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## Newsletter of the European Recycling Industries' Confederation (EuRIC)

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Monthly, Issue n°13, 4 May 2016

### EuRIC top activities

#### **EuRIC calendar launched: [www.euric-aisbl.eu/news-events/members-events](http://www.euric-aisbl.eu/news-events/members-events)**

EuRIC has launched an online calendar featuring the events and conferences organised by its Affiliated Members & Supporters. This calendar provides a dynamic tool for communication and offers an excellent opportunity to enhance the visibility of your events at European level. To get your event published on EuRIC website in the calendar corner and on [EuRIC home page](#), you are much welcome to send to the Secretariat ([euric@euric-aisbl.eu](mailto:euric@euric-aisbl.eu)) the relevant information including the date, address of the venue and short description.

### Member States

#### **Intergovernmental cooperation / Movement of resources / Brussels, March 2016**

France, Flanders, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands have signed in the framework of [the North Sea Resources Roundabout](#) an international voluntary agreement aiming at easing the trade of secondary raw materials. This [Green Deal](#) is a direct acknowledgement of the difficulties encountered by companies in trading recyclables from one EU country to another because “secondary raw materials are regarded differently from border to border”. It “aims to increase industry uptake of secondary resources by facilitating cross border use of secondary resources”, acknowledges the environmental benefits of recycling in terms of emissions savings and supports the very objectives of the Circular Economy Package.

### European institutions activities

#### International Agreements

#### **Paris Agreement / Signature ceremony / Climate Change / New York, 22.04.2015**

Following a previous article in EuRIC newsletter (Issue n°10), [175 Parties](#) (174 countries and the [European Union](#)) signed the Paris Agreement, during the 2016 Opening for Signature held at United Nations Headquarters in New York, with the main objective to reduce emissions and keep a global temperature rise this century below 2°C. More information is available in the Commission's [press release](#).

#### Publications Office of the European Union

#### **Persistent organic pollutants / Amendment to Annexes IV and V / Brussels, 31.03.2016**

The [Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2016/460](#) amending Annexes IV and V to [Regulation \(EC\) No 850/2004](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council on persistent organic pollutants has been published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU).

#### **Guidelines / Port reception facilities / Ship generated waste / Brussels, 01.04.2016**

[Guidelines](#) for the interpretation of [Directive 2000/59/EC](#) on port reception facilities for ship generated waste and cargo residues have been published in the OJEU. These guidelines aim at clarifying how certain provisions should be implemented, in particular it focuses on main obligations on port reception facilities and on the actual use of those facilities to ensure environmentally sound treatment of waste.

### **Technical guidance / Ship recycling / Third countries facilities / Brussels, 12.04.2016**

The [Technical guidance](#) on requirements and procedure for inclusion of facilities located in third countries in the European List of ship recycling facilities under [Regulation \(EU\) No 1257/2013](#) on ship recycling has been published in the OJEU.

### **Trade defence instruments / Iron & Steel / Glass / Brussels, March & April 2016**

The following measures relating to trade defence have been published in the OJEU:

(I) A [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2016/387](#) and a [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2016/388](#) imposing a definitive (countervailing) duty on imports of tubes and pipes of ductile cast iron originating in India;

(IIa) A [Notice](#) of initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of certain concrete reinforcement bars and rods originating in Belarus, (IIb) a [Notice](#) of initiation of an expiry review of the anti-dumping measures applicable to imports of certain continuous filament glass fibre products originating in China and (IIc) a [Notice](#) of the impending expiry of certain anti-dumping measures concerning certain seamless pipes and tubes of stainless steel originating in China.

### **Import license / Trade defence instruments / Steel / Brussels, 29.04.2016**

A [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2016/670](#) (followed by a [Corrigendum](#) to correct a mistake in its Annex I) introducing prior Union surveillance of imports of certain iron and steel products originating in certain third countries has been published in the OJEU. This measure, requiring an import license when importing steel products into the EU, has been adopted in order to protect the European industry against subsidised imports.

### European Commission

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

### **Port reception facilities / Directive 2000/59/EC / Assessment / Brussels, 04.04.2016**

The Commission has published a [Report](#) to the European Parliament and the Council entitled “REFIT Evaluation of Directive 2000/59/EC on port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues” prepared to assess the implementation and effectiveness of the [Directive 2000/59/EC](#).

