

IMEC

EU Quarterly Report

Q4 2024

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Glossary of EU terms

Council of the European Union: One of the two co-legislative bodies of the EU (together with the European Parliament), made of the 27 EU Member State governments (represented by Member State Ministers). It adopts laws by co-decision with the European Parliament.

COREPER: Preparatory body of the Council, made up of Member States' Permanent Representatives to the EU.

EU Directive: EU law which has to be transposed into national law for its implementation.

EU Regulation: EU law which applies directly upon its adoption, without the need for transposition into national law.

European Commission: Executive body of the EU, in charge of proposing laws.

European Parliament: One of the two co-legislative bodies of the EU (together with the Council of the EU), made of elected MEPs (Members of the European Parliament). It adopts laws by co-decision with the Council of the EU.

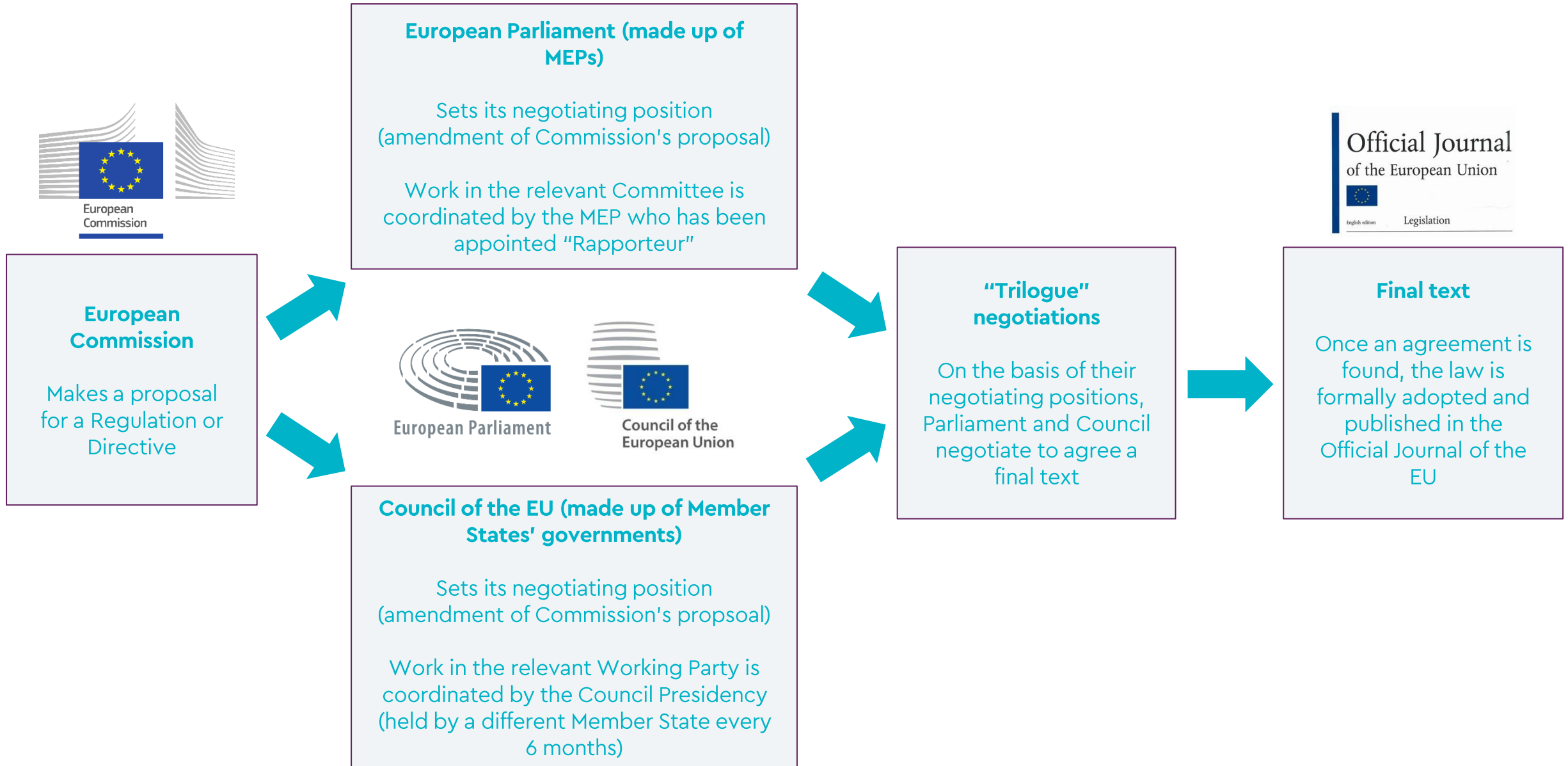
European Parliament Committees: Committees of MEPs, organised by policy area, which deal with specific proposals before they are adopted by the European Parliament plenary, e.g. ENVI Committee (Environment, Public Health and Food Safety), TRAN Committee (Transport and Tourism), IMCO Committee (Internal Market and Consumer Protection), ITRE Committee (Industry, Research and Energy).

