BRIEFING **| European Green Deal |** Issue 310 **|** 20 November 2026



General

- The Political Guidelines 2024-2029.
- The Commission has published the work programme for 2027.

News

- Choking fires, deadly heat and devastating floods: 2026 dominated by extreme weather. (The Guardian)
- Climate-related damage in the EU is rising rapidly: the past five years have been the costliest since records began. (EEA)
- Heatwaves are the worst kind of weather for our health and the economy: Spain is paying the highest price for them in Europe. (Euronews, Climate Risk Index)
- The UN's COP31 international climate conference took place from 9 to 20 November. (COP31, ENB, Euronews, Rapporteur, The Guardian, The Guardian, The Guardian, The Guardian, EP, EP Briefing, EDF, Climate Home News, Climate Home News, CIEL, Politico, Politico, Euronews, The Guardian, The Guardian, HBS, Oil Change International, Sakshi Aravind and Guy Jackson, Carbon Market Watch, IUCN, Climate Home News, Mohamed Adow, Elisa Morgera, CAN Europe, Oil Change International, The Guardian, Nusa Urbacic, The Guardian, Oil Change International, Eurogroup for Animals, Climate Home News, CAN Europe, Euronews, Euronews, The Guardian, The Guardian, The Guardian, KCL, Climate Home News, IEEP, Bill Hare, IRENA, Carbon Market Watch, C.J. Polychroniou, Oil Change International, Politico, Euronews, The Guardian, The Guardian, KCL, Laudato Si)
- Rich countries are not immune to extreme weather conditions – Europe, too, must adapt quickly. (Joshua Garland, Emilia Ganslandt and Emily Boyd)
- World Energy Outlook 2026. (IEA, The Guardian, Climate Home News, Oil Change International)
- 'Stop fiddling and do what works': How heat pumps could cut a quarter of EU energy emissions. (Euronews, EHPA)
- Sustained leadership is needed to bridge the gap in offshore wind energy deployment in the North Sea. (E3G)
- Energy efficiency skills in the EU. (JRC)
- Electricity grids: MEPs reach agreement with the Council on faster project authorisation. (EP, Council, Commission)
- Extreme weather poses an ever-increasing risk to the global transport of oil and natural gas, according to a new report by the IEA. (IEA)

- Russia, Saudi Arabia and Australia have been named the biggest CO_2 exporters in history. (The Guardian, CarbonBrief)
- Critics say exaggerations by the oil industry have led to the postponement of EU regulations on methane. (Politico)
- The EU is postponing the methane rules by two years: a victory for the oil and gas industry. (Politico, EP, Council, Euronews, EUObserver)
- EU Emissions Trading System: reform proposal poses a risk to climate action in the EU. (Öko-Institut)
- Making industry climate-friendly: emissions trading requires reliable accompanying measures. (Öko-Institut)
- When expanding the EU's carbon border adjustment mechanism makes sense – and when it does not. (CER)
- Building for the 21st-century climate: promoting resilience through better regulation. (LSE)
- Functional sovereignty in the field of technologies and raw materials. (WBGU)
- The lithium fields in South America and the nickel mines in Indonesia expose the dark side of electrification. (Euronews)
- Joint priorities for an effective revision of the WEEE framework. (Digital Europe)
- The Commission proposes to promote advanced materials to strengthen Europe's innovation and industrial leadership. (Commission)
- Advanced materials are essential for reducing dependence on critical raw materials in strategic sectors. (JRC)
- Electric vehicles: debunking the myths. (Transport & Environment)
- Why the transition to electric mobility must be fair and sustainable. (SEI)
- Almost 90% of Europe's battery production at risk from Franco-German car deal. (Transport & Environment)
- Joint letter calling for international rail transport to play a central role in the resumption of relations between the UK and the EU. (Transport & Environment)
- A policy roadmap for non-CO_2 emissions in aviation in Europe. (Transport & Environment)
- Biofuels in the EU's renewable energy framework beyond 2030. (Transport & Environment)
- 'Forever chemicals' (PFAS): the EU is struggling to catch up. (ECA)
- How PFAS polluters muddy EU policy waters. (CEO)
- Climate change and other environmental factors may play a role in the spread of antimicrobial resistance. (EEA)
- Big tech companies must offer consumers genuine freedom of choice by fully complying with the EU Digital Markets Act. (BEUC)
- The EU has always managed to find a way out. When it comes to AI, however, it is struggling to do so. (Politico)
- Preparing Europeans for the age of AI: Council adopts conclusions. (Council)
- Cloud and AI development act. A briefing.
- AI models are 'weak and fallible' when it comes to climate science, according to a UN-backed study. (The Guardian, Unesco)
- Accelerating AI and Green Data Centres with Renewable Power. (IRENA)
- The dark side of AI: US data centres emit more CO_2 than the whole of Denmark. (Euronews)
- Regulating AI and algorithmic governance through collective bargaining. (ETUI)
- There is growing support for a digital levy to fund the EU budget. (Rapporteur)
- MEPs have largely dismantled the European Commission's plan to regulate the space industry. (EUObserver, EP)
- From 'Made in the EU' to a coalition of like-minded nations on economic security and decarbonisation. (Bruegel)

