

EERA Weekly EU Policy Update

EU AGENDA AND NEWS ON EU CLIMATE, ENERGY, R&I POLICY

N. 2 – Week 02 March 2020

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1. Institutional agenda

EU Meetings of the week		
Council of the EU / EU Council		
2 March	Working Party - ERAC + SFIC	The Committees will discuss the European Research Area, international R&I cooperation and other international issues
3 March	Working Party on Energy	No agenda available
5 March	Environment Council	The Council will discuss the European Green Deal, the EU's climate long-term strategy submission to the UN and the environmental dimension of the European Semester
European Commission		
4 March	Consultation on the EU Climate Pact – web streaming	EC Vice-President Frans Timmermans will announce the consultation on the next EU Climate Plan at the European Climate Pact Citizens' Dialogue

2. News of the week

ITRE chair confident EU leaders will ‘soon find a solution’ to budget stalemate – S.B.

Cristian-Silviu Buşoi says he is optimistic that a budget deal could be reached and funding delays in Horizon Europe averted. At the same time, the European Parliament is committed to rejecting any budget deal under 1.3 per cent of gross national income.

[More info](#)

EU budget delay leaves parts of Horizon Europe in limbo – Science Business

EU commission president warns of funding shortfalls for Horizon Europe and Erasmus in 2021 if member states do not agree on a budget quickly. Research missions and new industrial partnerships in Horizon Europe could be pushed beyond January 2021 if EU leaders fail to agree on a budget.

[More info](#)

European Winter Package – EU priorities for energy – EU Commission

The Commission has presented the country reports, part of the European Semester, outlining the various recommendations to deal with each Member State's socio-economic challenges. Energy recommendations are specified, with a peculiar focus on the priorities for support by the Just Transition Fund.

[More info](#)

Europe's Next Just Transition Fund Beneficiaries – Euractiv

100 of the Union's regions meet the JTF criteria based on carbon-intensive jobs, fossil fuel industrial activity and GDP per capita, the EU revealed on 26 February. Germany is the country with most areas, in absolute terms, eligible for the Fund with 18, mostly in the East. To actually access the Fund, governments will first have to hand in Just Transitions Plans, outlining how the money will be spent.

[More info](#)

Brexit talks need to include strict environmental provisions - Euractiv

The EU and the UK will soon enter crucial talks to conclude the exit of Britain from the European bloc. A prominent risk is that the UK will lower its environmental standards to attract business and firms, endangering the mission designed by the EU Commission to reach climate neutrality by 2050.

[More info](#)

Poland's nuclear silence – Euractiv

While Poland is planning to build six nuclear plants in the country, it has not yet conducted environmental impacts, nor it has communicated its plans to the neighbouring countries. The behaviour breaches international law.

[More info](#)



Energy statistical country datasheets updated – EU Commission

Uniting data from Eurostat and the Member States, the Commission has updated the energy datasheets of the EU countries, a ready-to-use tool for expert and general audience with an interest in the EU energy landscape.

[More info](#)

3. Events in Brussels

Events and Conferences			
Organisation	Title	Date and Time	Venue/Location
Institut Jacques Delors	Green Deal: from ambition to action	Tuesday, 3 March , 17:00 – 19:00, registration here	Press Club Brussels, 95 Rue Froissart, 1000 Bruxelles
Housing Europe / EPC	A Housing Europe/European Policy Centre Workshop on energy poverty	Tuesday, 3 March , 14:30 – 17:00 Registration here	European Policy Centre - 14 Rue du Trône, 1000 Bruxelles
European Parliament	Calling all sectors: how to cut aviation's climate impact	Thursday, 5 March , 8:30 – 10:00 Registration here	EP, Members Salon
IIEA Brussels	Turning the EIB into the EU Climate Bank – with EIB Vice President Andrew McDowell	Thursday, 5 March , 18:30 – 20:30 Registration here	Permanent Representation of Ireland to the European Union - Rue Froissart 50, 1040 Bruxelles
Friends of Europe	The EU Climate Law: a legislation for net-zero emissions ?	Monday, 09 March , 12:30 to 14:00	More info
ESTELA	How can CSP contribute to the European Energy Transition?	Tuesday, 17 March , 15:00 – 17:00 Registration: secretariat@solarpaces.org	Albert Borschette Congress Center (Room AB-1A), Rue Froissart 36, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

