



General

- The European Commission presented the [European Green Deal](#) proposal ([communication + roadmap](#)) on 11 December 2019.
- The European Council of [12 December 2019](#) confirmed the principle of climate neutrality.
- The European Parliament on 15 January 2020 adopted [a resolution](#) supporting the Green Deal by a large majority.
- The roadmap accompanying the Commission's communication gives an indicative timing of the expected initiatives.
- The Commission has published the [work programme for 2022](#).

Current affairs

- Reflections after COP26: [Maria Mendiluce](#), [Michael Nicholson](#), [Briefing EP](#), [ECDPM](#), [UN News](#), [ECFR](#), [David Kabua](#), [Alok Sharma](#), [WHO Europe](#), [Bloomberg](#), [Homi Kharas](#), [E3G](#), [Euronews](#), [ECFR](#), [IPSOS](#), [IDDRI](#), [William Todts](#).
- [Mariana Mazzucato](#) on the right institutions for the climate transition.
- [Bellona's](#) response on CBAM, the Energy Tax Directive and ReFuelEU.
- A [briefing](#) on the revision of the Effort Sharing Regulation for the period 2021-2030.
- A draft of the EU strategy to remove carbon from the atmosphere has been leaked. ([Euractiv](#))
- The energy crisis could worsen poverty for millions of Europeans. ([Euractiv](#))
- [Simon Skillings and Lisa Fischer](#) respond to ACER's analysis of high energy prices.
- More than 45 organisations have sent an open letter to the Commission, calling for a better approach to energy poverty. ([EPSU](#), [FoEE](#))
- [Euroconsumers](#), [Michael Buchsbaum](#) on high energy prices.
- Electric utilities and auto industries are further and further away from climate targets. A [sector study](#) by CDP.
- The social climate fund proposed by the Commission is too small to make a difference, critics say. ([Euractiv](#))
- A draft of the Commission's proposal for reforming gas markets in the EU has been leaked. ([Euractiv](#))

- A draft of the Commission's proposal to tackle methane emissions has been leaked. ([Euractiv](#))
- SolarPower Europe calls on the EU to increase its renewable energy target to 45% by 2030. ([PV Tech](#))
- Residential battery storage capacity will grow significantly by 2025. ([SolarPower Europe](#))
- An article on distributed energy sources and smart grids. ([EnergyPost](#))
- A [study by IEEP](#) on five key policies to unlock the socio-economic benefits of renewable energy across all regions.
- An [article](#) on business models for home energy services.
- An [article](#) on positive energy districts (PEDs).
- An [article](#) on social and economic value in emerging business models for decentralised energy.
- Electric heat pumps are the best and most economical solution for individual heating. A [study](#) by BEUC. ([Euractiv](#))
- [Esther Bollendorff and Frida Kieninger](#) , [Elisabeth Cremona](#) on the revision of the rules for the future planning of energy infrastructure (TEN E regulation).
- [CAN Europe](#) on the revision of the Energy Efficiency Directive.
- A draft EU directive introduces minimum standards for the energy performance of existing buildings undergoing major renovation. ([Euractiv](#))
- Deep renovation should become the new normal. ([Roland Gladushenko](#))
- Robust minimum energy performance standards are needed to decarbonise the European building stock. ([Adrian Joyce](#))
- An [article](#) on next generation energy performance certificates.
- Towards the widespread introduction of 'integrated housing renovation services' in Europe. A new [report](#).
- The Coalition for the Energy Efficiency of Buildings Europe (CEEB Europe) has been launched. ([Green Finance Institute](#))
- Housing Europe examined the [impact of recovery plans](#) on the social and affordable housing sector.
- An [article](#) on a comprehensive assessment of the life-cycle costs of buildings, including a monetary evaluation of climate risks and opportunities.
- A strategy for access to critical materials was voted on in the European Parliament. ([EP](#), [EP](#))
- The use of circular materials in the EU increased by 2020. ([Eurostat](#))
- An [article](#) on circular economy indicators for supply chains.
- A [new study](#) by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation on circular business models in the fashion industry.
- A [new report](#) by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation. It shows that brands and retailers have made clear progress in reducing the use of virgin plastics, but more efforts are needed to reduce the need for single-use packaging.
- A [report by ICC](#) on circular economy and international trade.
- The Commission will present its proposal on platform workers on 8 December. ([Euractiv](#))
- [ACEA](#) on shared sustainable urban mobility.
- Will all cars in Europe be carbon-free by 2050? ([Transport & Environment](#))
- [Transport & Environment](#) on the review of the Renewable Energy Directive.
- LNG trucks are no better for the climate than diesel trucks, either in terms of greenhouse gas emissions or air pollutant emissions. ([Transport & Environment](#))
- An [article](#) on different charging strategies for electric vehicles in urban freight transport.
- A [briefing](#) on the state of infrastructure and fleets for alternative fuel vehicles.
- A [briefing](#) on the 'Fit for 55' package in terms of infrastructure development for alternative fuels.

