BRIEFING | **European Green Deal** | Issue 248 | 20 June 2025

General

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

Current affairs

- Only two years left of world's carbon budget to meet 1.5C target, scientists warn. (The Guardian, article, Euronews, CarbonBrief)
- Climate Action Tracker's mid-year check on climate plans - little to analyse. (New Climate Institute)
- The international climate conference will take place in Bonn from 16 to 26 June. (ENB, Climate Home News, Climate Home News, Climate Home News, i4ce)
- Tracking the transition: an interim assessment of signals for phasing out fossil fuels in nationally determined contributions (NDCs). (E3G)
- Target 2040. Commission drafts law outsourcing EU climate efforts to poorer countries. (Politico, Carbon Market Watch, Politico, EEB)
- EU climate targets are essential for energy security and competitiveness. (We Mean Business Coalition)
- EU Climate Framework for 2040: How to Incentivise Carbon Removals? (EcoLogic)
- Climate misinformation turning crisis into catastrophe, report says. (The Guardian)
- EU energy ministers recognise the role of renewable energy in EU energy security, but lack concrete proposals. (SolarPower Europe)
- Volatile energy markets hinder competitiveness, says efficiency forum. (Euractiv)
- Energy Transition Index 2025: Five strategies for a more resilient and competitive energy system. (WEF)
- Power more with less: scaling up energy efficiency. (World Bank)
- The power outage on the Iberian Peninsula has highlighted the crucial importance of electricity security. (IEA)
- Joint statement: Iberian power outage. (SolarPower Europe)
- MEPs call for greater coordination and resilience in European electricity grids. (EP, SolarPower Europe)
- "A very Finnish thing": Large sand battery starts storing wind and solar energy in crushed soapstone. (Euronews)
- Report shows that converting closed coal mines into solar parks could power a country the size of Germany. (Euronews)

- New data reveals that countries in the North are responsible for nearly 70% of expected oil and gas expansion through 2035. (Oil Change International)
- The role of direct air capture technologies in the EU's effort to decarbonise the economy - An analysis of the potential, cost-effectiveness, risks, investment needs and technological, economic, administrative and legal conditions and requirements. A study.
- Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM): Council and Parliament reach agreement on its simplification. (Council, EP, Commission)
- German buildings minister bets on serial construction to cut costs, sticks to heating law targets. (CEW)
- Shaping the future of sustainable construction. (ECOS)
- Nearly zero-energy buildings (NZEBs): A systematic overview of the current status of single-family homes in the EU. An article.
- New study concludes that including waste incineration in the EU ETS could reduce emissions and create thousands of jobs. (Zero Waste Europe)
- Simplification: Council agrees position to 'stop-the-clock' on due diligence rules for batteries. (Council)
- The Circular Economy Act, material consumption, targets and secondary material use. (IEEP)
- Circularity without shortcuts, for a race to the top in the internal market. (META)
- Information barriers to the circularity of electronic products and the potential of digital product passports. An article.
- Assessing the economic and energy dimensions of investments in the circular economy and green taxation in the European Union. An article.
- The time to make automotive steel more circular is now. (Zachary Azdad)
- Circular economy: Council adopts position on recycling of end-of-life vehicles. (Euractiv, Council, EEB, META, ECOS)
- An amendment to the CO_2 standards for new passenger cars and vans in the European Union. (ICCT)
- Net Zero Logistics Study: The essential role of rail freight transport. (Europe's Rail)
- Research warns that Europe risks losing its lead in aviation e-fuels. (Transport & Environment)
- Is the world's big idea for greener air travel a flight of fancy? (Climate Home News)
- The economic aspects and greenhouse gas emissions of importing renewable hydrogen and e-fuels into the European Union. (ICCT)
- Greenwashing by airlines still widespread despite improvements. (BEUC)
- Weak aircraft innovation undercutting aviation's green transition. (Transport & Environment)
- Flight tax could raise €100 billion to tackle climate crisis, study finds. (The Guardian)
- Contributions of water conservation to a climate-resilient Europe. (EcoLogic)
- The European Union's rules to limit the risks of artificial intelligence are barely a year old, but they have already fallen out of favour. (Politico)
- What role for AI skills in (re-)shaping the future European workforce. A briefing.
- How does generative AI influence our economy, society and policy? (JRC)
- Action plan for the chemical industry: proposals for a modern, competitive and sustainable future for the chemical industry in the EU. (EEB)
- Clean Industrial Deal must link industrial competitiveness to climate action. (EP)
- Decarbonising heavy industry in Europe is not "Mission Impossible". (Euractiv)
- Mind the gap: can Europe afford its green and digital future? (Viktor Skyrman)
- How should the EU respond to US trade policy? (Politico, Politico, Euractiv, Benjamin Fox, Politico)
- Europe cannot sacrifice financial regulation to Trump's economic warfare. (Finance Watch)