Rapporteur: MEP in charge of coordinating the work for a specific proposal within a European Parliament Committee.

Trilogue: Negotiation between the European Parliament and the Council, also attended by the Commission, which aims at reaching an agreement on the final text of a proposal.

Working Parties: Preparatory bodies of the Council (below COREPER level) made up of Member State officials dealing with a specific policy area. There are over 100 Working Parties.

Reminder on EU policy-making process



1. Cyber Resilience Act (CRA)

Background (I):

- The Commission released its [proposal](#) for a Regulation on horizontal cybersecurity requirements for products with digital elements (Cyber Resilience Act) on 15 September 2022. The Parliament and the Council reached a [provisional agreement](#) on 30 November 2023.
- The law sets rules for the making available on the market of products with digital elements, in order to ensure their cybersecurity. It sets essential requirements for their design, development and production, as well as essential requirements for the vulnerability-handling processes put in place by the manufacturer. In particular:
 - Manufacturers must comply with requirements set out in the Annex I.
 - Manufacturers must carry out cybersecurity risk assessments, issue declarations of conformity, and cooperate with competent authorities.
 - A market surveillance framework is put in place to enforce the rules.
 - Manufacturers must report significant cybersecurity incidents to national authorities within 24 hours of becoming aware of them.
 - Manufacturers must provide clear and comprehensive documentation about the cybersecurity features of their products (required information and instructions for the user are found in Annex III).
 - Manufacturers must scrutinise the supply chain for potential cybersecurity risks.
 - Digital products must be supported for at least five years (unless they have a shorter expected lifetime).
 - There would be support measures for small and micro enterprises (e.g. awareness-raising and support for testing).

1. Cyber Resilience Act (CRA)

Background (II):

- Following the agreement of a final text between Parliament and Council on 30 November 2023, the formal procedure for adoption began. The Parliament's plenary adopted the text as Parliament's [first reading](#) 517 votes to 12, with 78 abstentions on 12 March 2024 (see [press release](#)).
- Due to the European elections which took place in June 2024, the Parliament voted on the first reading of the law before the last plenary session of the legislative term (which took place in April), in order to leave the law adopted before the dissolution of the chamber. This triggered a corrigendum procedure, leading the legal-linguistic experts to completed a review of the text. The Corrigendum was then approved during the plenary session held from 16 to 19 September 2024, marking the conclusion of the Parliament's procedure. No substantive changes were made.

Latest developments:

- The Council adopted the Regulation on 10 October 2024.
- The text was then published in the EU Official Journal on 20 November 2024 and entered into force on 10 December 2024.

Next steps:

- The main requirements will kick in on 10 December 2027 (36 months from entry into force). The manufacturer reporting obligation would apply 1 year after entry into force.
- The Commission is expected to come forward with an evaluation of the Regulation around 2030.

