
Newsletter of the European Recycling Industries' Confederation (EuRIC)

Monthly, Issue n°17, 12 December 2016

EuRIC top activities

New President and Board of EuRIC elected

The European Recycling Industries' Confederation (EuRIC) elected its [new leaders](#) during the General Assemblies held, in Brussels, on 16 November 2016. Mr. Michael SCHUY, a long-time Board Member of BDSV, the German steel scrap recycling Confederation, and CEO of a steel scrap recycling company became the new President of EuRIC. He will be supported by two Vice-Presidents: Mr. Jean-Philippe CARPENTIER, President of FEDEREC, the French Federation of Recycling Enterprises and Mrs. Alicia GARCIA-FRANCO, director General of FER, the Spanish Federation of Recovery and Recycling, re-elected for a second term. The President and Vice-Presidents of EuRIC ferrous, non-ferrous and paper recycling Branches were also elected at the same occasion. More information is available in EuRIC [press release](#).



From left to right, Jeff. D KIMBALL, EUROMETREC Vice-President – Mr. Emmanuel KATRAKIS, EuRIC Secretary General – Mr. Hans VAN DE NES, ERPA President – Mr. Patrick KORNBERG, EUROMETREC Vice-President – Mr. Pascal GENNEVIEVE, ERPA Vice-President – Mr. Thomas BRAUN, ERPA Vice-President – Mrs. Alicia GARCIA FRANCO, EuRIC Vice-President – Mr. Michael SCHUY, EuRIC President – Mr. Ion OLAETA BOLINAGA, EFR Vice-President – Mrs. Cinzia VEZZOSI, EFR President – Mr. Robert FELL, EFR Vice-President – Ms. Susie BURRAGE, EUROMETREC President.

EuRIC participated to the EU–China Circular Economy Mission

EuRIC participated to the EU-China Circular Economy Mission in Beijing from 21-23 November 2016. This high-level mission provided a comparative approach of the policies of the EU and China to move towards a circular economy, concrete insights about the services provided by the European Commission and its network to help EU companies make business in China and fruitful networking opportunities, including B2B meetings with Chinese counterparts. EuRIC was part of the EU delegation and was, represented by Mr. Jean-Philippe CARPENTIER, newly elected EuRIC Vice-President and Mr. Emmanuel KATRAKIS, Secretary General.

Left: Mr. Karmenu VELLA, EU Commissioner for Environment - Mr. Emmanuel KATRAKIS, EuRIC Secretary General



European institutions activities

International Agreements

Paris Agreement / Entry into force / Climate Change / Brussels, 04.11.2016

The Paris Agreement has legally [entered into force](#), one month after the EU ratification and ahead of the UN climate conference COP22 in Marrakesh, Morocco, taking place from 7 to 18 November 2016.

Environmental Goods Agreement / Negotiations / Geneva, 04.12.2016

The European Union [has attempted](#) to [reach a deal](#) on an Environmental Goods Agreement (EGA) with 16 other members of the World Trade Organization (WTO). The aim of EGA is to remove tariffs on hundreds of products, e.g. waste handling and recycling systems, that protect the environment and contribute to the fight against climate change. More information is available on the Commission [website](#).

Publications Office of the European Union

State Aid / Duferco / Steel manufacturing / Brussels, 22.11.2016

The [Commission Decision \(EU\) 2016/2041](#) on State aid granted by Belgium to Duferco, a company producing and selling steel, has been published in the Official Journal of the EU (the OJEU). The Commission finds that the aid measures for Duferco in question, unlawfully implemented by Belgium, constitute State aid incompatible with the internal market. The granted State aid has to be recovered.

Guidelines for self-regulation measures / Ecodesign / Brussels, 03.12.2016

The [Commission Recommendation \(EU\) 2016/2125](#) on guidelines for self-regulation measures concluded by industry under the [Ecodesign Directive 2009/125/EC](#) has been published in the OJEU. Once recognised, the Commission will give priority to self-regulation measures for product groups in the [Ecodesign Working Plan](#) and hence refrain from adopting an ecodesign implementing regulation.

Opinion of EESC / Market economy status / China / Trade defence / 21.10.2016, Brussels

The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) published its own-initiative advisory [Opinion](#) on the impact on key industrial sectors of the possible granting of market economy treatment to China.

Trade defence instruments / Pipes & tubes / Iron or steel / China / Brussels, 12.11.2016

The [Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2016/1977](#) imposing a provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of certain seamless pipes and tubes of iron (other than cast iron) or steel (other than stainless steel), originating in the People's Republic of China has been published in the OJEU.

