



**EEL**

**EUROPEAN  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
LAW**

**EEL News Service**

**Issue 2015/04 of 17 March 2015**

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Dear members of the EEL Network,

In this fourth issue of the EEL News Service this year, we present the latest legal and policy developments in EU Environmental Law.

We are happy to inform you that at our upcoming event "Better Regulation in the EU revisited. Improving the European Union for the benefit of business and citizens" (23 April 2015) Mr. **Frans Timmermans**, First Vice-President of the European Commission and Mr. **Piet Hein Donner**, Vice President of the Netherlands Council of State will be key note speakers. For a list of all other confirmed speakers, please see links below.

[More updated information](#) / [Final Programme with full list of speakers and chairs](#)

Furthermore, don't forget about our Asser Summer Programme on International & European Environmental Law: The Future we Choose (24-28 August 2015).

[More information](#) / [Draft Programme](#)

Kind regards,

Wybe Th. Douma

Senior Researcher EU Law / International Trade Law

T.M.C. Asser Institute

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## Case Law



**CJEU Judgement: C-531/13, *Marktgemeinde Straßwalchen and others v Bundesminister für Wirtschaft, Familie und Jugend*** (11/02/2015)

The EIA Directive (85/337/EEC) is designed to ensure that projects likely to have significant effects on the environment are made subject to an assessment prior to building consent. On several occasions this Directive has been the subject of the Court's attention. This case concerns a decision authorising Rohöl-Aufsuchungs AG to carry out exploratory drilling on the territory of the Marktgemeinde Straßwalchen, the question being:

*"Does the trial production of natural gas, for a limited period and in a limited quantity, which is carried out in the context of an exploratory drilling operation designed to establish whether the permanent extraction of natural gas would be economically viable, constitute an "extraction of ... natural gas for commercial purposes" within the meaning of Annex I, No 14, to the EIA Directive?"*

The Court follows the [opinion of Advocate General Kokott](#) (09/10/2014) and decided that: Annex I, No 14, to Council Directive 85/337/EEC, must be interpreted as meaning that exploratory drilling, in the context of which a trial production of natural gas and petroleum is envisaged in order to determine the commercial feasibility of a deposit, does not come within the scope of that provision.

In addition, the question raised how to evaluate whether such exploratory drilling, requires an assessment because it is likely to have significant effects on the environment. Here too, the Court follows the opinion of the Advocate-General and decided that:

Article 4(2) of Directive 85/337/EEC, read in conjunction with Annex II, No 2(d), must be interpreted as meaning that it may give rise to an obligation to conduct an environmental impact assessment of a deep drilling operation. The competent national authorities must accordingly carry out a specific evaluation as to whether an environmental impact assessment must be carried out, taking account of the criteria set out in Annex III and the (accumulated) impact of other projects present in the area. The assessment must not be confined to municipal boundaries.

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**CJEU Judgement: C-43/14, ŠKO–ENERGO, s.r.o. v Odvolací finanční  
ředitelství** (26/02/2015)

Directive 2003/87 establishes a scheme for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the Community. ŠKO–ENERGO acquired, free of charge, greenhouse gas emission allowances for the production of electricity. The Tax Office claims gift tax over these allowances. In this case there were doubts over whether this tax was compatible with EU law, particularly Article 10 of the Directive, which provides that at least 90% of emission allowances are to be allocated free of charge, leading to a request for a preliminary ruling on the question:

*"Must Article 10 of Directive 2003/87 be interpreted as preventing the application of provisions of national law which make the allocation free of charge of emission allowances in the relevant period subject to gift tax?"*

In the opinion of [Advocate General Kokott](#) (11/12/2014), making the allocation subject to gift tax:

- is incompatible with the principle that emission allowances are allocated free of charge under Article 10; and
- is incompatible with Article 9, where as that taxation is not provided for in the national allocation plan.

The Court held, in line with the opinion of the Advocate General, that Article 10 must be interpreted as precluding the imposition of a gift tax if it does not respect the 10% ceiling on the allocation of emission allowances for consideration laid down in that article, which is a matter for the referring court to determine.

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**CJEU Judgement:** [C-534/13, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare and others v Fipa Group Srl and others](#) (04/03/2015)

Under the Environmental Liability Directive (ELD) ([2004/35/CE](#)), the operator of a site has to bear the costs of preventive and remedial action taken in response to environmental damage on the site. However, if the operator can prove that the damage has been caused by someone else, it is not required to bear those costs. Adopting stricter national legislation is permitted by the Directive.

