

# EERA Weekly EU Policy Update

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

### N. 6 – Week 6 April 2020

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#### 1. News of the week

##### **The European Commission has launched two new consultations on emission reduction targets and the LIFE programme – European Commission**

Two new consultations are open to the public and to stakeholders. The first asks for contributions on the actions required to achieve emission reduction by 2030, with additional technical questions to receive specific EU policy design suggestions. The second consultation focuses instead on the future of the LIFE programme, the EU’s funding instrument for the environment and climate action. Here, the input collected will help in the preparation of LIFE’s first Multiannual Work Programme.

Participate in the [2030 targets consultation](#) and the [LIFE consultation](#)

##### **New budget made available for the European Green Deal under Horizon 2020 – Science|Business**

The European Commission has allocated extra budget to this year’s Horizon 2020 programme. In particular, the Commission has destined €350 million to SMEs that create new ideas that support the European Green Deal. This money will be granted through the European Innovation Council, a new creation under Horizon Europe but already active this year. Some of these “new” funding comes out of that extra money, and some comes from shifting money from one part of the budget to another.

More info [here](#)



### **Von der Leyen: “The Commission will put forward a new MFF proposal” – European Commission/EARTO**

The President of the Commission last week issued a statement on the MFF, anticipating that the Commission will soon propose a new draft for the EU budget for the next seven years. Given the current situation, the President envisions an “MFF proposal that will allow to address the fallout of the coronavirus crisis”. Whether this means a larger budget proposal or more flexible guidelines, it is difficult to know now. However, given the importance of the budget and the delay accumulated so far, new talks will need to be held soon.

More info [here](#)

### **COP26 in Glasgow postponed due to Coronavirus uncertainty – Politico/Euractiv**

Italy and the U.K., the co-hosts of the next United Nations Climate Change Conference, have decided to postpone the event to a future date (so far undisclosed but in 2021). The COP26 was intended to be a key deadline for countries to submit new, more ambitious climate programmes. To this end, the Commission has acknowledged the rationale for postponing but “will not slow down [its] work domestically”, VP Frans Timmermans said. The EU is still committed to raise its 2030 emission reduction targets by the end of the year.

More info [here](#) and [here](#)

### **Carbon emissions under the ETS fell by 8.7% in 2019 (not including aviation emissions) – Euractiv**

An analysis performed on the EU Emissions Trading System shows that, of the emissions regulated under the ETS, in 2019, power plants and factories totalled 1.536 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e), a reduction of 8.7% percent in respect to the 2018 levels. The main drivers of this result are the reduction of coal usage and the increase in adoption of wind and solar power. Still, aviation emissions not considered in the calculation increased last year, a result that calls for increased action in the area.

More info [here](#)

