

Article – Green Deal: key to a climate-neutral and sustainable EU



EU Climate Law

In March 2020, the Commission proposed the European Climate Law, a **legal framework** to achieve the [2050 climate neutrality goal](#). In January, Parliament had called for [more ambitious emission reduction targets](#) than those initially proposed by the Commission. The EU executive is expected to come up with a revised interim target for 2030 later in 2020.

Empowering European industry and SMEs

In March 2020, the Commission presented a new [Industrial Strategy](#) for Europe to ensure that European businesses can transition towards climate neutrality and a digital future.

As 99% of European firms are small and medium-sized enterprises (**SMEs**), accounting for 50% of the 's gross domestic product and responsible for two out of three jobs, the Commission also proposed a [new SME Strategy](#), encouraging **innovation**; cutting **red tape** and allowing better **access to finance**.

Boosting the circular economy

In addition the Commission presented the [EU Circular Economy Action Plan](#) in

March, which includes measures along the entire life cycle of products promoting circular economy processes, fostering sustainable consumption and guaranteeing less waste. It will focus on:

- electronics and ICT
- batteries and vehicles
- packaging and plastics
- textiles
- construction and buildings
- food chain