
Newsletter of the European Recycling Industries' Confederation (EuRIC)

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Member Spotlight

EuRIC Vice-President Jean Philippe Carpentier, President of FEDEREC, France

Over the last five years, how have opportunities and challenges changed for recycling companies in France? The recycling sector has changed tremendously over in only 5 years and is expected to undergo further major upheavals in the coming years.

The external factors of this profound changes are:

- European directives (ex-SUP directive, waste package)
- regulatory constraints (pollutant emissions, cross-border transfer, etc.)
- the multiplication of eco-organisms in PWR devices
- trade barriers at the borders of certain countries (import-export)
- the social impact of the circular economy

Internal factors:

- the concentration of the sector through the acquisition of companies
- the evolution of sorting and recycling technologies

The above-mentioned factors are both risks and opportunities. If we look at China's closure to the import of waste or recycled materials, this is the risk that we are facing of destabilizing material prices or saturating landfill capacity. But it is also an opportunity to create more circular value chains in Europe to retain the added value in our countries.

The major challenge of the coming years, which has always been a challenge for our profession, is the material ownership. The emergence of the concept of a circular economy, the obligations that will be imposed on marketers to incorporate recycled material will put pressure on the owners of recycled material and also on the prices of these materials. It is therefore to be expected that consumers of these materials will

seek to acquire ownership as early as possible in the process in order to minimize costs, and consequently would turn our industry into a service provider transforming the material. In conclusion, material ownership and environmental regulation issues will drive our work in the coming years.



As Vice-President of EuRIC and a Board member who actively participated to the foundation of the confederation, what do you see as being the main benefits of being a Member of EuRIC? EuRIC is essential to defend our interests because national legislations are mostly based on the European legislation. That is why FEDEREC has always defended a strong European federation with the means to achieve our objectives. Federations should increase their EuRIC budget input in order to be able to meet the challenges at European level.

What are your priorities for EuRIC as Board Member and Vice-President? EuRIC is 5 years old. It is a young organization but what a long way it has come already. Dominique Maguin, founding president, built EuRIC. Michael Schuy consolidated it. The new president Cinzia Vezzosi aims to develop our organization. This is in line with the creation of new branches and the continuous expansion of EuRIC. My priority is therefore to support and sustain the approach



of the Board and its President and to facilitate the task of the Executive Director by finding

additional funding to ensure our development.

EuRIC activities



EuRIC Working Group Meetings in October / Brussels & Antwerp

EuRIC has held several working group meetings during October. In early October, EFR-ESG, WEEE, W&C TF and EPRB Meetings took place in Brussels. Among the topics discussed was the ELV Directive revision, battery fires in WEEE as well as the implementation of the new Basel plastics entries into the OECD Decision. On 24 October, ERPA Branch Member (picture) met in Antwerp to discuss among others, end-of-waste for paper and the sampling standard. We would

like to thank all Members who actively participated to those meetings!



G20 Conference between EU & Japan / Tokyo, 8-10 October 2019

EuRIC Board Member, Daniel Houska (SVDS, Kovosrot), and EuRIC Secretary General Emmanuel Katrakis participated at the invitation of the European Commission to workshops organised in the framework of the G20 Resource Efficiency Dialogue to convey practical solutions to better recycle plastics and alleviate technical and economic obstacles hindering it as well as maximise access to finance for circular/recycling projects (green finance).

EuRIC working visit to Indonesia / Jakarta, 16 - 18 October 2019

ERPA Vice-President Andreas Otto and EuRIC Policy Officer Julia Bles met together with representatives from the EU Delegation to Indonesia with authorities in Indonesia responsible for imports of recovered paper into Indonesia. Main focus of the meetings was the advertisement of the European standard for grades of paper EN 643 as well as the exchange on planned legislative initiatives in Indonesia.



Vehicle Recycling Conference / Berlin, 22 October 2019

EuRIC Secretary General Emmanuel Katrakis participated to the Vehicle Recycling Conference in Berlin and highlighted the importance of the revision of the ELV Directive for the whole recycling sector as well as gave a comprehensive overview of the significance of the legal framework.





EuRIC participated to COBEREC's Recovered Paper Dinner / Antwerp, 24 October 2019

EuRIC Secretary General Emmanuel Katrakis and Policy Officer Julia Bles participated to COBEREC's Recovered Paper Dinner 2020, which took place at Grand Café Horta in Antwerp. The dinner was a great success with more than 80 participants from the recovered paper industry. EuRIC would like to thank COBEREC for a great evening in a stunning venue!

European institutions activities

European Commission

Public Consultation / Environmental Crime / Brussels, 10 October 2019

The European Commission has launched an [open public consultation on environmental crime](#). The public consultation aims at reviewing Directive 2008/99/EC with its objective to contribute to a more effective protection of the environment and full application of the existing environmental EU legislation through criminal law. This public consultation will run until 2 January 2020.

Feedback is open / End-of-Life Vehicles Exemptions List / Brussels, 23 October 2019

The European Commission [has published](#) a draft delegated act to update Annex II to the ELV Directive as regards four exemptions for specific applications containing lead. Feedback on the draft text is open until 20 November 2019.

