BRIEFING | **European Green Deal** | Issue 291 | 5 June 2026

General

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

Current affairs

- Prepare for imminent return of El Niño, UN warns. (The Guardian, WMO, Euronews)
- Wildfires devastating richer areas but fewer hectares burned globally – study. (The Guardian)
- EU deploys largest ever wildfire response for 2026 summer. (Commission)
- Climate change is fuelling 'large marble-sized' hailstones and Europe isn't immune. (Euronews)
- Scientists have scrapped the worst-case climate scenario – because action is making a difference. (Andrew King)
- Clean energy saved the EU €51 billion in 2025 by reducing fossil fuel imports – with solar energy leading the way. (Euronews, Ember)
- Air conditioning is overloading our energy systems. Are there alternatives to keep us cool? (Euronews)
- The electric revolution will not be televised. (Euractiv)
- The household battery revolution that could change energy bills … and the world. (The Guardian)
- Is Europe's heatwave bad news for renewables? Surge in solar turns power prices negative. (Euronews)
- Heat pump market: country profiles. (JRC)
- The EU Grids Package and beyond. (E3G)
- A €100 billion queue: Why Europeans are waiting years for clean energy. (Euronews, Beyond Fossil Fuels)
- COP31 must encourage countries to draw up plans for the transition away from fossil fuels. (Andreas Sieber and Shady Khalil)
- Q&A: The current state of 'carbon dioxide removal' worldwide. (CarbonBrief)
- Dilution doesn't fix pollution: ETS2 must work for people and climate. (Carbon Market Watch)
- Engaging key stakeholders in the circular economy: insights from a regional project for the transition to sustainability in northern Germany. An article.

- Weak corporate car taxes risk intensifying the EU's oil dependency. (Transport & Environment)
- Clean corporate vehicles. A briefing.
- Expected impact of the deployment of Automated Vehicles in the EU. A study.
- Global demand for biofuels is expected to rise by almost 70% as food prices rise. (Transport & Environment, The Guardian)
- Is tap water in the EU becoming less safe? (EUobserver)
- Denmark plans to become the first EU country to lower the nitrate limit in drinking water to reduce the risk of cancer. (Greenpeace)
- Europe's €2 Trillion Lever: Public Procurement Can Tame Big Tech. (Jan Willem Goudriaan, Simon Vinge and Christina Colclough)
- Rising emissions, dwindling water supplies and disappearing land — UN scientists: AI poses a threat to the natural resources of billions of people. (UNU, Euronews)
- Commission to big tech firms: embrace sustainable AI or disappear. (Politico)
- Commission wants a slice of the AI chip boom. (Politico)
- Due to the AI boom, the US is now investing 'more' in fossil fuel energy than China. (CarbonBrief)
- How Trump has given a significant boost to the EU's pursuit of technological independence. (Politico)
- 4 ways in which Europe aims to reduce its dependence on US technology. (Politico)
- The Commission proposes a package of measures on technological sovereignty to strengthen Europe's digital autonomy and resilience. (Commission, Politico, EUobserver, Reuters, SolarPower Europe, Politico)
- Citizen participation in the EU: the use of digital tools and artificial intelligence to promote citizen engagement in EU policy-making. A study.
- Industrial Accelerator Act. A briefing.
- The Industrial Accelerator Act: a stepping stone or a paradigm shift? An analysis of the European Commission's proposal. (HBS)
- Policy developments and emerging practices for automotive steel decarbonization. (ICCT)
- The 2026 Spring Semester package provides a roadmap for strengthening economic resilience and social cohesion across the EU. (Commission, ETUC, IndustriAll)
- Towards disruptive sustainability: a multilevel analysis of business models driving the transition to sustainability. An article.
- 'An equal and habitable world is possible': academics set out sweeping vision for planetary survival. (The Guardian, Jonathan Watts, The Guardian)
- Building consensus on societal wellbeing: a semantic synthesis of indicators to move beyond GDP. An article.
- Overcoming 'presentism': intergenerational justice in Europe. (Jörg Tremmel and Lena Winzer)
- Social policy in the European Union: state of play 2025. (ETUI)
- Europe's Geo-Industrial Deal: A path to securing Europe's competitiveness abroad. (EPC)
- Leveraging the EU Single Market to escape the Trump Trap. (Sabine Stephan and Sebastian Dullien)
- From openness to deterrence: the European doctrine of reactive assertiveness. (EPC)
- Is a trade conflict with China on the horizon? (Alicia García Herrero, EU Observer, Politico, Euractiv)
- What is the status of the trade agreement with the US? The president announces new tariff increases. (Euractiv, Politico, Politico, Euractiv, The Guardian, Politico)
- EM-DAT: Trump aid cuts could close database storing 'world's memory of disasters'. (CarbonBrief)

