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Planning for the future: EU policy roadmaps

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What the EU can do? Legislation

- **EU environment policy** is based on **Articles 11 and 191-193** of the **TFEU** (art. 191 combating climate change).
- Sustainable development is an overarching objective: EU is committed to a 'high level of protection and improvement of the quality of the environment' (Article 3 TEU).
- Starting with 1976, on **air pollution**, 29 legislative instruments comprises 16 directives, seven decisions and six regulations on e.g. on ambient air; quality of fuels; automotive exhaust and type-approval; greenhouse gases, etc.



What the EU can do? Legislation

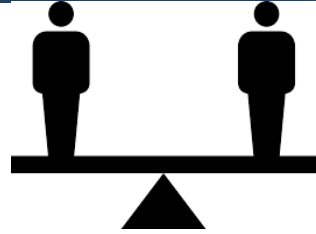
- [Directive 2004/35/EC](#) for **prevention and remedying of environmental damage** (Article 191(2) TFEU) based on polluter pays-principle

Damage to protected species and natural habitats,
damage to water and damage to soil.



- [Directive 2002/49/EC](#) on **environmental noise** = instrument to identify noise pollution levels (exposure to environmental noise, information available to the public, preventing and reducing environmental noise)

What the EU can do? 'Soft' measures



The 7th Environment Action Programme (EAP) –
guiding policy at EU level by 2020, key objectives:

- To protect, conserve and enhance natural capital*
- To turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green and low-carbon economy*
- To safeguard citizens from environmental-related pressures and risk to health and well-being*

The EAP targets

- **Renewable energy** sources should increase to 20% of final energy consumption, with specific targets on biofuels and electricity
- **GHG emissions** should be reduced by 20% by 2020 compared to 1990. Stronger reductions targets are set in strategic documents by 2030 and by 2050 (-40% and -80%).
- **Transport Roadmap**: airlines to increase their use of sustainable low-carbon fuels to 40% and shipping to reduce by 40% its carbon emissions by 2050 (compared to 2005 levels).

The EAP targets

Binding targets:

- Priority hazardous substances are eliminated from surface waters ⇒ 2028;
- 95 g CO₂/km as average emissions for the new ⇒2020 car fleet

Strategic objectives:

- Reduce conventionally fueled cars in cities by 50% ⇒ 2030
- Shift to rail the majority of long and medium distance passenger road transport ⇒2050
- Increase biofuels to *% of all petrol and diesel for transport purposes placed on the market ⇒ 2015

Monitoring EAP

- The environmental Implementation Review (EC, 2017) = reports for each MS showing implementation gaps, in waste management, nature and biodiversity protection, air quality, noise pollution, and water quality and management.
- Root Causes: ineffective coordination between local, regional and national authorities, a lack of administrative capacity and financing, a lack of knowledge and data, insufficient compliance assurance mechanisms and a lack of integration and policy coherence.

The EAP

The 7th Environment Action Programme (EAP) – sets out a vision for the EU in 2050:

We live well within the planet's ecological limits;



Healthy environments stem from circular economy, nothing is wasted and resources are used sustainably,

Biodiversity protected, valued and restored;



Low-carbon growth has long been decoupled from resource use.