2. Ecodesign Regulation

Background (I):

- The Ecodesign Directive ([2009/125](#)) establishes a framework for minimum eco-design requirements that goods which consume energy must meet before they can be used or sold (does not apply to transport).
- Proposal for an Ecodesign Regulation ([March 2022](#)) to replace the Directive:
 - Extension of scope: the Regulation will apply to all physical goods placed on the market. Nonetheless, eco-design requirements will be set out through future Delegated Acts for specific products.
 - General eco-design requirements:
 - Product durability, reliability, reusability and reparability.
 - Energy use or energy efficiency.
 - Resource use or resource efficiency.
 - Information and labelling requirements: Digital Product Passport.
- On 4 December 2023, the Parliament and Council reached a [provisional agreement](#) during the third trilogue. Key provisions include:
 - Scope: All physical goods except motor vehicles.
 - New eco-design rules: Addressing chemical substances that hinder reuse/recycling and allowing Delegated Acts for product-specific requirements (applicable 18+ months post-adoption, barring exceptions).
 - Digital Product Passport: A public portal for consumers to compare product information.
 - First working plan: To prioritize product categories within 9 months of regulation enforcement. Priority items include textiles, furniture, tyres, detergents, chemicals, ICT products, electronics, and energy-related goods; plastics are excluded.
 - Penalties: Member States decide penalties, guided by harmonized criteria.

2. Ecodesign Regulation

Background (II):

- On 24 April 2024, the European Parliament adopted the law with 455 votes in favour, 99 against, and 54 abstentions. As no plenary amendments were tabled, the adopted text reflects the content of the provisional agreement.
- On 27 May 2024, the Council adopted the law too, with only Italy abstaining.
- The text was [published](#) as Regulation (EU) 2024/1781 in the Official Journal of the European Union on 13 June 2024 and entered into force on 18 July 2024.

Latest developments:

- On 4 December 2024, the Commission Joint Research Center published a non-binding [report](#) suggesting a list of products to be prioritised under the new ESPR. The **relevant final products** identified by the report are furniture, tyres, detergents, paints and varnishes, lubricants. The relevant **intermediate products** are iron and steel, commodity chemicals, non-ferrous, non-aluminium metal products, aluminium, plastic and polymers, pulp and paper, glass.

2. Ecodesign Regulation

Next steps:

- Taking the report into account, the Commission is now expected to come forward with a Communication establishing the working plan identifying a list of product groups which are to be prioritised for the setting of Ecodesign requirements, by 19 April 2025.
- 18 Delegated Acts are expected to be published between 2024 and 2027, and 12 Delegated Acts between 2028 and 2030 to indicate specific product requirements. Textiles and steel should be the subjects of the first delegated acts by the end of 2025, entering into force mid-2027.
- By 2026, Member States will have to implement the law.

3. REACH Regulation

Background (I):

- The REACH Regulation ([1907/2006](#)) establishes provisions on the registration, evaluation, authorisation and restriction of chemicals produced, imported, sold and used in the EU, and sets up the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA).
- The Commission's 2020 Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability announced the revision of the Regulation. The Commission is currently working on the revision proposal. Key aspects of the revision include:
 - Increased information/registration requirements (e.g. info on hazardous substances, registration of polymers of concern, possible info on environmental footprint).
 - Better information along the supply chain (e.g. better eSDS).
 - Reform of authorisation and restriction processes (e.g. generic risk management approach for most harmful substances (ED, PBT, vPvB), "essential use" derogations).
 - Essential use concept for derogations from restriction:
 - Industries themselves would have to prove that the use of a substance is essential (i.e. necessary for health, safety or functioning of society, and no viable alternative). A Committee of Member States could evaluate the proof submitted by a company that a substance is essential – but final decision with the Commission. The concept will be developed in a specific non-legislative document.
 - Mixture assessment factor (MAF) to account for so-called "cocktail" effect of mixing substances.
- According to the 2023 Commission Work Programme, the REACH revision proposal was scheduled for release in Q4 2023.

3. REACH Regulation

Background (II):

- On 13 March 2024, ECHA outlined plans to restrict PFAS, focusing on affected sectors and updating reports based on consultations.
- On 18 April 2024, EEA and ECHA called for stricter chemical regulation to achieve a toxic-free environment.
- On 18 July 2024, Ursula von der Leyen prioritized REACH revision and PFAS clarity in her new mandate.
- On 27 August 2024, the Commission defended delays in chemical restrictions, citing complexity.
- On 19 September 2024, the EU banned PFHxA in food packaging, effective from October, with phased implementation until 2029. Broader PFAS restrictions are in progress (for more details, refer to previous reports).