European Parliament

Circular Economy Package / Opinions / ITRE Committee / Brussels, Oct. & Nov. 2016

Several weeks after the ITRE Committee adopted its opinions on the four waste proposals, the opinions have been made public, namely on the proposal to amend (i) [the Waste Framework Directive](#), (ii) [the Landfill](#), (iii) [the Packaging](#) and (iv) [the ELVs, WEEE and Batteries Directives](#). The opinions have an informative character, but can influence the position of the ENVI Committee.

Trilogue

Conflict Minerals / Trilogue negotiations / Agreement / Brussels, 22.11.2016

An agreement has been reached on the new EU conflict minerals regulation during the EU's trilogue negotiations between the [Commission](#), European [Parliament](#) and Council. According to the new regulation, expected to be applicable as from 2021, the EU importers of tin, tungsten, tantalum, gold and their ores will have to establish a mandatory due diligence system to do checks on their suppliers.

Council

DecaBDE / Statement by the Federal Republic of Germany / Brussels, 16.11.2016

Following a previous article in EuRIC newsletter (Issue n°16), Germany [has submitted](#) amendments on Annex XVII of the [REACH Regulation](#) as regards restriction of bis(pentabromophenyl) ether (decaBDE). It refers only to the German translation of the provisions in the Annex XVII.

European Commission

**** Proposals – Communication & Action Plans – Statistics ****

HP14 / Hazardous property of waste-ecotoxicity / Brussels, 25.10.2016

The [draft Commission Regulation](#) amending Annex III to Directive 2008/98/EC as regards the hazardous property HP 14 ('Ecotoxic') was rejected by a close [vote of the TAC Committee](#) on 25 October 2016. The Commission is now expected to submit the draft Regulation to the Council for possible adoption. The Council can raise an objection to the draft Regulation by qualified majority. If the Council does not raise any objection within two months, the draft Regulation will be submitted to the Parliament which can raise an objection within four months, but only for very specific reasons. If no objections were raised, the Commission will adopt the draft Regulation. EuRIC is a key stakeholder as regards the aforementioned draft Regulation given its importance for certain resource streams.

EU Green Public Procurement Criteria / Computers and monitors / Brussels, 25.10.2016

The Commission has published a [Commission Staff Working Document on EU Green Public Procurement Criteria for Computers and Monitors](#). This voluntary instrument aims at facilitating public authorities the purchase of products with reduced environmental impacts. The criteria focus e.g. on the presence of hazardous substances in computers and monitors or their end-of-life management.

EU's anti-dumping and anti-subsidy legislation / New proposal / Brussels, 09.11.2016

The Commission [has presented](#) a [proposal](#) for a new method for calculating dumping on imports from WTO member countries. The aim is to enable the EU to deal with overcapacities in the international trading environment. The new anti-dumping methodology would apply to cases initiated once the amended rules are in force. The European Parliament and the Council will decide on the proposal through the ordinary legislative procedure. More information is available in the Commission [fact sheet](#).

EU Construction and Demolition Waste Protocol / Brussels, 10.11.2016

The Commission [has published](#) the [EU Construction and Demolition Waste Protocol](#) as non-binding guidelines for the industry. The Protocol pays particular attention to the quality of Construction and Demolition (C&D) recycled materials. The main idea is to increase the trust in the quality in order to foster recycling of C&D waste, the largest waste stream in the EU.

Sustainable Development Goals / EU priorities / Statistics / Brussels, 22.11.2016

The Commission has published its [Communication](#) on the next steps for a sustainable European future related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), within the Agenda 2030, approved in September 2015 by the UN General Assembly. The Communication outlines how the EU will implement the SDGs, including the focus on circular and resource-efficient economy, with the help of financial tools. To better measure the progress, Eurostat has published the [EU statistics on SDGs](#) based on specific indicators.

Ecodesign Working Plan 2016 -2019 / Brussels, 30.11.2016

The Commission has presented the [Eco-design Working Plan 2016-2019](#) as a part of the winter package: "[Clean Energy for All Europeans](#)". The extended scope of the eco-design framework explores the circular economy potential of products such as their recyclability. The new product groups are: Building Automation and Control Systems, hand dryers, electric kettles, lifts, refrigerated containers and solar panels.

