | Communication on a Savings and Investments Union | Steel and Metals Action Plan
- 2025-04-09 | AI Continent Action Plan
- 2025-04-16 | Third Omnibus package on small mid-caps and removal of paper requirements (tbc)

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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