- Getting European industrial policy on the right track: some key lessons from the rest of the world. (CEPS)
- Building a just and resilient Europe. (FEPS)
- New report highlights measures in the European region to tackle the mental health impacts of climate change. (WHO)
- A mixed-methods longitudinal study on collective environmental action, climate change stress and well-being among young people: the EnvironMental Action study. An article.
- Staying the course? How European climate advisory bodies deal with political opposition. (LSE)
- EU–UK summit, 20 November. (Conseil, E3G, The Guardian, Politico, Rapporteur, Andrew Duff, EUObserver, The Guardian)
- Sustainability: Council and Parliament reach agreement on simpler transparency rules for financial products. (Conseil, Reuters)
- Reducing dependence on fossil fuels could help curb inflation, says Sleijpen of the ECB. (Green Central Banking)
- Is it time to regulate sustainability-linked bonds? Facts and regulatory options in the run-up to the Commission's 2026 review report. (Folker de Witte)
- Gradual at first, then sudden – the financial value of climate resilience. (Jemima Peppel-Srebrny)
- Insurers as claimants in legal proceedings based on the 'polluter pays' principle? Subrogation, attribution theory and more. (LSE)
- What is blue natural capital, and how is it valued and measured? (LSE)
- Working with nature to save people: there is a growing case for nature-based solutions to tackle climate and disaster risks. (WWF)
- Staying green under pressure: how are Europe's trees faring? (EEA)
- Agri-lobby shifts into gear as EPP calls for revision of EU nature laws. (Rapporteur)
- European agricultural subsidies are keeping emissions high. (Antti Ronkainen)
- The methane trap – How European agricultural policy perpetuates emissions from livestock farming. (EEB)
- In Brazil last year, 1,605 reports of poisoning mentioned pesticides manufactured in Europe. (The Guardian)
- Climate risks to the European food system and policy preparedness. (JRC)

(Highlight means: NEW or CHANGED)

Activities

- 2026-11-23 | Online | Architecture as governance: steering systems of humans and AI agents
- 2026-11-24 | Efficiency, Energy Prices and Competitiveness
- 2026-11-24 | Webinar | International credits and post-2030 national climate targets
- 2026-11-24 | Online | #EUCircularTalks. Financing circularity: supporting circular investments, improving the finance portfolio
- 2026-11-26 | Online | What Role for Climate Mobility at COP31 and Beyond?
- 2026-11-26 | Webinar | Strengthening preparedness through climate adaptation and energy resilience in rural areas
- 2026-12-01 | Job quality in a turbulent era
- 2026-12-01 | Planetary Health Check 2026: Key findings and implications for planetary health
- 2026-12-01 | Online | How to unlock the potential of the plant-based sector

- 2026-12-03 | Energy & Environment Policy Conference 2026
- 2026-12-03 | Drought as a systemic hazard: Understanding and Managing Complex Climate Risks
- 2026-12-03 | Hybrid | What industry actually thinks about the future of the EU ETS
- 2026-12-08 | Capital today, higher emissions tomorrow? New indicators for climate resilience in the financial sector
- 2026-12-08 | Webinar | Workers and their unions as climate actors: what way forward?
- 2026-12-10 | EU-China relations - Rebalancing trade while keeping Europe competitive
- 2026-12-10 | Global Trends in Green Jobs 2026 – Report Launch
- 2026-12-15 | The importance of an integrated approach on social and environmental challenges in international cooperation
- 2027-03-02 | E4BEL Conference - Making Carbon Pricing Work in Belgium
- 2027-04-28 | Sustainable Finance Conference 2027

(Highlight means: NEW or CHANGED)

Commission documents

- 2026-11-24 | Quantum Act - European Semester autumn package
- 2026-12-02 | Circular Economy Act - Strengthening energy security package - European research area Act
- 2026-12-15 | Energy Single Market - European emergency response framework - European Product Act - Quality Jobs Act

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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