
Newsletter of the European Recycling Industries' Confederation (EuRIC)

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European institutions activities

EuRIC Annual Event, 1st March 2016: Registrations are opened!

Recycling businesses at the heart of the circular economy / Solvay Library, Brussels

EuRIC organises on 1st March 2016 a high level conference on the circular economy in the prestigious Solvay Library, at the heart of European institutions. This conference will give the opportunity to discuss a number of key topics for the circular economy with a variety of stakeholders which are instrumental in this transition. Emphasis will be put on the role played by recycling companies, in particular of SMEs, which form an essential part of the 'recycling ecosystem' across Europe. This event will benefit from a targeted press coverage in recycling media. Registrations are opened on EuRIC dedicated webpage:

<http://www.euric-aisbl.eu/circular-economy>

The new Circular Economy Package

Commission proposal / Circular Economy Package / Brussels, 02.12.2015

The European Commission (the Commission) has published the [Circular Economy Package](#) (CEP) which is composed of four proposals amending six waste directives and of an Action Plan. The proposals include new definitions of "municipal waste" or of "final recycling process" linked to a revised calculation method for amended recycling targets or general requirements for extended producer responsibility schemes. EuRIC's [press release](#) welcomes the new package, in particular its proposals to facilitate cross-border circulation of secondary raw materials through the use of electronic data exchange, but sees scope for greater ambition on key topics.

The ENVI Committee of the European Parliament had, on 21 December 2015, an [exchange of views](#) with Karmenu VELLA, the Commissioner responsible for Environment, on the Circular Economy Package. [MEP Simona BONAFÈ](#) (S&D, IT) will be the [Rapporteur of the ENVI Committee](#) for the waste proposals.

Circular Economy Package / EuRIC to share its views during conferences in January 2016

Beside interviews given to the press, EuRIC has been invited to intervene on the CEP by the **European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)** at its hearing on 28 January 2016 and at the conference on the [Separate waste collection in the context of a circular economy in Europe on 29 January 2016](#).

International Agreements

Climate change conference / Paris Agreement / Emission reduction / Paris, 12.12.2015

The [Paris Agreement](#) has been reached by 195 nations during the [COP 21 UN Climate change conference](#). One of the main objectives is reducing emissions to keep a global temperature rise this century well below 2°C and aim at 1,5°C. For that reason, a roadmap should be defined to repeatedly increase climate finance to be used as a support for developing countries. The agreement will be opened for one year for signature on 22 April 2016. It would enter into force after being ratified at least by 55 countries that account for at least 55% of global emissions. EuRIC stressed that it is [Time to acknowledge the benefits of recycled steel scrap in steelmaking](#) during a side-event of the COP21.

Publications Office of the European Union

Indicative compendium / Environmental goods and services / Brussels, 25.11.2015

The [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2015/2174](#) on the indicative compendium of environmental goods and services (EGS) has been published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU). Data on listed EGS should be collected by the Member States and provided to Eurostat.

Third Country Facilities & EU List of Ship Recycling Facilities / Brussels, 18.12.2015

The [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2015/2398](#) on information and documentation related to an application for a facility located in a third country for inclusion in the European List of ship recycling facilities has been published in the OJEU.

Imports / China / Steel concrete reinforcement bars / Brussels, 18.12.2015

The [Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2015/2386](#) making imports of high fatigue performance steel concrete reinforcement bars originating in China subject to registration for a period of nine months has been published in the OJEU. This initiative follows a complaint lodged by EUROFER in March 2015 on the alleged ground that *the product concerned continues to be dumped*. Registration allows to monitor imports *in order to enable [possible] measures to be applied subsequently against such imports*.

European Commission

Infringement procedure / Radioactive Waste Directive / France / Brussels, 19.11.2015

The Commission sent a reasoned opinion to France requesting it to ensure the full transposition of the [Council Directive 2011/70/Euratom](#) regulating the management of spent fuel and radioactive waste.