Waste Treatment BREF / Final Technical Working Group / Brussels, March 2017

The European IPPC Bureau has provisionally scheduled the final Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting for the week of 20-24.03.2017, in Sevilla. EuRIC will actively participate to this meeting with a delegation of experts to represent the interests of operators covered by the part of the BREF dedicated to the mechanical treatment in shredders of metal waste, including BAT Conclusions.

Plastics strategy / EU action plan for the Circular Economy / Brussels, future initiative

The Commission is expected to come up with a strategy on plastics towards the end of 2017 in line with the [Circular Economy Action Plan](#). Among the issues to be addressed is the current low rate of recycling and re-use of plastics or plastics production and product design. Other focus will be on challenges posed by plastics, in particular the presence of hazardous substances, recyclability and biodegradability. A roadmap outlining the content of the plastics strategy is expected to be published soon. To foster plastics recycling, EuRIC is one of the supporters of the [Complex Waste Plastics Recycling Industry 'Wish List'](#).

Commission Report / Waste statistics / Quality / Brussels, 03.11.2016

The Commission has published the [Report](#) on statistics compiled pursuant to [Regulation \(EC\) No 2150/2002](#) on waste statistics and their quality. These reports have to be submitted by the Commission every 3 years to assess the quality of waste statistics or the comparability among Member States.

Eurostat / Statistics / Environment indicators / Luxembourg, 10.11.2016

The statistical office of the European Union – Eurostat – [has published](#) the [Multi-thematic statistical book on energy, transport and environment indicators](#). The Environment chapter includes indicators on waste generation and treatment, climate change, greenhouse gas emissions, chemicals and others.

**** Public consultations – Actions with a deadline for submission ****

Public consultation / REACH / REFIT evaluation / Deadline: 28 January 2017

The Commission [has launched](#) a [public consultation](#) to collect stakeholders' views in relation to REACH REFIT evaluation due in 2017. The [REACH Regulation \(EC\) No 1907/2006](#) is being evaluated every five years to monitor its effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and EU added value.

Draft Correspondents' guidelines No. 10 / Shipments of waste / Brussels, 13.11.2016

The Commission and the relevant representatives of the Member States pre-agreed on the draft text of the Correspondents' Guidelines No. 10 on the shipment of waste on 12.09.2016. The purpose of these non-binding Guidelines is to clarify how to fill in the Annex VII document of the [Waste Shipment Regulation](#) when shipping green-listed waste. The industry had time until 13.11.2016 to make comments. The authorities will decide whether to modify the Guidelines accordingly. EuRIC submitted a number of comments to the Guidelines channelling the voice of the European recycling industry.

End-of-life vehicles (ELV) / Results of the public consultation / Brussels, 22.11.2016

Following a previous article in EuRIC newsletter (Issue n°16), the [results](#) of the ELV consultation have been presented during a [dedicated workshop](#) organised by the Commission and the selected consultant Öko-Institut in Brussels. Among the first [recommendations and conclusions](#), prepared by the Öko-institut, are (i) better implementation of the Certificate of Destruction (CoD); (ii) avoiding the misuse of the “temporary deregistration” or (iii) making application of Correspondents Guidance No 9 binding. The consultant Öko-Institut will further work on the study on ELVs expected to be finalised in August 2017. EuRIC secretariat attended the workshop and represented the position of the European automotive recycling industry in line with EuRIC response to the ELV consultation.

**** EU funding and non-financial support ****

Horizon 2020 / Environment project funding / Brussels, October 2016

2017 [calls](#) for proposals for funding projects under the EU funding programme Horizon 2020 in areas of "Climate Action, Environment, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials" have been published.

EU funds / Support for SMEs / November & December 2016

- i) An InnovFin agreement has been [signed](#) by the European Investment Fund (EIF) and Inveready Venture Finance II providing €10 million in loans to innovative SMEs in **Spain** over the next two years.
- ii) A guarantee agreement has been [signed](#) by the EIF and Caixa Económica Montepio Geral providing €20 million in loans to innovative SMEs and mid-caps in **Portugal** over the next two years.
- iii) New guarantee agreements have been [signed](#), under the SME [initiative programme](#), by the EIF and financial intermediaries in Bulgaria unlocking in total €385 million of funding for SMEs in **Bulgaria**.
- iv) Two COSME agreements have been [signed](#) by the EIF and Raiffeisenbank (Bulgaria), as well as Raiffeisen Leasing Bulgaria, providing €150 million in loans and leases to SMEs in **Bulgaria**.

