



Newsletter of the European Recycling Industries' Confederation (EuRIC)

Monthly, Issue n°11, 10 February 2016

Last change to register for EuRIC Annual Conference – March 1st, 2016 – Brussels

Last chance to register for EuRIC Annual Conference to explore the circular economy package's impact on recycling industries across Europe.

Sponsored by *Grupo Otua*, this well-attended conference will provide the setting for a unique debate, based at the heart of a host of EU institutions. Confirmed speakers include Mr. **Daniel CALLEJA CRESPO**, Director General, DG Environment, European Commission, Mr. **Gwenole COZIGOU**, Director, Industrial Transformation and Advanced Value Chains, DG GROW, European Commission, Mr. **Julius Langendorff**, Deputy Head of Unit Waste Management and Recycling, DG Environment, European Commission, Mr. **Reinhard BÜTIKOFER**, Member of the European Parliament, Ms. **Miriam DALLI**, Member of the European Parliament, Mr. **Ruben DEKKER**, European Environment and Nature Policy, Dutch Presidency of the Council, and a wide-range of stakeholders.

The event will take place on 1 March 2016 in Brussels, Belgium and will be hosted at the magnificent **Solvay Library** in the city's Léopold Park. **If you are interested in attending this event, you can register online through EuRIC's dedicated webpage by no later than February 24th, 2016.** If interested in **sponsorship opportunities**, you will find more information in the one-pager available on the same webpage. To take up one of the last remaining openings, please contact EuRIC Secretariat: euric@euric-aisbl.eu or [+32 2 627 5771](tel:+3226275771).

Kick off of the EuRIC Glass Branch – January 2016

EuRIC is launching a new Branch which will be dealing with glass recycling. [ANAREVI](#), the Spanish Glass Recycling Association, [BVSE Glas](#) and [FEDEREC Verre](#) are the founding Members of this Branch in constitution. Its first meeting will take place in March, back to back with EuRIC General Assembly. National Associations interested in joining EuRIC Glass Activities are welcome to contact [EuRIC Secretariat](#).

European institutions activities

Circular Economy Package

Conference on Separate Waste Collection / Hearing of the EESC / Circular economy / Brussels, 28-29.01.2016

EuRIC was invited to share the views of European recyclers at the [Hearing](#) of the European Economic & Social Committee (EESC) on January 28th and at the [Conference](#) on Separate Waste Collection organised by the European Commission in cooperation with Municipal Waste Europe and Eurocities. Emmanuel Katrakis, EuRIC Secretary General recalled the difficult situation currently faced by recycling businesses and the need for greater ambition in the circular economy package by prioritising recycling and boosting markets for secondary raw materials.

Publications Office of the European Union

Anti-dumping duty / Steel concrete reinforcement bars / Brussels, 29.01.2016

Following a previous article in EuRIC newsletter (Issue n°10), the [Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2016/113](#) imposing a provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of high fatigue performance steel concrete reinforcement bars originating in China has been published in the Official Journal of the European Union (the OJEU).

Harmonised standards / Nickel / Brussels, 15.01.2016

The [Communication](#) in the framework of the implementation of [REACH Regulation \(EC\) No 1907/2006](#) has been published in the OJEU. It contains references to harmonised [standards](#) for nickel.

Public procurement / European Single Procurement Document / Brussels, 06.01.2016

The [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2016/7](#) establishing the standard form for the European Single Procurement Document (ESPD) has been published in the OJEU. The ESPD will allow companies to electronically self-declare that they meet the necessary requirements for a concrete public procurement, and only the winning company will need to submit all the documentation. A relevant web-based system is being developed. The obligation to exclusively use electronic means of communication may be postponed by the Member States until 18 October 2018. The ESPD is one element of the public procurement reform, announced in EuRIC Newsletter (Issue n°10).

European Parliament

Circular Economy Package / Shadow Rapporteurs / Brussels, February 2016

The shadow rapporteurs for all four waste proposals - being part of the circular economy package - have been appointed. These are the following Members of the European Parliament: [Karl-Heinz Florenz](#) (EPP, Germany), [Mark Demesmaeker](#) (ECR, Belgium), [Josu Juaristi Abaunz](#) (GUE/NGL, Spain), [Davor Škrlec](#) (Greens/EFA, Croatia), [Piernicola Pedicini](#) (EFDD, Italy) and [Jalkh Jean-François](#) (ENF, France). The rapporteur is [Simona Bonafe](#) (S&D, Italy).

Council

Rotating Council Presidency / Netherlands / Brussels, 01.01.2016

The Netherlands will lead the rotating Presidency of the Council of the EU from 1 January to 30 June 2016. The 18 month [programme](#) (1 January 2016 - 30 June 2017), listing the priorities of the Dutch and following Slovak and Maltese Presidencies includes the circular economy as one of them.