3. REACH Regulation

Latest developments:

- On 14 October 2024, EU environment ministers (working within the framework of the Council of the European Union, specifically in the Environment Council (ENVI)) reviewed the implementation of the [EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability](#), emphasising its importance in the upcoming political cycle to safeguard human health and the environment. Key topics in the discussion included accelerating unimplemented actions, revising the REACH regulation, addressing challenges posed by PFAS and other 'forever chemicals,' improving ECHA governance and funding, and expediting strategy implementation. Some ministers also called for banning hazardous chemical exports.
- During her appointment [hearing](#) before the European Parliament on 5 November 2024 (see slides on *European institutions: key changes in the European Commission*), Commissioner Jessika Rosewall, responsible of the Environment, Water Resilience and a Competitive Circular Economy portfolio, expressed her aim of modernising chemical policies (like REACH) and address PFAS to enhance clarity for industry and consumers by 2025.
- In parallel, during his appointment hearing on 12 November 2024, Executive Vice-President Stéphane Séjourné declared his willingness to speed up the procedure on PFAS restriction.

3. REACH Regulation

Next steps:

- As part of the new Commission's work, Ursula von der Leyen, the actual President of the institution announced a New chemicals Industry Package, expected to be presented in 2025. The package will revise the REACH Regulation and strive to revamp and streamline the regulatory framework to remove harmful substances from the marketplace while providing greater long-term investment certainty for the European chemical companies, and will provide clarity on PFAS.
- Communication on this package is expected to be shared by the Commission since the end of 2024.

4. CLP Regulation

Background:

- The CLP Regulation (1272/2008) harmonizes rules for classifying, labelling, and packaging hazardous substances and mixtures. It sets obligations for manufacturers, importers, and suppliers regarding classification, labelling, and packaging.
- A 2020 Chemicals Strategy led to a revision [proposal](#) on 19 Dec 2022, with a [provisional agreement](#) on 5 Dec 2023.
 - Key measures include:
 - Clear hazard labels (e.g., font size, readability).
 - Fold-out labels, digital labelling, and digital-only data (with physical copies on request).
 - Hazard info displayed on e-commerce sites.
 - Ban on misleading advertising (e.g., "non-toxic").
 - The Commission can propose hazard classifications.
 - Rules for refillable chemical products to reduce risks and waste.
 - Updates for classifying multi-constituent substances.
- On 23 April 2024, the Parliament officially adopted the law (for measures included in final law, see previous slide) with 533 votes in favour, 11 against, and 65 abstentions. As the adoption took place before the June elections, the legal-linguistic experts completed a review of the text, and the Corrigendum text was approved during the plenary session held from 16 to 19 September 2024, marking the conclusion of the Parliament's procedure. No substantive changes were made.

4. CLP Regulation

Latest developments:

- The Council adopted the Regulation revising the CLP Regulation on 14 October 2024.
- The text was published in the EU Official Journal on 20 November 2024 and entered into force on 10 December 2024.

Next steps:

- The provisions of this Regulation will apply from 1 July 2026.
- However, Article 1 points (1), (9), (15)(c), (24)(b) and (d) (articles adding precisions and definitions); and points (2) and (3) of Annex I (points on minimum dimensions of labels and pictograms and minimum font size) and Annex IV (amending Annex VIII to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008) will apply from 1 January 2027.