Hearing of Commissioner-designate Virginijus Sinkevičius / Strasbourg, 3 October 2019

The Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, and Fisheries Committees [questioned](#) Virginijus Sinkevičius, candidate for the Environment and Oceans portfolio. During his introductory speech, Mr. Sinkevičius listed three priorities for environmental matters: biodiversity, the circular economy and zero pollution. He spoke in favour of working at global level to achieve the equivalent of the Paris climate agreement for biodiversity.

EU funds / Support for SMEs

(i) The European Commission welcomes Romania's decision to allocate an additional € 150 million from their Cohesion Policy budget to the [SME Initiative](#), which uses EU funds to leverage private financing for small and medium businesses.

(ii) The European Commission has approved, under the auspices of the state of the art, the guidelines for the construction of a highly efficient municipal waste treatment facility in Gdańsk. The beneficiary of the port is Czystej Energii Sp. Z oo ("PCE"), a municipally owned company. More information will be available on the Commission competition in the [public case register](#) under the number SA.55100.

Mergers / Commission clears acquisition of joint control over the Dublin Waste-To-Energy Facility by Munich Re, DIF, Green Investment Group and Covanta

The European Commission has approved, under the EU Merger Regulation, the acquisition of joint control over the Dublin Waste-To-Energy Facility ("DWTE") by Münchner Rückversicherungs-Gesellschaft Aktiengesellschaft in München ("Munich Re") of Germany, DIF Management Holding BV ("DIF") of the Netherlands, Green Investment Group Limited ("GIG") of the UK, controlled by the Macquarie Group of Australia, and Covanta Holding Corporation ("Covanta") of the US. More



information is available on the Commission's [competition](#) website, in the public [case register](#) under the case number [M.9523](#).

Technical Expert Group makes recommendations for methodology of EU climate benchmarks / Brussels, 30 September 2019

The Technical Expert Group on Sustainable Finance ([TEG](#)), a stakeholder group designed to assist the Commission in developing elements of green finance policy, has issued its final report on climate benchmarks. This work stems from the 2018 EU [Action Plan](#) on Sustainable Finance and follows up on the agreement by the European Parliament and Member States on a new generation of low-carbon benchmarks needed to help boost investment in sustainable projects and assets.

European Parliament

ENVI Committee Meeting / Minutes / Brussels, 23 September 2019

The European Parliament [published](#) the minutes of the 4-5 September ENVI Committee meetings which discuss among others an exchange of views with the Commission on the findings of the Fitness Check of the most relevant chemicals legislation (excluding REACH) and identified challenges, gaps and weaknesses.

Council of the European Union

Draft Conclusions / Circular Economy / Brussels, 27 September 2019

The Council of the European Union [published](#) draft conclusions on 'More circularity - Transition to a sustainable society'. The Council stresses in its conclusions that further ambitious efforts are needed to stimulate a systemic transition to a sustainable society. The circular economy is an important driver for cutting greenhouse gas emissions, respecting the planetary boundaries as well as reaching the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Taxonomy / ENVI and ECON jointly voted on beginning of negotiations / Brussels, 21 October 2019

In March 2019, at the end of the 8th legislature, the European Parliament adopted its first reading on the proposal for a regulation on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment - also known as the "taxonomy" proposal. ENVI and ECON, which are jointly responsible for this file, on Monday 21 October [voted in favour](#) to enter interinstitutional negotiations on this file.

Official Journal of the European Union

Commission Regulation / Technical progress / REACH / Brussels, 26 September 2019

Commission Regulation (EU) 2019/1390 amending, for the purpose of its adaptation to technical progress, the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 440/2008 laying down test methods pursuant to REACH [has been published](#) in the Official Journal of the EU.

Commission Delegated Decision / Food Waste / Brussels, 27 September 2019

Commission Delegated Decision (EU) 2019/1597 as regards a common methodology and minimum quality requirements for the uniform measurement of levels of food waste [has been published](#) in the Official Journal of the EU.



CEN CENELEC

CEN and ASTM International signed technical cooperation agreement / Brussels, 27 September 2019

CEN and ASTM International signed a [Technical Cooperation Agreement](#) with the aim to facilitate global dialogue and coordination in specific standardization areas of mutual interest. As a first step in their cooperation, ASTM International and CEN will establish a pilot with the involvement of the following identified technical groups of common interest. For CEN: [CEN/TC 411 'Bio-based products'](#), whose Secretariat is held by the Nederlands Normalisatie-instituut (NEN) and [CEN/TC 366 'Materials obtained from End-of-Life Tyres \(ELT\)'](#) whose Secretariat is held by the Ente Nazionale Italiano di Unificazione (UNI).

Events

Conference on the future of the LIFE Programme / Brussels, 6 - 7 November 2019

The European Commission is organising a [conference on the future of the LIFE Programme](#), covering the 2021-2027 funding period. The event will take place at the Metropole Hotel in Brussels, Belgium on 6 and 7 November 2019. The main objectives of the programme have been provisionally agreed in the next Regulation, and the task now is to prepare its implementation

Polyolefin Circular Economy Platform (PCEP) 2019 Annual Conference / Brussels, 27 November 2019

The [first Annual Conference](#) of the Polyolefin Circular Economy Platform (PCEP) will be held in Claridge Events in Brussels on Wednesday, 27 November 2019. The event is open to all PCEP members and prospective members.