**** Mergers ****

Mergers / Acquisition / Paper production / Brussels, 21.10.2016

The Commission has approved the acquisition of Weyerhaeuser's pulp business by International Paper Company, both paper manufacturers. More information is available in the [Commission case register](#).

Mergers / Joint venture / ArcelorMittal / Coils Lamiere Natri / Brussels, 22.11.2016

The Commission has approved the acquisition of joint control of the French company Acierplus, active in steel distribution sector, by ArcelorMittal and Coils Lamiere Natri from Italy. Prior to the transaction, Acierplus was wholly-owned by ArcelorMittal. More info is available in the [Commission case register](#).

Commission's Infringement procedures & Court of Justice of the European Union

Preliminary ruling / Packaging and packaging waste / Definition / Brussels, 10.11.2016

Following the request for a preliminary ruling from France, the Court of Justice of the European Union (the CJEU) delivered its [judgement](#) of 10.11.2016. It rules that roll cores in the form of rolls, tubes or cylinders, around which flexible material is wound and sold to consumers, constitute 'packaging' within the meaning of the [Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste](#). The cause of the dispute, between Eco-emballages - the French eco-organism (EPR Scheme) - and undertakings which place packaging on the French market, was whether roll cores constitute packaging subject to a payment of a financial contribution as a result of extended producer responsibility for packaging waste.

Infringement procedure against Croatia/ Waste / Brussels, 17.11.2016

The Commission has sent a reasoned opinion to Croatia to ensure proper management of 140.000 tons of potentially harmful stone aggregate. Croatia failed to classify that material as waste and ensure its sound environmental treatment and hence breached the Articles 5(1), 13 and 15(1) of the [Waste Framework Directive](#). Croatia has two months to report corrective measures taken or the Commission may refer the case to the CJEU. More information is available in the [November infringements' package](#).

Infringement procedure against France/ Waste / Brussels, 17.11.2016

The Commission has sent a reasoned opinion to France to adopt and revise its waste management plans for the whole of its territory in line with the [Waste Framework Directive](#). After a reasoned opinion, France has two months to report corrective measures taken or the Commission may refer the case to the CJEU. More information is available in the [November infringements' package](#).

Other EU bodies

Municipal waste management / Country profiles / EEA / Copenhagen, 14.11.2016

The European Environmental Agency (EEA) has published information on [Municipal waste management across European countries](#). Specific information is listed in [country profiles](#) for individual EU Member States analysing the developments from 2001 to 2014. More information is available on the [EEA' website](#).

Studies

Study / Benefits of Ecodesign for EU households / Brussels, October 2016

A study entitled "[Benefits of Ecodesign for EU households](#)" has been published, focusing on energy efficiency aspects of eco-design, but also on the resource efficiency. This study, prepared by the consultant Ecofys, has been commissioned by [BEUC](#) – the European Consumer Organisation to demonstrate the clear evidence of the financial and other benefits stemming from eco-design.

Study / Regulatory barriers for the Circular Economy / Brussels, 10.11.2016

The Commission has published the [report](#), linked to the adoption of the Circular Economy Package, entitled "Regulatory barriers for the Circular Economy: Lessons from ten case studies", prepared by the selected consultants Technopolis et al. On 10 selected cases, the report analyses the potential for contributing to the circular economy if one or more regulatory barriers would be removed. Among the identified barriers are: (i) the lack of separate collection (ii) the lack of harmonised EU legislation on specific quality requirements for recycled material or (iii) missing requirements on eco-design. Another barrier stems from inconsistencies between the waste and chemical legislations. EuRIC is explicitly quoted in connection to its remarks made regarding the lack of level playing field in between primary and secondary steel production.

Study / Detailed assessment of waste management plans / Brussels, 2016

The Commission has published the [final report](#) concerning the detailed assessment of waste management plans, prepared by the selected consultant BiPRO. The report is based on the assessment of 47 national and regional waste management plans during the period January 2014 to December 2015. The objective was to identify a list of essential gaps and provide recommendations for the Member States' authorities. The waste management plan(s) shall analyse the waste management situation in the geographical entity concerned, propose measures to be taken with respect to environmentally sound treatment of waste and evaluate how the plan will support the implementation of the European waste legislation.

Study / Green bonds / Financing / Climate & environmental goals / Brussels, 02.12.2016

A "[study](#) on the potential of green bond finance for resource-efficient investments" has been released by the Commission. It analyses green bonds as a means of financing projects that promote progress on environmentally sustainable activities. The study identifies bottlenecks of this additional source of green financing and suggests possible solutions. More information is available in the Commission [press release](#).

