

# EERA Weekly EU Policy Update

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

N. 8 – Week 20 April 2020

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### 1. News of the week

#### EU Commission foresees delays in European Green Deals calls and adoptions – Euractiv

Due to the extraordinary constraints imposed by the Covid-19 crisis, the Commission was forced to review its work programme for 2020. While the final document will be published by the end of the month, a leaked version already provides information on the initiatives that will be postponed or maintained.

Among the most important, we can cite the *European Climate Pact*, the *Strategy for Smart Sector Integration*, the *Strategy for Offshore Renewable Energy* and the *New EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change*.

More info [here](#)

#### An EU strategy for smart sector integration – EU Commission

As the fast developments in renewable energies have not been matched by progress in fossil fuels, it is necessary for the EU to link up energy systems. There are many opportunities in different areas, from electrification of sectors (e.g. electric vehicles, heat pumps) to decarbonisation in air transport and industrial processes. While the Commission will present a strategy for smart sector integration at some point in the next few months (see the delays), citizens and researchers are already invited to participate to its design.

While a public consultation will be soon launched, direct contributions can be sent to this [email address](#). More info [here](#)

#### Council adopts its reading on the EU Taxonomy – Council of the European Union

On 15 April, the Council of the EU has adopted the first reading on the EU Classification System, or “Taxonomy”. This system will provide detailed guideline to assess the



environmental sustainability of projects and economic activities. A key to obtain climate neutrality by 2050, the Taxonomy will enable investors to refocus their investments on more sustainable technologies and businesses.

Six objectives will be pursued through the Taxonomy:

- 1) Climate change mitigation;
- 2) Climate change adaptation;
- 3) Sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources;
- 4) Transition to a circular economy;
- 5) Pollution prevention and control;
- 6) Protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems.

More info [here](#)

### **The Innovation Fund is looking for experts - Innovation and Networks Executive Agency**

DG CLIMA and INEA have an opening for experienced and motivated experts, to evaluate projects applying for funding from the Innovation Fund. Technical, financial and legal experts are encouraged to participate in the selection process.

For more info about the registrations and the conditions that apply click [here](#).

### **OPEC countries approve curbing of oil supplies – Euractiv**

With the prices of oil falling abruptly because of the Covid-19 situation, the major oil producers around the world have decided to cut supply to drive the prices up again. The reduction in oil prices was seen in the last weeks as a possible impairment to the development of the European Green Deal. OPEC+ countries, including non-members like the United States, have now decided in light of possible substantial losses for national budgets to cut down production “possibly until 2022”.

More info [here](#)

### **A sneak-peek into a 100% renewable future – LUT University & SolarPower Europe**

Electricity could represent 85% of the EU’s energy mix by 2050, 60% of which could be produced by solar energy. This is the main result of a study conducted by LUT University, a member of EERA, in partnership with SolarPower Europe. Envisioning three possible development paths, the study illustrates that in the best-case scenario GHG emissions will decline by over 60% (from 1990) by 2030, and down to zero even 2040. To reap the benefits, batteries and electrolyzers will need to be even further investigated, with an additional focus on new fuels.

The study can be found [here](#)