### **Standardisation / Source of information / SMEs / Brussels, 06.04.2016**

An [eLearning tool](#) for SMEs providing basic knowledge of European standardisation has been developed by CEN (the European Committee for Standardization) and CENELEC (the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization). More information is available in DG GROW’s [press release](#).

### **Action Plan / Value added tax / Brussels, 07.04.2016**

The European Commission (the Commission) has published a [Communication on an action plan on VAT](#). It includes key principles for a future single European VAT system, plans to simplify VAT rules for cross boarder e-commerce, measures to tackle fraud and an update to the framework for VAT rates that would grant Member States greater flexibility when applying zero or reduced VAT rates. More information is available in the Commission’s [press release](#).

### **Transboundary shipments of waste / Statistics / Eurostat / Luxembourg, 2016**

Based on data reported by the Member States, an interactive map has been established showing the amounts of waste, both hazardous and non-hazardous, that are shipped in and out of EU countries. To consult this tool, please refer to the Eurostat’s [website](#).

### **REACH Regulation / Low volumes / Legacy spare parts / Brussels, March 2016**

Following previous articles in EuRIC newsletter (Issue n°9 & 10), the future draft Commission Implementing Regulation, to amend Annex XIV of the [REACH Regulation](#) providing an extension of transitional arrangements for uses in legacy spare parts and concerning applications for low volumes, is expected to be submitted for approval in the REACH Committee on 6-7 July 2016.

### **Plastics recycling / Chemical regulation / Hazardous substances / Brussels, 16.03.2016**

The REACH Committee discussed a [draft Commission Decision](#) identifying bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP), dibutyl phthalate (DBP), benzyl butyl phthalate (BBP) and diisobutyl phthalate (DIBP), used as plasticizers, as substances of very high concern (SVHC) according to the [REACH Regulation](#). The vote whether to approve this draft Commission Decision has not taken place yet as it was postponed.

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

### **Public consultation / Insolvency framework/ Deadline: 14 June 2016**

The Commission has launched a [public consultation](#) on an effective insolvency framework within the EU. Stakeholders are invited to comment on key insolvency aspects to create a common framework which could ensure that national insolvency frameworks work properly, especially in a cross-border context.

*\*\*\* Competition - State aid \*\*\**

### **Antitrust/ Kraft paper & industrial paper sacks / Brussels, 15.03.2016**

The Commission has informed that its officials carried out unannounced inspections at the premises of several companies active in the sector of kraft paper and industrial paper sacks. The reasons are alleged anticompetitive practices. More information is available in the Commission's [press release](#).

### **Alleged aid / Steelmaking company / Italy / Brussels, 22.04.2016**

The Commission has published an [invitation](#) to submit comments on alleged aid to Ilva – an Italian steelmaking company. This procedure has been initiated due to several measures adopted in favour of Ilva by the Italian authorities during 2014 and 2015. Interested parties may submit comments within one month since the invitation has been published.

*\*\*\*\* EU funding \*\*\**

### **EU funds / Support for SMEs / March & April 2016**

i) An agreement has been signed by the European Investment Fund (the EIF) and Credito Valtellinese s.c. (CREVAL), providing €150 million in loans to innovative SMEs in **Italy** over the next two years. More information is available in the Commission's [press release](#). A second agreement has been signed by the EIF and Banca Cassa di Risparmio di Savigliano S.p.A., providing €30 million in loans to innovative SMEs in Italy over the next two years. More information is available in the Commission's [press release](#). Another agreement has been signed with Banca Popolare di Bari. More information is available in the Commission's [press release](#).

ii) An agreement has been signed by the EIF and Pohjola Bank, providing €150 million in loans to innovative SMEs in **Finland**, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania 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 Societe Generale providing €250 million in loans to SMEs in **France**. More information is available in the EIF's [press release](#).

iv) The first project in **Greece** has been approved to benefit from the Investment Plan for Europe. More information is available in the Commission's [press release](#).

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

### **Infringement procedure against Spain/ Landfills / Brussels, 25.04.2016**

The Court of Justice declared in its [judgement](#) of 25.02.2016, published on 25.04.2016 in the OJEU that Spain failed to fulfil its obligations under Art. 14(b) and (c) of the [Directive 1999/31/EC](#) on the landfill of waste. Under these obligations, Member States are required to ensure that landfills existing before the adoption of the Directive will either become compliant or be closed down. No penalty was imposed.