European Commission

CLP Regulation/ Hazardous substances / Lead re- classification /Brussels, 3-4.02.2016

Echoing a previous article in EuRIC newsletter (Issue n°10), the REACH Committee unanimously approved the re-classification of lead as 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 inclusion of the reference to "bioavailability" instead of "potency" in [recital 4](#) was approved as well.

By approving the [draft Commission Regulation](#) and its [Annex](#), the classification of bisphenol A (BPA) as reproductive toxicant has been confirmed. BPA is used to harden plastics, but it can be also found in metal packaging coatings and varnishes.

ELV Directive / Amendment to Annex II / 7th adaptation / Brussels, 30.11.2015

A new [draft Commission Directive](#), published in January 2016, and its [Annex](#) amending Annex II to [ELV Directive 2000/53/EC](#) has been approved by the Member States' delegations during the [meeting](#) of the Technical Adaptation Committee (TAC) of Directives on waste on 30 November 2015. This draft does not prolong exemptions regarding the use of lead in the applications covered by entries 8(h), 8(j), 10(d) and 8(f)(a) in the Annex II. The individual expiry dates vary. The Annex II to the ELV Directive lists exemptions from the otherwise prohibited use of lead, mercury, cadmium or hexavalent chromium.

Impact assessment / RoHS Directive / Brussels, 03.12.2015

The European Commission (the Commission) has published an [inception impact assessment](#) to [RoHS Directive 2011/65/EU](#). The reason is to evaluate the scope of the directive. The objective is to address problems occurring as a result of the opening of the directive's scope from 2019. Impact assessments are prepared for Commission initiatives expected to have significant economic, social or environmental impacts. Planning of impact assessments is communicated to the public via inception impact assessments.

Waste Shipment Regulation / Implementation report / Brussels, 17.12.2015

The Commission has published a [Report](#) on Implementation of [Waste Shipment Regulation \(EC\) No 1013/2006](#) for the years 2010-2012. It contains data on the generation, treatment and transboundary shipment of hazardous waste and other waste in the Member States of the European Union. The [Annex](#) to the report contains more detailed figures.

Report / Workshop / WEEE / Article 15 / Brussels, January 2016

The Commission has published a [Report](#) of the Workshop on Implementation of Article 15 of the [WEEE Directive 2012/19/EU](#) that took place on 8 September 2015. Article 15 requires from producers of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) to provide information for recyclers to facilitate the recycling process. A second workshop was organized on 3 February 2016 in which EuRIC was well-represented by its Secretariat and Dutch WEEE recyclers, calling for practical solutions to ease manual dismantling through for example a color-coded marking of EEE components.

Municipal waste management / Assessment / Brussels, 13.01.2016

The Commission discussed the issue of municipal waste management with representatives from eight Member States at a workshop organised in January 2016. The objective was to assess national waste management policy to ensure achieving of the EU waste targets. According to the [Agenda](#) and [presentations](#) made, the priorities were waste prevention, separate collection, biowaste management, economic instruments, data and planning of waste infrastructure. The assessment of the situation can be found in country-specific fact sheets ([Croatia, Cyprus, Spain, Hungary, Ireland, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia](#)).

Public procurement / Translation service / Brussels, 15.01.2016

An online machine translation service is available, free of charge, for all public procurement notices published in Tenders Electronic Daily (TED) from 15.1.2016, as announced on the Commission's [website](#).

State Aid / Order to recover granted funding / Steel / Belgium / Brussels, 20.01.2016

The Commission has concluded that €211 million funding granted by the Walloon authorities in Belgium to several steel companies within the Duferco group between 2006 and 2011 distorted competition in breach of EU State aid rules. Despite the crises caused by overcapacities on the market, it is only allowed to foster the long-term competitiveness and efficiency of the industry, but not to support manufacturers in financial difficulties. More information is available in the Commission's [press release](#).

State Aid / Opening of in-depth investigation / Steel / Italy / Brussels, 20.01.2016

The Commission has opened an in-depth inquiry to assess whether Italian state support for the steel producer Ilva was in line with EU State aid rules. More information is available in the Commission's [press release](#).

Shipments of WEEE / Third countries / Equivalent conditions / Brussels, future initiative

The Commission is expected to set out criteria for equivalent conditions concerning the treatment of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) in non-EU countries, possibly in early 2017. This will presumably be done after the completion of European (CENELEC) standards for treatment of WEEE. The exports of WEEE may be counted towards the fulfilment of obligations and targets only if the exporter can prove that the treatment took place in conditions that are equivalent to those in the EU. A [study](#), prepared on this issue in 2013, might serve as a background for this process.

