BRIEFING **| European Green Deal |** Issue 265 **|** 21 November 2025

General

- The Political Guidelines 2024-2029.
- The Commission has published the work programme for 2026.

Current affairs

- The 2025 State of the Climate report: a planet on the brink. An overview article.
- Fulfilling promises on renewable energy, energy efficiency and methane 'would prevent nearly 1°C of global warming'. (The Guardian, New Climate Institute, Climate Action Tracker)
- 'Damned if we do but completely stuffed if we don't': heatwaves will worsen longer net zero is delayed. (The Guardian)
- News about COP30 (UNFCCC, Brasil, ENB): Politico, Euronews, Euronews, Euractiv, The Guardian, The Guardian, The Guardian, UCS, CIEL, Climate Home News, Climate Home News, SEI, IRENA, Global Witness, Euractiv, The Guardian, EP, CAN International, Politico, WEF, UN News, Eurodad, Mahmoud Mohieldin, Mohamed Adow, CAN Europe, Green Central Banking, Politico, Politico, Euronews, The Guardian, The Guardian, The Guardian, CAN International, IndustriALL, ActionAid, Euronews, Reuters, UNRIC, EEB, Greenpeace, Climate Home News, Oil Change International, Oil Change International, Politico, Euronews, Euronews, Euronews, The Guardian, The Guardian, The Guardian, The Guardian, CAN International, Oil Change International, Reuters, UNEP, David Tindall, WEF, Climate Home News, Euronews, Euractiv, The Guardian, The Guardian, Paul Brown, The Guardian, George Monbiot, The Guardian, The Guardian, The Guardian, ActionAid, UN News, Climate Home News, SEI.
- Last chance to shore up the EU's 2040 climate target. (Carbon Market Watch)
- Trump's anti-climate agenda could result in 1.3m more deaths globally, analysis finds. (The Guardian)
- Global progress in energy efficiency will increase in 2025. (IEA)
- Overcoming energy constraints is essential to delivering on Europe's data centre goals. (IEA)
- Global investment in renewable energy will reach $807 billion in 2024. (IEA)
- European grids package. (Briefing, CATF)
- Open letter on protecting the Social Climate Fund, following the proposal to delay ETS2. (CAN Europe)
- The case for delaying the application of the EU's carbon border levy to electricity. (Bruegel)
- Are carbon rating agencies the key to avoiding greenwashing? (Euronews)
- Europe's opportunity to take the lead on critical minerals. (Patrick Schröder)

- Europe is making progress in securing critical raw materials for clean technology. (WindEurope)
- Driving best practice in mining waste management. (Transport & Environment)
- Making the green premium work. Policy options for critical raw materials. (CEPS)
- The benefits of improved circularity for strategic autonomy: titanium metal in the EU. A study. (JRC)
- Green aluminium could make electric cars even cleaner for just €25 – research. (Transport & Environment)
- Changes in the global automotive industry raise important questions for economies and the energy sector. (IEA)
- Can't stop the market: why Europe should embrace LFP batteries (sustainably). (Julia Poliscanova)
- Stellantis chair presses EU to gut 2035 combustion engine ban. (Politico)
- Council and Parliament reach agreement on rules for better management and more intensive use of European railway infrastructure. (Council)
- Europe-wide monitoring of antimicrobial resistance in surface water can help improve data on health risks. (EEA)
- New report: Hazardous chemicals in Shein clothing continue to exceed EU standards. (Greenpeace)
- The Commission proposed a "digital omnibus". (Politico, EUobserver, CEPA, Euractiv, Commissie, Finance Watch, CEO, BEUC, EUobserver)
- Franco-German summit to express concerns about the EU's "digital sovereignty". (EUobserver)
- The world's digital empires are jostling for power – in Europe, we can't afford to be useful idiots. (Thierry Breton)
- Responsible AI can help science tackle planetary crises. (Stockholm Resilience Centre)
- AI is guzzling energy for slop content – could it be reimagined to help the climate? (Oliver Milman)
- Beyond the hype surrounding Nvidia: Europe's role in shaping AI for humanity. (Cristina Vanberghen)
- The digital welfare revolution in Europe: at what price is progress being made? (Hans Dubois)
- Digitalisation and democratisation: a test for Europe's just transition. (Friends of Europe)
- Commission presents Consumer Agenda for 2030 to strengthen consumer protection, competitiveness and sustainable growth. (Commission, BEUC)
- Council approves postponement of rules on classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals until 2028. (Council)
- Making the Industrial Accelerator Act work for electric vehicles and batteries. (Transport & Environment)
- Can supply chains become low-carbon? Research into the potential of scope 3 emission reductions for sustainable transformation. An article.
- European managers support emission reductions. But call for a realistic industrial transition plan. (Illuminem)
- Recent industrial policy worldwide: lessons for the European Union. (IDDRI)
- A green wage premium? (LSE)
- The impact of extreme weather conditions on workers' health and safety. A study.
- The European Green Deal: an economic necessity, not a burden. (Peter Hennicke and Anders Wijkman)
- Europe's eco-social union: the infrastructure for tomorrow's great transformation. (Bea Cantillon)