In this case, some severely polluted sites in Italy changed owner. The new and current owners, who did not cause the pollution, are in dispute with Italian authorities regarding the extent to which they can be held liable for remedying the damage. Italian law stipulates only that the costs of remedial work can be imposed on such owners up to the value of the sites. The Italian Council of State asks the Court of Justice whether those rules of national law are compatible with the 'polluter pays' principle implemented by the ELD.

Agreeing with the [opinion of Advocate General Kokott](#) (20/11/2014), the court ruled that the Italian legislation is consistent with the requirements of the Directive, recalling the settled case-law according to which the 'polluter pays' principle, is directed at action at EU level and cannot be relied on by individuals or administrative authorities.

Furthermore, the Court made clear that persons other than operators do not fall within the scope of the Directive and that, where no causal link can be established between the environmental damage and the activity engaged in by the operator, the situation is not governed by EU law, but by national law.

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## General



**Eurostat Publication:** [Smarter, greener, more inclusive? – Indicators to support the Europe 2020 strategy – 2015 edition](#) (02/03/2015)

The 2015 edition of 'Smarter, greener, more inclusive? — Indicators to support the Europe 2020 strategy' provides statistical support for the Europe 2020 strategy and backs up the monitoring of its five headline targets.

[Download as PDF / Executive Summary](#)

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**European Commission Press Release:** [Environment report shows benefits of EU action](#) (03/02/2015)

A new [report](#) (SOER 2015) shows that a coordinated EU environment policy has delivered substantial benefits for citizens over the past five years. Europeans enjoy cleaner air and water, send less waste to landfill and recycle more; while environmental policies drive jobs and growth.

[Download as PDF](#)

[More information on the report](#)

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## Air



**Eurostat Article:** [Air pollution by industries and households](#) (27/02/2015)

The article analyses the emissions to air of five acidifying gases and ozone precursor substances in the EU in a breakdown by industries and households that are responsible for their generation.

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**EurActiv Article:** [Air pollution will kill thousands in Europe, EEA warns](#)  
(03/02/2015)

Hundreds of thousands of Europeans will suffer a premature death in the next two decades as the result of governments' failure to act on air pollution, Europe's environmental watchdog has warned.

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**Science for Environment Policy Article:** [Fourteen days of poor air quality caused 4 000 extra healthcare visits in UK](#) (.PDF) (05/03/2015)

Real time monitoring of public health during two periods of high air pollution in the UK showed that there were an estimated 3 500 extra healthcare visits for acute respiratory symptoms and approximately 500 for severe asthma during these spells in 2014.

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## Climate Change



**EIB Press Release:** [New European support to address climate and biodiversity challenges](#) (16/02/2015)

Two new financial instruments that aim to encourage greater private sector involvement in schemes that contribute to the twin climate priorities of reducing energy use and conserving natural capital, especially biodiversity, in Europe were launched to back investment that support Europe's contribution to achieving global energy, climate and environmental goals.

**Also see:**

■ **EU Commission's Directorate-General for Climate Action Press Release**  
- [New financial instruments for environment, energy efficiency and climate action projects](#) (16/02/2015)

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**Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) Press Release:**  
[Switzerland targets 50% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030](#)  
(27/02/2015)

Switzerland aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50% relative to 1990 levels by 2030. At least 30% of this reduction must be achieved within Switzerland itself. The rest may be attained through projects carried out abroad.

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**Open Democracy Article:** [Climate-chaos migrants set to face increasingly closed borders](#) (02/02/2015)

Climate change is set to trigger dangerously soaring temperatures this century, forcing many of humankind's most vulnerable to migrate to survive. Yet the growing global obsession with border security will stifle their safe movement.

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**Euobserver Article:** [EU must do more to fight climate change, report says](#)  
(03/03/2015)

Europe needs to introduce farther-reaching policies if it wants to achieve its long-term climate target, the EU's most important environmental body (EEA) said in a [recently published report](#) (.PDF).

**Also see:**

■ **European Voice Article** - [EU environment policy needs urgent boost, agency warns](#) (03/03/2015)

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**European Voice Article:** [Conflict over when ETS reform should start](#)

(05/03/2015)

Not for the first time, a familiar east-west split is threatening to block a piece of climate change legislation in the European Union's Council of Ministers.

**Also see:**

■ **EurActiv Article** - [Strong market stability reserve a step towards green growth](#) (20/02/2015)

■ **European Parliament Press Release** - [Environment Committee backs ETS market reserve, advocates early start](#) (24/02/2015)

■ **EurActiv Article** - [European Parliament hopes to revive carbon market in 2019](#) (25/02/2015)

■ **European Parliament Press Release:** [ETS reform: everything you need to know in a nutshell](#) (26/02/2015)

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**EurActiv Article:** [France helps Fiji with COP 21 contribution](#) (05/03/2015)

The world's poorest countries will have access to financial aid from several donors, including France, to help them implement projects to cut their greenhouse gas emissions. The EU is encouraging other member states to participate, ahead of the Paris Climate Conference in December 2015.