- A [briefing](#) on the revision of the European rail network regulation for competitive freight.
- Alberto Mazzola and Ethem Pekim on the [role of railways](#) in a sustainable recovery policy.
- A [briefing](#) on decarbonising European aviation.
- A [briefing](#) on the 'FuelEU Maritime' proposal.
- A decision by the IMO and its member states not to review its emissions reduction strategy until spring 2023 has been criticised by environmentalists as "dangerous". ([The Guardian](#))
- [ZEP](#) on transition pathways for energy-intensive industries.
- ClientEarth made [an analysis](#) of the emissions of added microplastics into the environment until 2030. (EEB)
- The chemical sector is playing an important role in the transition to low carbon economies, but it is also hugely carbon intensive and this is predicted to increase. ([The Guardian](#))
- Wastewater treatment is improving across Europe, but big differences remain. A new [report](#) by the EEA.
- [WWF](#) on the importance of the 8th Environmental Action Programme.
- [DIGITALEUROPE](#) on the renewable energy directive.
- [Trade unions](#) are concerned about the just transition in the context of industrial policy.
- An [article](#) on the transition of local production systems to Industry 4.0+.
- The Commission presented the [autumn package](#) of the European Semester.
- EU banks largely unprepared for climate risks, ECB warns. ([Euractiv](#))
- Central banks are too slow to react to the climate crisis. ([Reclaim Finance](#))
- A proposal for a European wealth tax for a fair and green recovery. ([Jakob Kapeller, Stuart Leitch and Rafael Wildauer](#))
- An [article](#) on high net worth private investors and socially responsible investment.
- The Commission proposes new measures to boost [European capital markets](#).
- [CAN Europe](#) on the reform of the European fiscal framework.
- The discussion on taxonomy continues. ([Euractiv](#), [WWF](#), [Euronews](#))
- CSR Europe published [a blueprint](#) for integrating biodiversity into business.
- UNDP on a '[nature positive](#)' future.
- In the European Parliament there was the final vote on the European agricultural policy. Reactions before: [Politico](#), [Arc2020](#), [Euractiv](#), [Robin Ehl](#). Reactions after the vote: [Euractiv](#), [EP](#), [BirdLife](#), [DW](#), [IUCN](#), [Climate Home News](#), [Greenpeace](#), [Euractiv](#).
- A new drug to reduce methane emissions from dairy cows has been deemed effective by the EFSA. ([Euractiv](#))
- Research shows that bees need several generations to recover from insecticide exposure, even if only once. ([The Guardian](#))
- A [briefing](#) on sustainability provisions in EU free trade agreements.

Activities

- 29/11 | Online | [PFAS: Challenges and solutions](#)
- 29/11 | Hybrid | [Fit for 55 Package : towards a carbon neutral aviation sector](#)
- 29/11 | Online | [Sustainable Finance Seminar Serie: Do we need a social taxonomy?](#)
- 29/11 | Online | [ETS in the power sector: Past performance and opportunities for revision](#)
- 29-30/11 | Online | [7th Annual Conference on the Economic Assessment of European Climate Policies](#)
- 30/11- 01/12 | Hybrid | [Sustainable Future Summit](#)
- 30/11- 01/12 | Online | [ESDN Conference 2021, European Recovery and Resilience Mechanisms -Challenges in systemic approaches in SD](#)

- 30/11 – 01/12 | Hybrid | [Aligning finance with sustainable development: what role for public authorities and the financial sector?](#)
- 01/12 | Online | [Boosting the Sustainable Products' Initiative \(SPI\) in the EU](#)
- 01/12 | Webinar | [How to build a credible green bond market](#)
- 01/12 | Webinar | [How to measure the impact that private and public actions may have on climate change and sustainability?](#)
- 01-02/12 | Online | [Level the playing field for green retail investors](#)
- 02/12 | Hybrid | [Smart, Green and Resilient Cities and Communities](#)
- 02/12 | Webinar | [Job creation and workforce development for building renovation](#)
- 02/12 | Online | [Trade in circularity: Perspectives of developing and transition economies](#)
- 02/12 | Online | [ESF+ financial instruments responding to social challenges in Europe](#)
- 03/12 | Online | [An Overview of Recent Energy Case Law from the CJEU](#)
- 03/12 | Online | [Euro 7 – Updating the EU's vehicle emission standards: what's at stake? Why it matters?](#)
- 07/12 | Online | [How to design and organize circular material flows](#)
- 07/12 | Webinar | ["Fit for 55" package: is the EU on its way for fossil free cities?](#)
- 07/12 | Online | [Sustainable Finance Forum](#)
- 08/12 | Online | [Innovative digital tools to enhance food security in Africa](#)
- 08/12 | Webinar | [Developing a sustainable electronics value chain – what policies and challenges lie ahead?](#)
- 09/12 | Webinar | [Building union power in renewables](#)
- 09/12 | Online | [How to make subscription-based mobility work](#)
- 16-17/12 | Online | [Measuring the effectiveness of environmental law through legal indicators](#)

Commission documents

- 08/12 | Improving the working conditions in platform work | Communication on decent work worldwide | Action plan for the social economy | Sustainable corporate governance | Empowering consumers for the green transition
- 14/12 | [Energy and climate](#) | - Reducing methane emissions in the energy sector / - Revision of the third energy package for gas / - Revision of the energy performance of Buildings Directive / - Commission communication - Restoring sustainable carbon cycles / - Council Recommendation to address the social and labour aspects of the climate transition | [Efficient and green mobility package](#) / - Revision of the Regulation on the trans-European transport network, including the alignment of rail freight corridors / - Revision of the Directive on Intelligent Transport Systems / - New EU urban mobility framework / - Action plan to boost long-distance and cross-border passenger rail | Improving environmental protection through criminal law
- 22/12 | Own resources package | Proposal on implementation of the OECD global agreement on minimum effective taxation

This briefing has been compiled by the FRDO-CFDD secretariat. The selection does not bind the members of the FRDO-CFDD in any way.