Public consultation / Environmental Noise Directive / Deadline: 28 March 2016

The Commission has launched a [public consultation](#) on the evaluation of the [Environmental Noise Directive 2002/49/EC](#). In parallel to the public consultation, the Commission has published a [roadmap](#) to analyse whether the Directive has fulfilled its function. This overall evaluation might eventually end up in a legislative proposal to amend the corresponding Directive.

EU funds / Support for SMEs / Netherlands, Germany, Czech Republic / January 2016

- i) The European Investment Bank has agreed a €100 million loan facility with Dutch micro-financing company for SMEs in the Netherlands. More information is available in the Commission's [press release](#).
- ii) An agreement has been signed by the European Investment Fund (the EIF) and the German promotional bank KfW providing €500 million of loans to innovative companies in Germany over the next two years. More information is available in the Commission's [press release](#).
- iii) A [COSME](#) agreement has been signed by the EIF and Komerční banka providing €50 million of loans to Czech SMEs over the next three years. More information is available in the Commission's [press release](#). SMEs in the EU can benefit from the European [Investment Plan](#) established to mobilise financial resources. To consult the state of play, please refer to the Commission's [website](#).

Court of Justice of the European Union

Action against Germany and Poland / WEEE Directive / Luxembourg, 11.01.2016

The Commission has brought an action against [Germany](#) and [Poland](#) before the Court of Justice of the European Union on 16.10.2015 and requested it to declare the Member States have failed to transpose the [WEEE Directive 2012/19/EU](#) in the national law or to notify the transposed provisions to the Commission. The Court of Justice will subsequently decide on the action and whether to impose a penalty.

Action against Spain / Illegal landfills / Luxembourg, 18.01.2016

The Commission has brought an [action](#) against Spain before the Court of Justice of the European Union on 04.11.2015 and requested it to declare that Spain has failed to fulfill its obligations with regard to a proper waste management in accordance with Art. 13 and 15 of [Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC](#).

Preliminary ruling / Chemical Regulation REACH / Luxembourg, 11.01.2016

The Bundesverwaltungsgericht (Germany) asked the Court of Justice a [question](#) whether substances subject to registration may not be exported out of the European Union unless they have been registered in accordance with the [REACH Regulation \(EC\) No 1907/2006](#), while requesting for a preliminary ruling. The Court of Justice will subsequently answer to this request lodged on 14 October 2015.



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Other EU bodies

Circular Economy / Report / Copenhagen, 18.01.2016

The [Report](#) describing the concept of the circular economy and outlining its key characteristics has been published by the European Environmental Agency. It analyses both, the benefits and the challenges.

Studies

Study to improve hazardous waste management / Brussels, December 2015

The [Study](#) assessing the national hazardous waste management practices in the 28 EU Member States has been published by Bipro and Prognos, the consultants selected by the Commission. After evaluating the performance on hazardous waste management, the study analyses the problematic findings, such as a gap between generated hazardous waste and treated hazardous waste in the EU, equivalent to about 26% of the total generated amount of hazardous waste, based on 2012 Eurostat data. An overview of the state of hazardous waste management is summarised in country-specific [factsheets or screening documents](#).

Study / Guidance document / Classification of waste/ Brussels, December 2015

The [Study](#) to support the development of a technical guidance document on the assessment and classification of hazardous waste has been published by Bipro, the consultant selected by the Commission. The study (i) provides an overall background to waste classification, (ii) presents the relevant parts of EU waste legislation for the definition and classification of (hazardous) waste and (iii) outlines the general steps of waste classification. The guidance document is envisaged to be published by the Commission to assist with issues linked to the definition and classification of waste.

Events

BIR World Recycling Convention & Exhibition 2016 / Berlin, (29) 30 May - 1 June 2016

BIR's twice-yearly conventions are the highlight of the global recycling events calendar. Attend the next edition in Berlin and don't miss the opportunity to make new contacts, follow industry trends, keep up-to-date on international legislation, stay abreast of technology developments and participate in debates with high-profile guest presentations. BIR offers great sponsorship opportunities and an international exhibition for machinery & equipment manufacturers. For pre-bookings, please contact the BIR Secretariat at bir@bir.org. To see the programme and register online as from mid of February, please visit the [BIR website](#).

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

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.

Conference on Energy-Intensive Industries / Brussels, 15.02.2016

The Commission will organise a [Conference on Energy-Intensive Industries](#) to discuss issues such as innovation, investments, energy, circular economy and trade. At the end, concrete funding possibilities under Horizon 2020 will be presented.