

**NEWS FROM BRUSSELS 3/2021**

**Approval: Public support for pan-European innovation project along battery value chain**

The European Commission has approved under EU State aid rules up to 2.9 billion euros of public investments in an important project for batteries. 12 Member States – Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Slovakia, Spain and Sweden – will join forces to support research and innovation in this strategic value chain. The project, called the “European Battery Innovation” project, will cover the whole batteries ecosystem from extraction of raw materials, design and manufacturing of battery cells and packs, and finally the recycling and disposal in a circular economy:

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement\\_21\\_229](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_21_229)

**EU policy on air quality: Implementation of selected EU legislation**

The European implementation assessment (EIA) presents findings on the implementation of three major pieces of EU legislation on air quality, namely the two Ambient Air Quality Directives and the Industrial Emissions Directive, and makes recommendations for policy action. In addition, the latest research paper assesses the local policies designed and implemented with the aim of tackling air pollution from relevant sources, and, in particular, from road transport:

[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2021/654216/EPRS\\_STU\(2021\)654216\\_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2021/654216/EPRS_STU(2021)654216_EN.pdf)

**Commission staff working document: Guidance to member states recovery and resilience**

The Recovery and Resilience Task Force is in charge of coordinating and implementing the Recovery and Resilience Facility to help the European Union emerge from the coronavirus crisis and to make the economies of the Member States more resilient and better prepared for the challenges posed by the green and digital transitions. The recovery and resilience plans need to reflect a substantive reform and investment effort. Both reforms and investments must be coherent and adequately address the challenges in the individual Member State. Based on these criteria, the Commission will assess the recovery and resilience plans prepared by the Member States: [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/document\\_travail\\_service\\_part1\\_v2\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/document_travail_service_part1_v2_en.pdf)

*The Alliance of European Car Dealers and Repairers (AECDR) represents and promotes the interests of 57,500 franchised dealers and authorised repairers. In total these companies employ 1.175,000 people.*