8. Ocean governance

Background (I):

- In January 2018, the Parliament adopted a [Resolution](#) titled "International ocean governance: an agenda for the future of our oceans in the context of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals".
- In June 2020, the Commission published the [EU Blue Economy Report 2020](#), on the performance of economic sectors linked to oceans and coastal environments.
- In July 2020, the Commission released the [Atlantic Action Plan 2.0](#), formally called "An updated action plan for a sustainable, resilient and competitive blue economy in the EU Atlantic area". In response, in September 2021, the Parliament adopted a [Resolution](#) titled "A new approach to the Atlantic maritime strategy".
- In June 2022, the Commission published a [Joint Communication](#) titled "Setting the course for a sustainable blue planet – Joint Communication on the EU's International Ocean Governance agenda" (see details in previous reports).
- On 6 October 2022, the Parliament adopted a [Resolution](#) titled "Momentum for the Ocean: Strengthening Ocean Governance and Biodiversity".
- On 13 December 2022, at the General Affairs Council (meeting of European Affairs Ministers), Ministers adopted [Council Conclusions](#) on International Ocean Governance for safe, secure, clean, healthy and sustainably managed oceans and seas.
- On 13 March 2024, the Commission released the [mid-term review](#) of the 8th Environmental Action Programme (see details in previous reports).
- On 17 June 2024, the Council adopted a [Council Decision](#) giving the green light for the EU's adoption of the [UN agreement](#) on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (also known as the BBNJ agreement). The agreement will provide for shared governance over 95% of the ocean's volume, allowing for the establishment of marine protected areas on the high seas (currently, only about 1% of the high seas is protected).

8. Ocean governance

Background (II):

- On 12 July 2024, the European Commission announced the funding of €126.9 million for 26 new projects under the EU Mission 'Restore our Ocean and Waters'. These projects aim to protect and restore the health of European waters, covering 346 beneficiaries from 37 countries, including EU Member States and Associated Countries. The projects were selected from 2023 calls for proposals, with evaluations by independent experts. Key areas of focus include:
 - Sustainable management of sediments in the Danube River.
 - Biodiversity protection in the Atlantic and Arctic.
 - Reducing pollution in the Mediterranean.
 - Protection of lake ecosystems and Marine Protected Areas.
 - Improved energy efficiency in small-scale fishing and integration of inland waters into the Digital Twin Ocean, a digital replica used to model impacts.
- The political [guidelines](#) for 2024-2029, presented by President Ursula von der Leyen on 18 July 2024, outline key priorities, including the introduction of a European Oceans Pact.

8. Ocean governance

Latest developments:

- The European Oceans Pact was announced a second time in the [mission letter](#) provided by Ursula von der Leyen to the Commissioner for Fisheries and Oceans, Costas Kadić (EPP, Cyprus). The pact should focus on supporting resilient and healthy oceans and coastal areas, promoting the blue economy, managing the use of our seas and oceans coherently and developing a comprehensive agenda for marine knowledge, innovation and investment. No specific deadline was announced for the presentation of the pact.
- For more information on the appointment of Costas Kadić (EPP, Cyprus) as Commissioner for Fisheries and Oceans, please refer to the slides on key changes in the European Commission .

Next steps:

- Before the next UN Ocean Conference (June 2025), the EU will formally deposit the ratification instrument of the UN's Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement).

8. FuelEU Maritime Regulation

Background:

- Commission proposal for a Regulation on the use of renewable and low-carbon fuels in maritime transport ([July 2021](#)):
 - Vessels would have to limit their GHG intensity (2% by 2025, 6% by 2030, 13% by 2035, 26% by 2040, 59% by 2045, 75% by 2050) and would be obliged to use onshore power supply or zero-emission technology while at port.
 - The Regulation would apply to vessels above 5000 gross tonnes.
- On 22 March 2023, the Parliament and the Council reached an [agreement](#) over the final text of the Regulation:
 - Ships above a gross tonnage of 5000 should progressively reduce their GHG intensity compared to 2020 levels by: 2% by 2025, 16% by 2030, 14.5% by 2035, 31% by 2040, 62% by 2045, 80% by 2050
 - Applies to all energy used on board in or between EU ports, and 50% of energy used in voyages between EU and non-EU ports.
 - Offsetting emission credits given to shipowners using RFNBOs between 2025 and 2034.
 - If RFNBOs amount to less than 1% of the overall fuel mix in 2031, then a 2% target of RFNBOs from 2034 applies.
 - Obligation to use on-shore power supply for the ship's electricity needs while at berth (in major EU ports from 2030 and all EU ports from 2034 if they have on-shore power supply).
 - Exceptions for outermost regions, small islands and territories economically dependent on maritime transport.
 - Review clause by 2028 to assess whether the scope should be extended to smaller ships.
- Throughout July 2023, the co-legislative institutions adopted the final text of the Regulation. It was first adopted by the European Parliament's plenary on 11 July, with 555 vote in favour, 48 against and 25 abstentions. Then, on 25 July, ministers approved the text in the Council, with all Member States voting in favour except Poland. The new Regulation was published in the Official Journal of the EU on 22 September 2023 as [Regulation \(EU\) 2023/1805](#). It entered into force on 12 October 2023.