- The geopolitics of knowledge: why Europe must reinvest in its universities. (Manuel Muñiz)
- What next for EU trade policy? Euractiv, Politico.
- Mercosur momentum builds with accelerated vote on safeguard measures likely next week. (Politico)
- MEPs blame Metsola for blocking Mercosur court challenge. (Euractiv, CAN Europe)
- EU-Mercosur: Council supports regulation implementing safeguard measures for agricultural products. (Council)
- "Mirroring": the scope and limitations of EU trade agreements and autonomous measures. A study.
- EU budget agreement for 2026: EP boosts research, competitiveness and security. (EP, Commission, Council, Euractiv)
- The debate on the EU's multiannual financial framework. Euractiv, Solidar, EUobserver.
- Advanced economies integrate climate metrics in budgets; emerging nations build foundations. (IEEFA)
- Reactions to the European Parliament's position to weaken a number of sustainability rules ("omnibus"). GRI, Politico, Apostolos Thomadakis.
- ESG performance, digital transformation and green innovation. An article.
- Why current climate transition plans are unrealistic and how they can be made more credible. (EY)
- Commission simplifies transparency rules for sustainable financial products (SFDR). (Commission, WWF, Reclaim Finance, BEUC, IIGCC, Eurosif, BETTER FINANCE)
- Why climate costs continue to rise: a blind spot in European public finances. (Finance Watch)
- Dutch central bank sees rising risk of shock climate transition due to delays. (Green Central Banking)
- Sustainable bonds. Trends and policy recommendations. A report. (OECD)
- Climate risks force African insurers to rethink their role. (Cecilia Schultz)
- EU countries want to weaken legislation against deforestation while green withdrawal continues. (Euractiv, Politico, Euractiv, Council, WWF, Greenpeace, Euractiv)
- "Existential threat": how small amounts of plastic in the ocean are killing marine life. (Euronews, Ocean Conservancy, The Guardian)
- France's birds start to show signs of recovery after bee-harming pesticide ban. (The Guardian)
- The organic sector in France is recovering after years of crisis. (Euractiv)
- Ultra-processed foods linked to damage to all major human organs, study finds. (The Guardian, The Lancet)
- Analysis of the role of the EU's Clean Trade and Investment Partnerships (CTIP) in sustainable investment and its impact on businesses in the Global South. (OBLB)

(Highlight means: NEW or CHANGED)

Activities

- 2025-11-24 | Online | Upgrading our economic OS. Regenerative oganisations in the age of AI
- 2025-12-02 | Can industrial decline be reversed by accelerating electrification?
- 2025-12-02 | From the Ground Up: Joining forces to finance the homes we need
- 2025-12-02 | Planetaire grenzen en complexe risico's – ontwikkelen van interdisciplinaire perspectieven – Limites planétaires et risques complexes, développer des perspectives interdisciplinaires

- 2025-12-02 | Meet the Future of AI: Support for the European Democracy Shield: policy, practice and partnerships
- 2025-12-03 | Hybrid | Launching an EU framework for permanent carbon removals financing
- 2025-12-08 – 2025-12-10 | EU Climate and Energy Policy in a Polarising World
- 2025-12-09 | Transport Policy Conference. How can we accelerate the decarbonisation of the transport sector?
- 2025-12-11 – 2025-12-12 | OSH in the age of artificial intelligence
- 2025-13-10 | Trust or Bust: will Net-Zero Industries Thrive in Europe?
- 2025-12-17 | Planetary boundaries, an invitation to innovate our way of thinking
- 2026-02-10 – 2026-02-11 | Future of Work: exploring how digitalisation reshapes work organisation and possible regulatory responses

(Highlight means: NEW or CHANGED)

Commission documents

- 2025-11-25 | Bioeconomy Strategy | European Semester Autumn package
- 2025-12-03 | Environmental omnibus | Economic Security Package - European Economic Security Doctrine - ResourceEU | EU market integration and efficient supervision | Quality Jobs Roadmap | EU Agenda for Cities
- 2025-12-10 | European Grids package | Clean Industrial Deal implementation package - Industrial Accelerator Act - Strengthening CBAM - Temporary support mechanism | Automotive package - Revision of the CO_2 standards for cars and vans - Battery Booster Strategy - Automotive Omnibus - Greening corporate fleet
- 2025-12-16 | Housing package - European Affordable Housing Plan - Review of the State aid rules on the Services of General Economic Interest - New European Bauhaus (incl. proposal for a Council Recommendation on the New European Bauhaus) - Strategy for housing construction
- 2026-01-20 | Cybersecurity Act | Digital Networks Act

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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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