EU-China dialogue / Steel / Overcapacities / Brussels, 19.11.2015

The representatives of DG GROW and the Chinese Ministry of Industry and Information technology agreed on supporting open economies during the 5th plenary meeting of the [Dialogue on industrial sectors](#). However, the Raw materials working group underlined the problem of overcapacities in steel and called on China for speed when curbing these since it has a major impact on the European industries.

Public procurement / Transposition of directives / Brussels, 20.11.2015

The new directives on public procurement have to be transposed into national legal systems by 18 April 2016. [Directive 2014/23/EU](#) on the award of concession contracts, [Directive 2014/24/EU](#) on public procurement and [Directive 2014/25/EU](#) on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors were adopted by the European Union (EU) on 26 February 2014 and established a new EU-wide legal framework. More information is available on [DG GROW's website](#).

Partnership on Raw Materials / Call for Commitments / Brussels, 07.12.2015

The European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials (the EIP) has opened a new [Call for Commitments](#) from 1 December 2015 to 1 March 2016. Commitments are joint undertakings by several partners, who commit to activities aimed at objectives set out in the [EIP's Strategic Implementation Plan](#). The benefits include e.g. access to contacts, raising awareness or giving visibility to the project. [80 commitments](#) have been recognized until now in the previous calls for commitments.

Infringement procedure against Italy / CLP Regulation / Brussels, 10.12.2015

As announced in the [December infringements' package](#), the Commission has sent a reasoned opinion to Ireland, Italy and Luxembourg requesting them to transpose the [Directive 2014/27/EU](#) which entered into force by 1 June 2015. This directive amended certain directives regulating health and safety of workers to be in accordance with the [CLP Regulation \(EC\) No 1272/2008](#).

CLP Regulation/ Hazardous substances / Lead re- classification /Brussels, 10.12.2015

Echoing a previous article in EuRIC newsletter (Issue n°8), the REACH Committee [discussed](#) the re-classification of lead. According to the corresponding [draft Commission Regulation](#) and its [annex](#), lead should be included in Annex VI to the [CLP Regulation \(EC\) No 1272/2008](#) containing hazardous substances. Two separate entries are proposed with a specific concentration limit (SCL) of $\geq 0,03\%$ for lead in the powder form and a generic concentration limit (GCL) of $\geq 0,3\%$ for the massive form. The proposed draft is expected to be submitted for REACH Committee's approval on 3-4 February 2016.

REACH Regulation / Low volumes / Legacy spare parts / Brussels, December 2015

Echoing a previous article in EuRIC newsletter (Issue n°9), the Commission is expected to come up with a draft measure to amend Annex XIV of the [REACH Regulation \(EC\) No 1907/2006](#) providing an extension of transitional arrangements. The corresponding draft Commission Regulation will be submitted to the REACH Committee for discussion on 3-4 February 2016 and subsequently to a vote.

Financing / Circular economy / Luxembourg, 10.12.2015

The European Investment Bank organised a conference entitled [Financing the Circular Economy](#) to introduce possible access to credit through [InnovFin](#). More information is available on [EIB's website](#).

EU funds / Life programme / Resource efficiency projects / Brussels, 20.11.2015

An investment package amounting to €264.8 million has been approved by the Commission under the [LIFE programme](#) to support [96 environmental projects](#). Nearly €50 million will be dedicated to 14 resource efficiency projects facilitating the circular economy as stated in the Commission's [press release](#).

EU funds / Support for Belgian SMEs / Belgium, 26.11.2015

A [COSME](#) agreement has been signed providing €40 million of loans to SMEs in Belgium over the next two years. More information is available in the Commission's [press release](#).

EU funds / Support for SMEs / United Kingdom / London, 10.12.2015

A [COSME](#) agreement has been signed by the European Investment Fund and iwoca providing €60 million of loans to SMEs in the UK. More information is available in the Commission's [press release](#).