8. FuelEU Maritime Regulation

Latest developments:

- Under the FuelEU Maritime Regulation, from 2030 (2035 for certain ships), moored vessels must use onshore power supply (OPS) or zero-emission technologies for power at berth. Still expected since beginning of December 2024, the Commission should adopt an Implementing Regulation specifying rules for ships to report their use of OPS to authorities. A public consultation was expected in November 2024.

Next steps:

- The consultation and Implementing Regulation are still expected to be published soon.
- The Regulation will apply from 1 January 2025, except for Articles 8 and 9 on monitoring plans, which already apply from 31 August 2024.
- The Commission is expected to publish an Evaluation Report by 31 December 2027, indicating a proposal for revision or not.

5. Net-Zero Industry Act (NZIA)

Background (I):

- On 16 March 2023, the Commission released its [proposal](#) for a Net-Zero Industry Act. The proposal aimed to:
 - Ensure that by 2030, manufacturing capacity in the EU of certain strategic net-zero technologies approaches or reaches at least 40% of the EU's annual deployment needs for those technologies.
 - Ensure the free movement of net-zero technologies placed on the EU Single Market.
- A [provisional agreement](#) was reached on the proposal between the Council and the Parliament on 6 February 2024. The key aspects of the agreement are:
 - As the Commission proposed, the inclusion of the target to reach a minimum domestic production capacity of 40% of the EU's annual deployment needs for all net-zero technologies and their supply chains.
 - An extended list of 19 net-zero technologies, adding nuclear fission energy technologies, including nuclear fuel cycle technologies; sustainable alternative fuels technologies; hydropower technologies; renewable energy technologies, not covered under the previous categories; energy system-related energy efficiency technologies, including heat grid technologies; renewable fuels of non-biological origin technologies; biotech climate and energy solutions; transformative industrial technologies for decarbonisation not covered under the previous categories; CO2 transport and utilisation technologies; wind propulsion and electric propulsion technologies for transportation; and nuclear technologies not covered under previous categories.
 - The manufacturing of these net-zero technologies will benefit from the "strategic project" status, which will allow for faster permitting procedures based on the project size and GW capacity.
 - The permit-granting process should take at most 18 months for regular projects and 12 months for strategic projects (*continues on the next slides*)

5. Net-Zero Industry Act (NZIA)

Background (II):

- Those projects will benefit from faster financing through the Strategic Technologies Europe Platform ([STEP](#)).
 - The initial proposal included references to several Union funding programmes, such as the Recovery and Resilience Facility, to fund strategic projects but the provisional agreement focuses on STEP, which will leverage and steer resources across 11 EU funding programmes to 3 target investments (digital technologies and deep-tech innovation, clean and resource efficient technologies and biotechnologies). The first call for funding under the STEP platform is now open but concerns defence projects, while other relevant calls are expected to be published from Q3 2024.
- On 25 April 2024, the law was voted and adopted in the Parliament with 361 votes in favour, 121 against and 45 abstentions.
- On 27 May 2024, the law was voted and adopted in the Council.
- On 28 June 2024, the [Regulation](#) (EU) 2024/1735 was published in the EU Official Journal.
- On 29 June 2024, the measure entered into force and started to apply, except for measures concerning auctions for the deployment of energy from renewable sources and specific forms of public interventions, which will not apply until December 2024.