- Germany pushes for Mercosur deal while France rallies allies to block it. (Euractiv)
- Portuguese Prime Minister warns that not implementing Mercosur would set a “bad example”. (Euractiv)
- Briefing: EU-Mercosur and the EU Deforestation Law. (Greenpeace)
- EPP tells European Commission to kill anti-greenwashing legislation. (Euractiv)
- Sustainable development in the European Union - Monitoring report on progress with the SDGs in the EU context - 2025 edition. (Eurostat)
- Reporting obligations. A study.
- EU and US conspicuously absent from ISSB standard profiles. (Green Central Banking)
- The world's largest banks have committed $869 billion to fossil fuel companies in 2024, according to a new report. (The Guardian, Reclaim Finance, Reclaim Finance, Euronews, Oil Change International)
- Voluntary climate information from the Basel Committee: One step forward, two steps back. (Finance Watch)
- EU revives banking practice that caused the 2008 financial crisis. (Politico)
- EU capital markets agenda starts with weaker rules, greater risks and minimal impact on the real economy. (Finance Watch)
- ECB reveals Eurosystem portfolios' exposure to nature loss. (Green Central Banking)
- The UN Ocean Conference ended on 13 June. (ENB, Karen McVeigh, Euronews, Euronews, CIEL)
- The European Ocean Pact: And an Ocean Law by 2027. A briefing.
- Supporting a nature-positive transition. (EcoLogic)
- Unveiling pervasive assumptions: moving beyond the poverty-biodiversity loss association in conservation. An article.
- Reversing the decline of pollinators: why Europe must act now. (EEA)
- Climate crisis could hit yields of key crops even if farmers adapt, study finds. (The Guardian)
- Is the EU farming out its responsibility to slash agricultural emissions? (Carbon Market Watch)
- A burden or an incentive? Due diligence in sustainable business practices in European agriculture. (Clingendael)
- Public procurement of food in the EU is worth billions annually – money that could contribute to healthy meals in schools, hospitals and nursing homes, while supporting sustainable agriculture, fair incomes for farmers and workers' rights. (Arc2020)
- Bank unveils plan for green loans to free up trillions for climate finance. (The Guardian)
- Developing countries “need more debt relief” to fund education and healthcare. (The Guardian)

(Highlight means: NEW or CHANGED)

Activities

- 2025-06-24 | Hybrid | Harnessing AI: safeguarding high-integrity data for climate action
- 2025-06-24 | Hybrid | Financing climate adaptation - role of the private sector
- 2025-06-24 | Subcontracting in logistics
- 2025-06-05 | Webinar | Trading partners: Rethinking Europe’s global partnerships
- 2025-06-25 – 2025-06-26 | The European Sustainable Industry Summit 2024. Shaping the Next Era of Corporate Sustainability Practices
- 2025-06-26 | Hybrid | Building a sustainable and competitive battery raw materials industry in Europe – How can it be achieved?
- 2025-06-26 | Hybrid | Global trends in climate litigation 2025: report launch

- 2025-06-26 | Hybrid | Europe's Bioeconomy Strategy – What are the key opportunities and challenges?
- 2025-06-26 | Online | Green Finance Forum: Scaling private investment in building decarbonisation
- 2025-06-26 | Online | Mapping Policies and Private Sector Initiatives for a Nature-positive Economy
- 2025-06-30 | Webinar | Net-Zero Logistics Study : Online Launch Webinar
- 2025-06-30 – 2025-07-03 | Hybrid | Global Tipping Points Conference
- 2025-7-03 | How to reach carbon neutrality?
- 2025-07-08 | Online | 2040 Climate Target: EU's Climate Turning Point?
- 2025-07-09 | Online | Roots of Resilience – Enhancing Biodiversity through Agroecology
- 2025-07-10 – 2025-07-11 | Hybrid | 7th JRC Summer School on Sustainable Finance
- 2025-07-10 – 2025-07-11 | Online | CONCLIMA conference
- 2025-10-14 – 2025-10-16 | Energy Storage Global Conference

(Highlight means: NEW or CHANGED)

Commission documents

- 2025-06-25 | New State Aid Framework
- 2025-07-02 | Climate Law - 2040 target | Quantum Strategy of EU | Life Science Strategy | Chemicals package - Action plan for the EU chemicals industry - Sixth Omnibus on chemicals (part 1)
- 2025-07-08 | A European high-speed rail network master plan (tbc)
- 2025-07-16 | Post-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework package

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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