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

- Comments on Russia's energy dependence and accelerating the energy transition: Iryna Stavchuk and Oleh Savytskyi, Dean Cooper, DIE, E3G, Jutta Paulus, Karl Wagner, Bruegel, CAN Europe, Sushil Purohit, Greenpeace, OilChange, EP Briefing.
- A group of EU states want faster green talks to reduce Russia’s energy dependence. (Bloomberg, Euractiv)
- The Commission wants to become climate neutral by 2030. (Euractiv)
- Methane in the earth’s atmosphere rose by record amounts last year. (The Guardian)
- The ETS system after the energy price spike. A report by CER.
- Emissions covered by the ETS system increase, but allowances in circulation remain as high as in 2019. (Sandbag)
- Decarbonising steel. Options for reforming the ETS system. (Carbon Market Watch)
• Oil companies have made around €3 billion in profits from diesel and petrol sales in Europe since the start of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. A study by Greenpeace.
• Eight actions for energy independence EU based on solar energy. A new report by SolarPower Europe.
• The wind industry had its second best year, but scaling up to Net Zero requires a policy breakthrough. (GWEC)
• Germany unveils major electricity sector revamp. (Euractiv)
• Gas crisis accelerates energy transition in district heating. (Euractiv)
• EU puts focus on local planning to boost district heating. (Euractiv)
• Sustainable management of heating and cooling in urban districts. An article.
• Germany divides carbon tax for heating between landlords and tenants. (Euractiv)
• To boost renovation, EU wants to re-establish internal market for building materials. (Euractiv)
• Servitization in the energy sector. Emerging service business models and participation of startups. An article.
• Will a transition to wood construction cool the climate? One article.
• Europe is (slowly) warming up to domestic resource extraction. (Politico)
• Raw materials: why Europe should do more about batteries. (Claudius Jehle)
• Comments on the new Commission proposals for the circular economy are still forthcoming. ESG Clarity, ECDPM, META, Vogue Business.
• Why we need to rethink the "technical" circular economy. (Circle Economy)
• How circular economy can bring holistic well-being. (IISD)
• The Orgalim position on the "right to repair".
• Europe's dirtiest airlines awarded millions in free pollution permits by 2021. (Transport & Environment)
• EU invites young people to apply for free Interrail card. (Euractiv)
• Microplastics found deep in lungs of living people for the first time. (The Guardian)
• The EU has one of the strictest chemical controls in the world, but dangerous substances are still creeping onto the market. (META)
• Improving access to green spaces in cities to reduce health inequalities. (IEEP)
• Air pollution threatens health of billions of people around the world, WHO warns. (The Guardian)
• The US and Europe are responsible for most of the global ecological damage caused by the overuse of natural resources, a landmark study has found. (The Guardian)
• Digital transition could be risk or opportunity for climate, says UN official. (Euractiv)
• The Digital Services Act. A briefing.
• The Commission presented proposals to revise the Industrial Emissions Directive. (EEB, Greenpeace)
• The Commission presented new regulations for stricter regulation of fluorinated greenhouse gases (F-gases) and ozone depleting substances (ODS). (EEB)
• Climate Action 100+ net zero corporate benchmark shows an increase in net zero corporate commitments, but much more urgent action is needed to meet a 1.5°C future. (PRI)
• ECCI and CIDSE on proposed directive on due diligence.
• Corporate due diligence on sustainability: How the EU proposal could affect existing French Due Diligence legislation. (Mayer Brown)
• NextGenerationEU: European Commission backs Europe's sustainable transition with second green bond syndicate. (Commission, Reuters, EuroNews)
• Council adopts conclusions on strategic autonomy of European economic and financial sector.
• EIOPA launches climate stress test for European occupational pension sector.
• What really happened at the crucial Geneva negotiations on biodiversity? (The Guardian)
• An interview with UN biodiversity chief Elizabeth Maruma Mrema. (CarbonBrief)
• European forest governance: Status quo and optimising options in relation to the Paris climate objective. An article.
• EU lawmakers call on Commission to end meat promotion in Ukraine crisis (Euractiv)
• EU organic sector needs market-driven solutions, national strategies, say MEPs. (Euractiv)
• EU-wide protein strategy in the making as Commission changes course. (Euractiv)
• A new report by IPES-Food sheds light on misleading generalisations that dominate the public debate on meat and protein.
• New NGO report: National strategic plans CAP will not deliver EU Green Deal. (EEB, BirdLife)
• Commission considers call for exceptional flexibility in second pillar CAP. (Euractiv)
• Impact of biofuels on food security flares up again amid Ukraine war. (Euractiv)
• Environmental degradation: Impact on agricultural production. A report by IEEP.
• The impact of Covid-19 has wiped out progress on access to electricity and clean cooking, while crucial improvements in energy efficiency have slowed, according to the latest update from the International Energy Agency. (IEA)
• Ready for a common future for Africa and Europe? A report by ETTG.

