BRIEFING **| European Green Deal |** Issue 279 **|** 13 March 2026

General

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

Current affairs

- Exceptionally wet conditions in Western Europe, during the fifth-warmest February on record globally. (Copernicus)
- Research shows that humanity is warming the planet faster than ever before. (The Guardian, CarbonBrief, article)
- Research shows that dangerous droughts caused by heatwaves are increasing at an alarming rate. (Euronews, CarbonBrief, article)
- 'A sobering preview': extreme heat now affects one in three people globally, study finds. (The Guardian, artikel)
- 'Weakening climate leadership': is the EU's 2040 emissions target ambitious enough? (Euronews)
- Are we heading for a new energy crisis as a result of the war in Iran? What are the answers to high energy prices? (Politico, Politico, Bruno Colmant, Euractiv, EUobserver, CAN Europe, Thierry Bros, EUobserver, The Guardian, CarbonBrief, Euronews, Reuters, E3G, Transport & Environment, EUobserver, The Guardian)
- Energy ministers will meet on 16 March.
- Environment ministers will meet on 17 March. (EEB, CAN Europe)
- The European Council meeting on 19–20 March will, among other things, discuss energy prices. (Politico, ETUC, EEB, E3G, CAN Europe, CAN Europe)
- The EU's vision for citizen energy remains a dream for the time being. (ECA)
- Commission presents measures to boost energy independence and affordability in the EU. (Commission, Client Earth, Commission, REScoop, CAN Europe, BEUC, IEEFA, SolarPower Europe)
- Why the revision of the EU Governance Regulation is important for the climate and energy transition. (CAN Europe)
- Industrial electrification in the EU – Blocked by the electricity grid? (E3G)
- Transformation of the electricity grid: from centralised monocultures to a polycentric ecosystem. An article.
- Why the growth of energy service companies is uneven globally. (IEA)
- Five reasons why an attack on the EU carbon market is economic self-sabotage. (Bruegel)

- Open letter – European industry needs the predictability of a robust ETS to compete and invest. (Clean Tech Europe)
- Ensuring an ambitious implementation of ETS2. (Carbon Market Watch, Climate-KIC, CAN Europe)
- Why women's leadership is crucial to enabling the global phase-out of fossil fuels. (Osprey Orielle Lake)
- Tax incentives, renovation and less bureaucracy to tackle the housing crisis in the EU. (EP, EEB, Greenpeace)
- Improving air quality through policy measures for domestic heating. (IEEP)
- Deep divisions persist as negotiations on the plastics treaty resume at an informal meeting. (Climate Home News)
- The US 'critical minerals club' threatens a just transition to clean energy. (Nick Dearden)
- Europe flails as the US launches a land grab for critical minerals. (Politico)
- Inside the mining lobby's attack on key EU water legislation. (EUobserver)
- The economics of EV battery recycling and rare earth metal recovery for sustainable resource management. An article.
- What, how and who? Consumer views on necessary measures to promote repair in Austria. An article.
- The circular economy is now an economic and industrial strategy. Here's why. (WEF)
- Average price of electric cars falls by €1,800 as car manufacturers launch affordable models to meet EU target – analysis. (Transport & Environment, Lucien Mathieu)
- E-retrofitting could accelerate the electrification of Europe's bus fleet by 15 years. An article.
- Zero-emission trucks in Europe – the road so far. (Transport & Environment)
- Fuel consumption and CO_2 emissions of plug-in hybrid vehicles in real-world driving conditions. (Öko-Institut)
- Can Europe wake the sleeper train? (Ashley Parsons)
- Stimulating the decarbonisation of aviation through the revision of the EU ETS. (Transport & Environment)
- Private jet levies for equitable taxation. (ICCT)
- Can shipping's greenhouse gas emissions be captured at the funnel? (Transport & Environment)
- The lawyer taking on a US chemical giant over PFAS. (Euractiv)
- Victims of PFAS pollution angry as Von der Leyen refuses to meet them. (Euractiv, EEB)
- Better climate adaptation through transformative innovation – Enabling conditions and future prospects. (JRC)
- Regulation on digital networks (digital networks act). A briefing.
- Civil society organisations call for ambitious rules on digital justice. (Euractiv, EEB)
- What next for EU trade policy? (EUobserver, Commission, Euractiv, Politico, EP, Politico, Euractiv, Euronews, Politico)
- EU Commission moves to apply Mercosur trade deal from May. (Politico)
- Study on national climate litigation. (LSE)
- Climate litigation's impact evaluation problem. (Nicholas Young)
- Science in the courtroom: evidentiary needs in climate litigation. (LSE)
- Framing climate change, migration, and health as a syndemic. An article.
- Civil society warns: ESRS cuts risk hiding companies' impacts on people and nature. (WWF)
- Survey: 90% of European companies will continue to report on sustainability following changes to the EU Omnibus legislation. (ESG News)
- Controversy and compromise in shaping the European directive on due diligence in sustainable business: implications for the management of global value chains. An article.

