

NEWS FROM BRUSSELS 16/2020

2021 European Commission Work Programme: From strategy to delivery

The European Commission has adopted its 2021 work programme, designed to make Europe healthier, fairer and more prosperous, while accelerating its long-term transformation into a greener economy, fit for the digital age. It contains new legislative initiatives across all six headline ambitions of President von der Leyen's Political Guidelines and follows her first State of the Union Speech. While delivering on the priorities set out in this work programme, the Commission will continue to put all its efforts into managing the crisis, and into making Europe's economies and societies more resilient: https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/2021-commission-work-programme-key-documents_en

End-of-life vehicles: Revision of EU rules

EU environmental rules aim to ensure that end-of-life vehicles (ELVs) are managed sustainably. They seek to eliminate hazardous substances in cars and require that most ELV parts and materials are reused or recycled. This initiative proposes improved collection, treatment and recycling of ELVs. It aims to ensure consistency with European Green Deal objectives by encouraging the car industry to adopt a sustainable model for the design and production of cars. The Commission would like to receive feedback in this matter until 19 November 2020: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12633-Revision-of-EU-legislation-on-end-of-life-vehicles>

European Parliament leads the way on first set of EU rules for Artificial Intelligence

The European Parliament is among the first institutions to put forward recommendations on what AI rules should include with regards to ethics, liability and intellectual property rights. These recommendations will pave the way for the EU to become a global leader in the development of AI. The Commission legislative proposal is expected early next year: <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20201016IPR89544/>

Pandemic contingency plan for freight transport - Council adopts conclusions

The European Council has adopted conclusions calling on the Commission to swiftly draw up a pandemic and other major crisis contingency plan for the European freight transport sector. Such a plan should include EU-level coordination measures and clear guidelines: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/10/23/pandemic-contingency-plan-for-freight-transport-council-adopts-conclusions/>