EU funds / Support for SMEs / Italy, 21.12.2015

Two [InnovFin](#) and [COSME](#) guarantee agreements have been signed by the European Investment Fund and Italian banks Cassa Depositi e Prestiti and SACE (CDP Group) providing €1 billion of loans to SMEs in Italy. More information is available in the Commission's [press release](#).

High Level Expert Group / Energy intensive industries / Brussels, 15.12.2015

A [meeting](#) of the High Level Expert Group on Energy Intensive Industries has been held on 18 December 2015. Mr. Daniel CALLEJA CRESPO, Director General of DG Environment, held a speech on Circular Economy for the benefit of energy intensive industries. As reported in the Commission's [press release](#), a High Level Conference will take place beginning of 2016, with the participation of energy intensive industries as a follow up to the [Competitiveness Council meeting](#) from 9.11.2015 on the steel industry.

Court of Justice of the European Union

Infringement procedure against Greece / Illegal landfill / Brussels, 10.12.2015

As announced in the [December infringements' package](#), the Commission has referred Greece to the Court of Justice of the European Union over landfill on the island Corfu. The action was taken as Greece failed to fulfil its obligations with regard to the [Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC](#) and the [Council Directive 1999/31/EC](#) on the landfill of waste.

Other EU bodies

Waste prevention programmes / Review / Report / Copenhagen, 07.12.2015

The European Environmental Agency has published a [Report](#) on waste prevention in Europe. This is an annual review of waste prevention programmes in Europe as stipulated by the Waste Framework Directive. The report compares the waste prevention programmes in individual Member States and focuses on their coverage, the scope, overall objectives, targets, indicators, monitoring systems as well as the approach to evaluating objectives and targets.

Studies

Study / Hazardous property – ecotoxicity / Shipments of waste / Brussels, October 2015

The [study](#) assessing the impacts of different classification approaches for hazard property "HP 14" on selected waste streams has been published by the Bio by Deloitte and INERIS, the consultants selected by the European Commission. The study finds that current assessments of ecotoxicity lack harmonisation as the Member States use different calculation methods to determine the classification of waste regarding its hazardous property. It further concludes that this situation hampers the trans-border movements of waste and creates distortions of the internal market. Among the four calculation methods, the study favours the first proposed method for the assessment of HP 14 – ecotoxicity. The waste classification had been recently reviewed through amendments to the [Commission Decision 2000/532/EC](#) on the List of Waste and Annex III to the [Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC](#). The classification of hazardous property HP 14 was left out of the legislative review. EuRIC responded back in June 2015 to the public consultation run by the consultants and will assess the finding of this study.

Study / Separate Collection Schemes / Brussels, November 2015

A [study](#) conducted on behalf of the Commission has been published on DG ENV's website. The objective of the study was to assess the separate collection schemes in the [capital cities](#) of the EU-28 Member States. It also includes an [assessment](#) of the legal framework for and the practical implementation of separate collection systems in the individual Member States.

Study / Circular economy and benefits for society / Winterthur, 08.12.2015

A [study](#) entitled "Circular economy and benefits for society" conducted by the Club of Rome think tank has been published. The study models the economic and social benefits gained from a transition to a more circular economy in five case study countries: Finland, France, the Netherlands, Spain and Sweden.

Events

15th International Electronics Recycling Congress (IERC) / 19-22.01.2016, Salzburg

[ICM AG](#) will organize the 15th International Electronics Recycling Congress in Salzburg from 19 to 22 January 2016. Among other topics, the focus will be put on challenges of the circular economy or best available recycling technologies. More information is available on the following [website](#).

MRE and CARS Events / Registration opened / 13-14.07.2016, Donington Park Circuit, Derby, UK

The Metals Recycling Event (MRE) and co-located Complete Auto Recycling and Secondary Materials (CARS) trade show will take place on 13 and 14 of July 2016 in Donington Park Circuit, Derby, UK. EuRIC is among the [supporters](#) of these events. More information is available on [MRE's](#) and [CARS'](#) websites.