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**EurActiv Article:** [Vella: Private sector and Juncker Plan cash can create low-carbon economy](#) (05/03/2015)

The European Union's transformation into a low carbon economy will be paid for by the private sector and, to a lesser extent, funds from the Juncker investment Plan, Environment Commissioner Karmenu Vella has said.

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**EurActiv Article:** [European Union to deliver climate pledge to United Nations](#) (06/03/2015)

EU ministers agreed to send their formal promise on how much they will cut greenhouse gas emissions to the United Nations ahead of climate change talks starting in November.

**Also see:**

■ **European Voice Article** - [EU finalises emissions pledge for UN climate summit](#) (06/03/2015)

■ **European Voice Article** - [EU adopts UN climate offer](#) (06/03/2015)

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**Euobserver Article:** [EU nations climate-minded at home, but promoting coal products abroad](#) (10/03/2015)

EU states like France and Germany might be talking up their climate-change-fighting credentials at home, but they are also helping companies export technology for power plants that run on coal, the most polluting of the fossil fuels.

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**Open Democracy Article:** [Corporate concern for human rights essential to tackle climate change](#) (12/03/2015)

We have the means to create a green and equitable economy, but first corporations must embrace sustainable growth strategies that include a concern for human rights.

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## Energy



## Newsletter of the EU Commission's Directorate-General for Energy:

[Energy in Europe – February 2015](#)

The latest news on Energy.

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### **EEA Report:** [Renewable energy in Europe - approximated recent growth and knock-on effects](#) (17/02/2015)

This report introduces several methods the European Environment Agency (EEA) has developed for assessing and communicating early RES growth and the important knock-on effects that RES growth has on the energy sector and related areas. The report provides specific information at EU and country level on estimated RES progress in 2013, estimated gross avoided carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions and avoided fossil fuel use due to the additional use of renewable energy since 2005, as well as an assessment of the statistical impacts of growing RES use on primary energy consumption.

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### **EurActiv Article:** [Berlin sues European Commission in dispute over renewables law](#) (18/02/2015)

The German government is challenging the European Commission before the European Court of Justice (ECJ) in the hopes of achieving clarity once and for all over Germany's 2012 Renewable Energies Act (EEG), which Brussels still considers to be state aid.

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**European Voice Article:** [Orbán criticises Commission's plan for energy union](#) (23/02/2015)

Hungary and the European Commission appear to be on a collision course on energy issues, a disagreement which could disrupt the European Union's energy union strategy. Orbán has in recent months sought to strengthen Hungary's energy ties with Russia, at a time when the rest of Europe is doing the opposite. He said that the EU "is heading into an energy union that hinders national sovereignty".

**Also see:**

■ **EurActiv Article** - [Putin and Orbán contemplate stronger energy ties](#) (18/02/2015)

■ **EurActiv Article** - [Commission wants to vet member states' energy deals](#) (18/02/2015)

■ **European Voice Article** - [Putin grants Hungary easier gas terms](#) (19/02/2015)

■ **EurActiv Article** - [Orbán says EU's Energy Union is a threat to Hungary](#) (20/02/2015)

■ **EurActiv Video** - [Šefčovič hopes to convince Orbán to disclose energy agreements](#) (25/02/2015)

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**JRC Article:** [Geothermal energy – new report analyses the sector](#) (24/02/2015)

A new [JRC report](#) (.PDF) analyses the geothermal energy sector in the EU, assessing the status of the technology, ongoing developments, related policies and markets. Findings suggest that even if the market share of geothermal power in the European Union is currently only 0.2 %, the potential for utilising this resource in Europe, and globally, is large.

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**European Commission Press Release:** [Commission withdraws Court case against Poland for failing to transpose EU rules](#) (26/02/2015)

The Renewable Energy Directive (Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources) aims at ensuring a 20% share of renewable energy in the EU by 2020. The Directive had to be transposed by the Member States by 5 December 2010.

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**EurActiv Article:** [Bulgaria scraps incentives for new renewable energy installations](#) (27/02/2015)

Bulgaria's parliament scrapped preferential prices for new renewable energy installations as the country is struggling to cut deficits in the energy sector and keep a lid on consumers' utility bills.