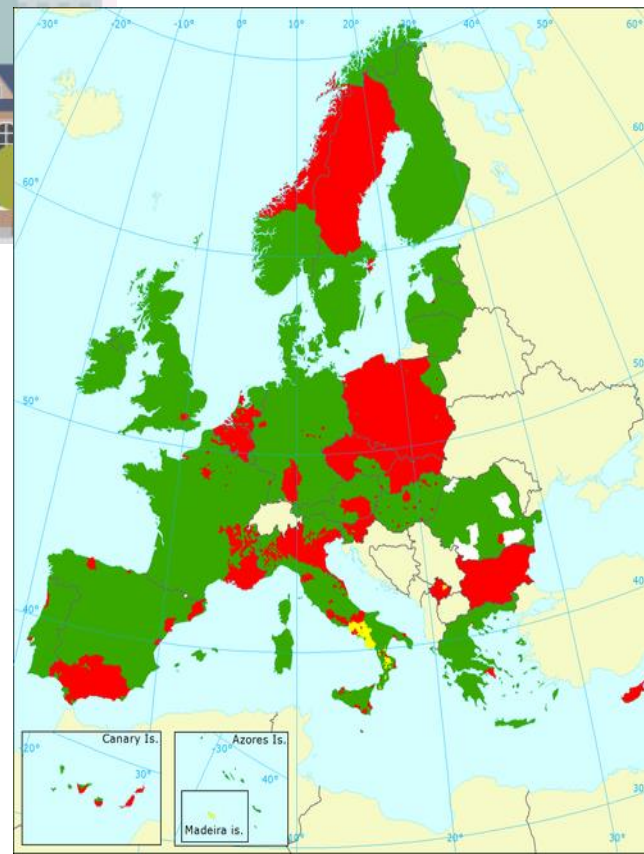
The Clean Air Package (2013)

- EC Communication *'A clean air programme for Europe'* ensure that existing targets are met and setting out objectives up to 2030
- A proposed directive to reduce pollution from medium-sized combustion plants (*Directive 2015*)
- A revised national emission ceilings directive, for the six main pollutants (*Directive NEC 2016*)
- A proposal on international rules on long-range transboundary air pollution (**the Gothenburg Protocol**)



Clean AIR for the EU

Pollutants covered by EU National Emission Ceilings legislation and 2030 targets



The new Circular Economy Package (2015)

- Proposed Directive on Waste
- Proposed Directive on packaging waste
- Proposed Directive on landfill
- Proposed Directive on electrical and electronic waste

The EC Communication (2017): Waste-to-energy in the circular economy – to shift waste management upwards towards prevention, reuse and recycling (higher targets for municipalities)

- Action Plan to ‘close the loop with benefits for environment and the economy’ (*no health?*)

ESIF 5.5 billion €; 650 million € Horizon2020



A European Strategy for low emission mobility (EC Communication 2016)

- **Increasing efficiency of the transport** by digital technologies, smart pricing and lower emission transport modes,
- **Speeding up alternative energy for transport**, e.g. advanced biofuels, electricity, hydrogen
- **Moving towards zero-emission vehicles**: transition towards low- and zero-emission vehicles.

Cities and local authorities = incentives for low-emission energies and vehicles, *encouraging shift to active travel (cycling and walking)*, public transport and/or shared mobility schemes, such as bike, car-sharing and car-pooling.



The UN Agenda 2030 – the SDGs

- EC Communication (2016) – *‘what we are already doing and planning to do’*
- *SDG2 – end hunger*: CAP, Common Fisheries Policy, R&I Food 2030: aqua ponics, smart precision farming, circular farms, sustainable food cities, etc.
- *SDG 3: health*: initiatives on public health, health systems and environmental related health problems (air quality, chemicals and waste)
- *SGD 10: reducing inequality*: EC social agenda and cohesion policy

The UN Agenda 2030 – the SDGs

- *SDG 11: make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable:* partnerships: The Urban Agenda for the EU, funds: EFSI, ESIF
- *SDG 12 sustainable production and consumption:* more is needed for consumer policies to raise awareness on sustainability
- *SDG 14 (oceans) and SDG 15 (land):* Bionatura 2000 network extended (protected areas in the EU 18%), Birds and Habits Directive halting biodiversity loss; target EU: restore 15%

Five political scenarios for Europe

- *'The Future of Europe' (March 2017):* for MS to choose or combine by December 2017:
 - *Carrying on*
 - *Nothing but the single market*
 - *Those who want more do more*
 - *Doing less more efficiently*
 - *Doing much more together*



Thank you!

- Questions...?



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