## Other EU bodies

### **Chemicals / Substance evaluation / Community rolling action plan / Helsinki, 22.03.2016**

The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) has adopted the [Community rolling action plan \(CoRAP\)](#) update for 2016-2018 with 138 substances to be evaluated. The evaluation of substances takes place to clarify whether their use poses a risk to human health or the environment. It may lead to the substance restriction, identification to be of very high concern, harmonised classification or other actions. Selected substances for evaluation are listed in CoRAP. More information is available in ECHA [press release](#).

## **Studies**

### **WEEE / Registration & Reporting / Calculation method / Brussels, March 2016**

[The study on harmonisation of the format for registration and reporting of producers of electrical and electronic equipment \(EEE\)](#) has been made available. It has been prepared for DG Environment of the Commission by the selected consultant TRASYS. The outcome of the study (i) will serve as a basis for the Commission implementing act on registration, information and reporting of WEEE currently expected to be finalised at the end of 2016 [Art. 16 (3) [WEEE Directive](#)] and (ii) will contribute to the expected Commission implementing act setting out a common methodology for the calculation of WEEE currently expected to be finalised in the second quarter of 2016 [Art. 7 (5) [WEEE Directive](#)]. These implementing measures should ensure that producers of EEE are in compliance with the provisions of the WEEE Directive by collecting information on the quantities and categories of EEE placed on the markets and subsequently on WEEE collected and recycled/recovered/exported. When drafting the implementing measures, the Commission will also consider [the study on WEEE recovery targets, preparation for re-use targets and on the method for calculation of the recovery targets](#) from April 2015 and [the study on collection rates of waste electrical and electronic equipment](#) from October 2014.

### **Critical raw materials / Data / Analysis / Brussels, 18.03.2016**

A [Study](#) on Data for a Raw Material System Analysis has been published by the Commission after being conducted by the consultant - BIO by Deloitte. This study examines Europe's critical raw materials' flows, i.e. 28 groups of materials and aims at supporting the identification of the information and data related to the secured supply and movement of critical raw materials through the economy.

### **ELV Directive / Annex II / Heavy metals / 8<sup>th</sup> technical update / Brussels, April 2016**

A [Study](#) on End-of-Life vehicles (ELVs), evaluating possible restriction of exemptions in Annex II to [ELV Directive 2000/53/EC](#), has been published by Eunomia Research & Consulting, the consultant selected by the Commission. The evaluation concerns aluminium and copper alloys, both with lead content and lead in batteries. This initiative is part of the 8<sup>th</sup> technical update of Annex II with the overall purpose to restrict the use of hazardous substances in car parts. The Annex II lists exemptions from the otherwise prohibited use of lead, mercury, cadmium or hexavalent chromium in materials and components.



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## Events

### **Workshop / European Commission / Hazardous chemicals / Brussels, 08-09.06.2016**

The Commission will organise a workshop for a 'roadmap to a non-toxic environment' on 8-9 June 2016 in Brussels. The focus is put on how to substitute hazardous chemicals in products and foster non-toxic material cycles in the framework of circular economy. [Online registration](#) is free and still open. EuRIC is very active on issues arising from the interplay between the waste and chemicals legislations for the recycling industry. All interested affiliated Members are advised to register. For coordination purposes, please inform EuRIC Secretariat if you plan to participate to this workshop.

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

Over 650 participants have already confirmed their participation – [register online now!](#) For more information and latest news on the programme, visit the [BIR Convention website](#). 22 Exhibitors will showcase their latest equipment and services, and spaces are filling up fast. Do not miss your opportunity to participate in the highlight of the global recycling events calendar – contact the BIR Secretariat at [bir@bir.org](mailto:bir@bir.org) now for more information.

### **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.

### **Science for Circular Economy / Dutch presidency event / Eindhoven, 16.06.2016**

The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) will organise a [conference](#) "Science for Circular Economy" on 16 June 2016 in Eindhoven, the Netherlands. The conference takes place under the Dutch Presidency and focuses on leading research in Europe in the field of circular economy.

### **Circular Economy / Horizon 2020 / EU funding / Liverpool, 22.06.2016**

Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) together with the Knowledge Transfer Network (KTN) and Innovate UK will organize an International circular economy, resource efficiency and eco-innovation brokerage [event](#). The focus is on financing opportunities to support the development of innovative R&D projects.