Events

EuRIC Annual Conference

EuRIC will organize its traditional Annual Conference devoted to "Competitive recycling markets in Europe" on 28 March 2017. The Conference will take place in the [Diamant business centre](#), in close proximity to the EU institutions in Brussels, at the heart of Europe. This full day event will feature high-level policy makers and influential recycling industry leaders around key regulatory and economic topics for the European recycling industry. It will offer unparalleled opportunities to expand your network. The [online registration](#) is already opened!



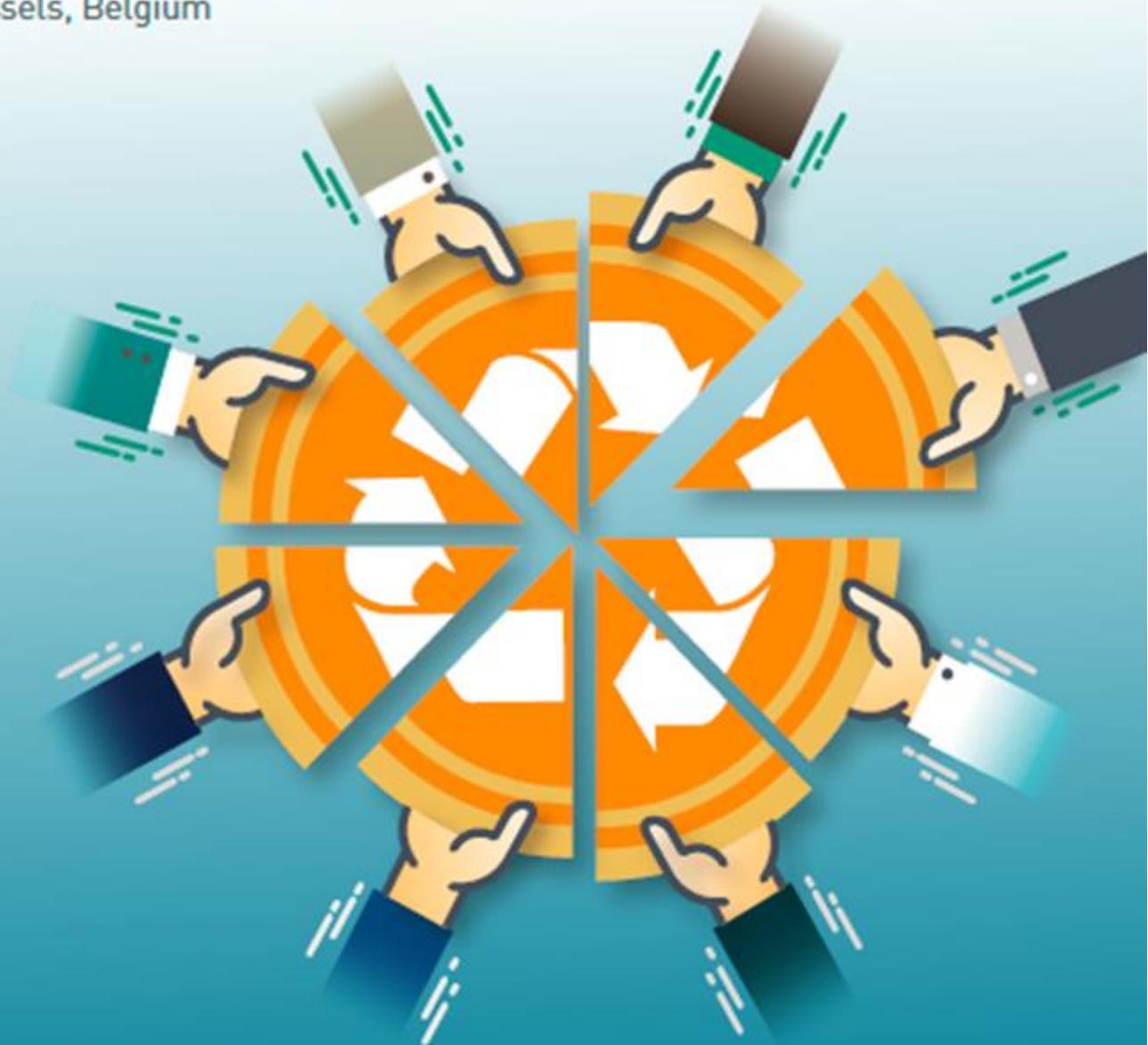
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More information on : www.euric-aisbl.eu/competitive-markets