5. Net-Zero Industry Act (NZIA)

Latest developments:

- During his appointment hearing (for more details please refer to the slides on key changes in the European Commission), Executive VP Stéphane Séjourné emphasised the priority of presenting a Clean Industrial Deal within the first 100 days, building on past successes like the Net-Zero Industry Act (NZIA) and the Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA).
- This Clean Industrial Deal, led by Executive Vice-Presidents Teresa Ribera (Clean, Just, and Competitive Transition) and Stéphane Séjourné (Prosperity and Industrial Strategy), will notably focus on decarbonisation, clean technologies and incentivising investment.
- Expected on 26 February 2025, the proposal will be a growth-conducive regulatory framework, supporting industry in its efforts to innovate, scale up, manufacture products and provide services. The aim will be to unlock investment, create lead markets for clean tech and put in place conditions for companies to grow and compete.

5. Net-Zero Industry Act (NZIA)

Next steps:

- The Commission is expected to come forward with several Implementing Acts under the NZIA from Q1 2025, covering guidelines for identifying net-zero strategic projects, minimum requirements on environmental sustainability for the public procurement procedures, specifications regarding auctions for the deployment of energy from renewable sources and other aspects.
- The Commission is expected to present an evaluation Report by 30 June 2028, assessing whether the objectives of the Regulation as laid down in Article 1 have been achieved; whether the Regulation is fit to deliver beyond 2030 and towards the longer term 2050 climate neutrality target referred to in Article 1; and whether benchmarks for specific technologies are needed to achieve the security of supply of those technologies for the European Union.
- The future evaluation Report is also expected to consider the result of the monitoring process referred to in Article 42 of the Regulation and the technological needs arising from the updates of the national energy and climate plans (NECPs).

6. Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR)

Background:

- On 30 November 2022, the Commission published a [proposal](#) for a Regulation on packaging and packaging waste, repealing the Directive on packaging and packaging waste (94/62/EC), the Regulation on market surveillance and compliance of products (2019/1020) and the Directive on the impact of plastic products (2019/904)
 - This Regulation applies to all packaging, regardless of the material used, and to all packaging waste, whether such waste is used in or originates from industry, other manufacturing, retail or distribution, offices, services or households.
- The [provisional agreement](#) was reached on 4 March 2024. The main measures can be summarised as follows:
 - Recycled content targets: The agreement maintains 5% by 2030, 10% by 2035 and 15% by 2040 headline targets for minimum recycled content in plastic packaging. However, it exempts compostable plastic packaging and packaging where the plastic component represents less than 5% of the total weight from these targets. The Commission will review the implementation of these targets.
 - Sustainability requirements for producers:
 - Packaging must be recyclable, with harmful substances like lead and mercury limited to 100 mg/kg (possible stricter limits after 2026).
 - Recycled content must range from 10% to 35%, based on packaging type.
 - Reuse targets are binding, with restrictions on certain single-use packaging and rules to minimise waste.
 - Labels must show material composition, with QR codes for reusability details, and harmonised labelling rules apply.
 - On 24 April 2024, the Parliament adopted the law with 476 votes in favour, 129 against and 24 abstentions, without legal-linguistic finalisation before the end of the legislative term, triggering a corrigendum procedure.

6. Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR)

Latest developments:

- After legal-linguistic finalisation, requested by the Corrigendum procedure triggered by the first adoption of the text by the European Parliament in April 2024, the Parliament endorsed the text on the 25 November 2024. On the 26 November 2024, the endorsement was announced, and MEPs were given 24 hours to object and ask for an official vote.
- On 28 November 2024, the adoption of the PPWR was announced in plenary without a plenary vote.
- On the Council side, the text was officially adopted by Ministers on 16 December 2024.

Next steps:

- The Regulation is now expected to be published in the EU Official Journal in the coming weeks and enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication. This is expected to happen in January 2025.
- It will then apply from 18 months after its entry into force, that is, around August 2026.

9. European institutions: key changes in the European Commission

European Commission: Nominees, proposed by Member States and assigned portfolios by the Commission President-elect, face public hearings before relevant parliamentary committees. After submitting written responses, nominees deliver opening statements and answer questions from MEPs about their qualifications and portfolio vision. Committees evaluate nominees, and if concerns arise, replacements or clarifications may be requested. On 27 November 2024, the EP voted in plenary session to approve the Commission as a whole. The Commission then started its mandate on 1 December 2024.