- Constructing the causal chain: attribution science in polluter pays climate litigation. (LSE)
- Beyond hazards and sectors: governing systemic climate risks. (SEI)
- Commission wants to exempt green investments from EU spending rules. (Politico, Euractiv)
- Green bonds are easier to trade than is often assumed. (Bruegel)
- Eurobarometer shows that there is still broad support across Europe for the protection of biodiversity. (Commission)
- From global biodiversity commitments to local action: revenue potential and allocation dynamics of the Cali Fund. (LSE)
- Dismay as Trump officials to dismantle key ocean monitoring system. (The Guardian)
- 'Pollute us and we'll take you to court': The fight to give Europe's lakes and forests legal rights. (Politico)
- 'Regenerative Agriculture': the new buzzword for Agrobusiness. (CEO)
- More than 20 European organisations warn the EU of "regenerative greenwashing" in EU agricultural policy. (Fair Trade Advocacy Office)
- Public Food for the Public Good: How Procurement Can Transform Europe's Food System. (Slow Food, Arc2020)
- EU regulations on carbon farming take a 'clear-cut' approach to broader ecosystem requirements. (Carbon Market Watch)
- The Commission is accelerating the transition from animal testing to alternative methods in the safety assessment of chemicals. (Commission)
- Antibiotics use in livestock could rise by a third in next 15 years, UN report warns. (The Guardian)
- The climate crisis in Africa is also a legal crisis: what obligations do states have under human rights law? (Zunaida Moosa Wadiwala and Tracy-Lynn Field)
- Europe's quest for hydrogen smacks of colonialism. (Etta Stevens and Marcel Llavero-Pasquina)
- Governments are falling 90 per cent short on climate adaptation funding. (Oxfam International)

(Highlight means: NEW or CHANGED)

Activities

- 2026-06-09 | Hybrid | The EU Fertiliser Action Plan, ETS, CBAM and the Fertiliser Industry
- 2026-06-09 – 2026-06-11 | European Sustainable Energy Week
- 2026-06-07 – 2026-06-09 | Terra Madre Europe
- 2026-06-10 | Financial resilience in uncertain times
- 2026-06-11 | Webinar | What are the benefits of circular economy?
- 2026-06-11 | Hybrid | Hybrid construction as a solution to mitigate climate and housing crises
- 2026-06-18 | Webinar | Green Finance – Beyond Transparency
- 2026-06-23 | Tech Policy Conference 2026
- 2026-06-23 | On the road to European Organic Congress 2026: High-Level Preview
- 2026-06-23 – 2026-06-24 | Bottom-up democracy in the EU and globally: driving forward?
- 2026-06-25 | From E-Waste to Strategic Autonomy: Can the Circular Economy Act Deliver for Europe's Raw Materials?
- 2026-06-25 | Protecting workers against occupational heat: impacts and solutions
- 2026-06-25 | Hybrid | Global Trends in Climate Litigation 2026 snapshot report launch
- 2026-06-25 – 2026-06-26 | JRC Summer School on Sustainable Finance, 8th edition

- 2026-06-30 | Energy poverty in Europe – How can EU social, housing and climate policies deliver a fair transition?
- 2026-09-06 – 2026-09-08 | Eco Social Summer School 2026
- 2026-09-17 – 2026-09-18 | European Association of Climate Law (EACL) 2nd Annual Conference
- 2026-09-30 | Transport Policy Conference 2026
- 2026-10-13 – 2026-10-14 | The European Sustainable Industry Summit 2026

(Highlight means: NEW or CHANGED)

Commission documents

- 2026-06-10 | Orientation debate on the ETS review | 2027 Draft budget
- 2026-06-24 | Omnibus on taxation | Omnibus on energy product legislation
- 2026-07-01 | Public Procurement Act | European Innovation Act
- 2026-07-07 | 2026 Strategic Foresight Report | Affordable Housing Act | Livestock strategy
- 2026-07-15 | ETS Review | Report on the competitiveness of the banking sector
- 2026-07-22 | Energy package - Electrification action plan - Network charges | European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan

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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