Activities

• 2022-04-12 | Webinar | Ensuring the non-toxicity of products and packaging: a prerequisite to achieve a circular economy and protect our health
• 2022-04-14 | Webinar | Recommendations for the review of the heavy-duty CO2 standards in Europe
• 2022-04-20 | Online | Building net-zero by 2050 with three building blocks: which ones and how?
• 2022-04-21 | Tackling energy poverty at the heart of the ecological and energy transition
• 2022-04-26 | Hybrid | Sustainable Investment Forum Europe 2022 (1)
• 2022-04-26 – 2022-04-27 | Smart Cities Marketplace Forum – Towards a just and clean urban transition
• 2022-04-27 | Webinar | EaaS: The successful path to servitization
• 2022-04-27 | Online | Skills in the digital world: a path towards inclusive transformation
• 2022-04-28 – 2022-04-29 | Transitioning the chemical industry toward a circular future
• 2022-04-29 | Online | Circularity of bottles: Contributing to the EU Green Deal
• 2022-05-04 | La technologie des blockchains: un outil pour le développement durable ? - Blockchain-technologie: een instrument voor duurzame ontwikkeling?
• 2022-05-04 – 2022-05-05 | Online | Sustainable Investment Forum Europe 2022 (2)
• 2022-05-05 | Online | "A just net-zero energy transition for Europe: evaluating pathways" with Prof Karl W. Steininger
• 2022-05-12 | Just Transition: Where is the European car industry heading?
• 2022-05-12 | Policy Measures for a Just Transition: Ideas for Designing a Structural Transformation to Reduce Inequalities
• 2022-05-12 | Shifting taxes in order to achieve green goals
• 2022-05-12 – 2022-05-13 | Online | Strategic and Sustainable Public Procurement: Making it Work for Crisis Recovery
• 2022-05-16 – 2022-05-20 | European Vocational Skills Week
• 2022-05-17 | Webinar | EU Taxonomy implementation
2022-05-30 – 2022-06-05 | EU Green Week
2022-06-02 | Hybrid | IRU/EU Conference, Fit for 55: The Road Ahead
2022-06-09 – 2022-06-12 | The New European Bauhaus Festival
2022-06-15 | Hybrid | Rethinking our Disposable Society: how to build a circular economy
2022-06-16 – 2022-06-17 | European Organic Congress 2022
2022-06-30 | Hybrid | Global Trends in Climate Litigation
2022-10-10 – 2022-10-12 | The European SDG Summit
2022-11-09 – 2022-11-10 | Hybrid | Transport Innovation Summit 2022
2022-11-29 – 2022-12-02 | Sustainable Future Summit

Commission documents
2022-05-18 | RePowerEU plan | International partnerships and energy package: - New strategy on international energy engagement / - Joint Communication on a partnership with the Gulf
2022-05-25 | European Semester Spring Package
2022-06-07 | Joint Communication on international ocean governance
2022-06-15 | 2022 Strategic Foresight Report
2022-06-22 | Nature protection package (tbc): - Sustainable use of pesticides – revision of the EU rules / - Protecting biodiversity: nature restoration targets
2022-07-05 | New design requirements and consumer rights for electronics (tbc)
2022-07-20 | Circular Economy Package II: Policy framework for bio-based, biodegradable and compostable plastics / - Review of the Packaging and packaging waste directive to reinforce the essential requirements for packaging and establish EU level packaging waste prevention measures and targets / - Review of the Urban Wastewater Treatment directive / - Proposal for a Regulation on substantiating environmental claims using the Product/Organisation Environmental Footprint methods (green claims) | Development of post-Euro 6/VI emission standards for cars, vans, lorries and buses
2022-07-27 | Proposal on implementation of the OECD global agreement on re-allocation of taxing rights

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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