- The climate-fiscal time bomb. How climate change will affect public budgets. (NEF, Green Central Banking)
- Young leaders, sustainable lenders? How the age of bank leaders influences sustainable lending. An article.
- The European Investment Bank's transformation into a climate bank unravelled through its business model. A turnaround or a rebranding? An article.
- Investor climate group reborn with weaker pledges. (Reuters)
- When some asset owners lead the way in changing asset managers' climate practices. (Reclaim Finance)
- How can the risks of greenwashing be addressed in the EU's next long-term budget? (Transport & Environment)
- On the role of banks in the transition to regenerative agriculture. (Sustainable Finance Lab)
- Regulators must incorporate natural risks into prudential regulations, say researchers. (Green Central Banking, CETEX)
- US officials visit EU capitals to lobby against deforestation law. (Euractiv)
- Research shows that biodiversity credits can stimulate the restoration of natural areas, but that they are far from sufficient. (Phys)
- Scientists sound alarm over Europe's forests as 216,000 hectares at risk - even if warming halts. (Euronews)
- Forest reproductive material. A briefing.
- Young Europeans make recommendations to protect pollinators in Europe. (Commission)
- The EU's agri-food system must prepare for increasing climate risks and accelerate emissions reductions. (ESABCC, Politico)
- Challenging the false promise of digital agriculture and fostering grassroots innovation. A report. (IPES-Food)
- How extreme weather is destroying crops around the world. (CarbonBrief)
- "No clear environmental benefit": EU measures against "meaty" plant-based labels raise climate concerns. (Euronews)
- The potential environmental and health impacts of the European Green Deal's 'farm-to-fork' strategy depend on consumer-side policy measures to promote changes in dietary patterns. An article.
- How the meat industry is quietly keeping its emissions off the climate agenda. (Euronews)
- Cocoa prices plummet, despite EU law against deforestation. (EUobserver)

(Highlight means: NEW or CHANGED)

Activities

- 2026-03-17 | Hybrid | Improving Europe's water quality - How can the revised UWWTD be implemented fairly and effectively?
- 2026-03-17 – 2026-03-18 | Achieving climate neutrality and just transition in Belgium
- 2026-03-18 | Designing for circularity - ESPR and the future of sustainable products
- 2026-03-18 | 'New 'Industrial' Order' Competitiveness & Security Business Summit
- 2026-03-18 | How can the nature-based solutions approach help build sustainable food systems?
- 2026-03-18 | When AI meets science: opportunities, risks and ethics for research communities
- 2026-03-18 – 2026-03-20 | Online | Annual Conference on EU Environmental Law
- 2026-03-19 | Place-based industrial policy in Europe

- 2026-03-19 | Webinar | Climate justice through organising: addressing inequalities in the green transition
- 2026-03-23 | Hybrid | From simplification to implementation - Boosting competitiveness and productivity across the EU
- 2026-03-24 | Competitive Europe Summit
- 2026-03-25 | JongerenForum: Jongeren, klimaat en conflict – Forum des Jeunes: Les jeunes, le climat et les conflits
- 2026-03-25 | The European Green Deal Tracker
- 2026-03-31 | Voorstelling Just Transition Scan 2026
- 2026-04-09 | Webinar | Low Emission Zones in the heating sector: a tale of EU cities
- 2026-04-21 | 50 Years of the Institute for European Environmental Policy
- 2026-04-22 | Webinar | Biodiversity Credits in Practice: First lessons learned from piloting biodiversity credits in European wetlands
- 2026-04-28 | Online | EIOPA Sustainable Finance Conference 2026
- 2026-04-28 | Climate change and workers' health
- 2026-05-12 | Legal certainty and competitiveness: Is greater tax alignment needed in the EU?
- 2026-05-18 | Hybrid | The Climate Trial: Law and Justice on a Melting Planet
- 2026-05-19 – 2026-05-21 | EIT RawMaterials Summit 2026
- 2026-05-20 – 2026-05-21 | Annual European Sustainable Finance Conference
- 2026-06-09 – 2026-06-11 | European Sustainable Energy Week
- 2026-06-23 | Tech Policy Conference 2026
- 2026-06-25 – 2026-06-26 | JRC Summer School on Sustainable Finance, 8th edition
- 2026-09-06 – 2026-09-08 | Eco Social Summer School 2026
- 2026-10-13 – 2026-10-14 | The European Sustainable Industry Summit 2026

(Highlight means: NEW or CHANGED)

Commission documents

- 2026-03-18 | 28th Regime
- 2026-03-25 | Communication on Integrated Wildfire Risk Management
- 2026-04-13 | Orientation debate on EU-China relations
- 2026-04-15 | RepowerEU proposal to phase out remaining Russian oil imports | Tech Sovereignty Package - Strategic Roadmap for Digitalisation and AI in Energy - Cloud and AI Development Act - Chips Act 2 - Open Source strategy
- 2026-04-28 | Communication on better regulation and enforcement
- 2026-05-06 | Social package - Anti-poverty strategy - Strengthening of the Child Guarantee - Council Recommendation on fighting housing exclusion - Enhancing the strategy for the rights of persons with disabilities up to | 2030 Strategy on sustainable tourism
- 2026-05-13 | Global health resilience initiative | Mobility package - Multimodal Digital Mobility Services - Single Digital Booking and Ticketing - Revision of the Regulation on rail passengers' rights and obligations
- 2026-05-19 | Energy package - Strengthening energy security - Electrification action plan - Heating and cooling strategy

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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