Mr Costas Kadis (EPP, Cyprus) Commissioner for Fisheries and Oceans

- Cypriot biologist and politician who served as the Cypriot Minister of Health, Minister of Education and Culture, and Minister of Agriculture.
- As Commissioner since 1 December 2024, he is in charge of a new European Oceans Pacts, ensuring coherence across all policy areas linked to the Oceans.
- He will be supporting resilient and healthy oceans and coastal areas, promoting the blue economy, managing the use of European seas and oceans coherently and developing a comprehensive agenda for marine knowledge, innovation and investments.
- He will contribute to the Climate Adaptation Plan taking into account the impact of climate change on coastal areas.

9. European institutions: key changes in the European Commission



Wopke Hoekstra (EPP, Netherlands) – Commissioner for Climate, Net Zero and Clean Growth (Direct responsibility for DG CLIMA)

- Dutch politician and former Minister of Finance (2017-2022) and Foreign Affairs (2022-2023), he was first appointed European Commissioner for Climate Action in 2023, succeeding Frans Timmermans.
- He proposes to enshrine the -90% emissions reduction target for 2040 in the European Climate Law.
- He will develop the Clean industrial Deal focusing on the decarbonisation and contribute to the Industrial Decarbonisation Accelerator Act.
- He supports the implementation of the Innovation fund, ensuring that the revenues from ETS are used in an effective way to decarbonise key sectors, and continues to work on the Industrial Carbon Management Strategy, in order to speed-up the creation of a Single Market for CO2.



Teresa Ribera (S&D, Spain) – EVP for Clean, Just and Competitive Transition (Direct responsibility for DG COMP, overseeing DG CLIMA, DG MOVE, DG ENER & DG ENV)

- Spanish politician, she became Executive Vice-President of the European Commission for Competition on 1 December 2024.
- She will implement a new approach to Competition Policy that is more supportive of companies scaling up for global markets.
- She supports the implementation of the European Competitiveness Fund and of Important Project of Common European Interest.



Dan Jørgensen (S&D, Denmark) – Commissioner for Energy & Housing (Direct responsibility for DG ENER)

- Former Denmark's Minister for Development Cooperation and Global Climate Policy (2022-2024), Commissioner since 1 December 2024.
- He is in charge of bringing down energy prices for companies.
- He will be ensuring a technological neutral approach.
- He is in charge of extending the aggregate demand mechanism including hydrogen and other commodities.

9. European institutions: key changes in the European Commission



Jessika Roswall (EPP, Sweden) - Commissioner for Environment, Water Resilience and a Competitive Circular Economy (Direct responsibility for DG ENV)

- Former Swedish Minister for European Union Affairs and Minister for Nordic Cooperation (2022–2024) and former member of the Uppsala County Parliament from 2010 to 2024.
- As Commissioner since 1 December 2024, she leads the work on a Circular Economy Act with the Executive Vice-President Stéphane Séjourné, with measures to create market demand for secondary materials and establish a single market for waste, notably in relation to critical raw materials.
- She will develop the new chemicals Industry package, simplifying REACH and provide clarity on PFAS.
- She leads the work on European Water Resilience Strategy, and to strengthen Europe's global water leadership.



Stéphane Séjourné (RE, France) – EVP for Prosperity and Industrial Strategy (Direct responsibility for DG GROW, overseeing DG FISMA, DG TRADE, DG RTD & DG ECFIN)

- Former Member of the French Parliament and close advisor to French President Macron.
- As Commissioner since 1 December 2024, he oversees developing a Clean Industrial Deal in first 100 days focused on decarbonisation, clean tech and incentivising investment.
- He will present an Industrial Decarbonisation Accelerator Act, to support lead markets for production and diffusion of clean tech in industry and speed up related planning, tendering and permitting processes, for energy intensive sectors.
- He oversees creating a dedicated Critical Raw Materials Platform supporting joint purchasing and implement the Critical Raw Materials Act.
- He should develop a steel and metals action plan.

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