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**European Voice Article:** [EU member states evasive on shale-gas activities](#) (02/02/2015)

The European Commission's attempts to gain an overview of shale-gas extraction and exploration in the EU have not been greeted enthusiastically by most member states.

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**Open Democracy Article:** [With corporate energy, we're stuck in the dark ages – let's switch to public ownership](#) (04/03/2015)

Fuel poverty, constant price hikes, billions siphoned off to shareholders - the private energy market has failed in social terms. It's time for democratic control of energy.

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**European Commission Press Release: [Completing the internal energy market: €100 million released to connect European energy networks](#)**

(05/03/2015)

On 5 march, the Commission opened the call for proposals under the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) to help finance key trans-European energy infrastructure projects. €100 million will be made available for projects aimed at ending energy isolation, eliminating energy bottlenecks and to complete the European energy market.

**Also see:**

- **European Commission Press Release - [Building the Energy Union: Key electricity interconnection between France and Spain completed](#)** (20/02/2015)
  - **European Commission - [Electricity Interconnection Fact Sheet](#)** (25/02/2015)
  - **European Commission Press Release - [President Juncker and the leaders of France, Spain and Portugal agree on the way forward to better connect the Iberian Peninsula with the rest of the EU energy market](#)** (04/03/2015)
  - **EurActiv Article: [EU moves to improve Energy Union interconnections](#)** (05/03/2015)
  - **EurActiv Article: [Bulgaria lacks political will to build interconnectors, says Commission](#)** (06/03/2015)
  - **Website - [EU Commission's Directorate-General for Energy](#)**
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**EurActiv Article:** [Energy Union stutters on efficiency](#) (09/03/2015)

Experts are divided on whether the European Commission's proposals to foster an Energy Union are strong enough to drive forward energy efficiency measures, and in particular the renovation of existing buildings.

**Also see:**

■ **EurActiv Article** - [Energy Union will be built on public guarantees for private investment, says Cañete](#) (17/02/2015)

■ **EurActiv Article** - [Energy Union targets renewables subsidies, boosts idle coal plants](#) (20/02/2015)

■ **European Commission** - [Energy Union Fact Sheet](#) (25/02/2015)

■ **European Voice Article** - [Modest measures for promoting EU energy union](#) (25/02/2015)

■ **European Parliament Press Release** - [Buzek: "Energy union can help to boost economic growth and jobs"](#) (25/02/2015)

■ **Committee of the Regions Press Release** - [Small-scale projects and effective partnerships key to Energy Union success](#) (26/02/2015)

■ **European Voice Article** - [Energy ministers clash over nuclear power](#) (05/03/2015)

■ **Euobserver Article** - [Energy union talks show signs of divisions to come](#) (06/03/2015)

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**EurActiv Article:** [European offshore wind sector faces make-or-break 2020, EY says](#) (11/03/2015)

Wind power companies such as Vestas, Siemens and Dong need Europe's installed offshore capacity to more than double and costs to be cut by a fifth within five years to compete with other fuels, an industry report said on Tuesday 10 March.

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**EurActiv Article:** [Why is Europe wasting its cheapest, cleanest energy resource?](#) (11/03/2015)

Behavioural energy efficiency programmes could help European consumers save 12 billion kilowatt-hours of energy and €2.4 billion, writes Alex Laskey.

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**Euobserver Article:** [Energy savings label under fire in the Netherlands](#)

(11/03/2015)

All Dutch home-owners were sent a preliminary energy label in January and February. The letters were sent to inform citizens of just-in-force EU rules, but critics say the government did not implement them properly. And many home-owners have been taken aback by their bad grade - even if it is only an initial assessment.

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**EurActiv Article:** [Brussels toughens up on policing EU energy efficiency laws](#)

(12/03/2015)

EU leaders will discuss strengthening the enforcement of existing energy laws at their 19 March summit, after the European Commission signalled it would toughen its policing of efficiency rules by launching infringement procedures against recalcitrant EU Member States.

**Also see:**

■ **EurActiv Article** - [EuroAce: Energy Union should push EU efficiency laws](#)

(10/03/2015)

■ **EurActiv Video** - [Commission to regulate and incentivise building energy efficiency](#) (12/03/2015)

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## Nature & Agriculture



**EurActiv Article:** [The future of farming in Europe: Let's get the CAP to work on productivity](#) (17/02/2015)

Productivity should become the central feature for assessing the last CAP reform, says Gilles Dryancour.



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**European Voice Article:** [MEPs take on Commission's organic farming proposal](#) (19/02/2015)

The European Parliament's committee on environment, public health and food safety (ENVI) discuss adding a "polluter pays" principle to the European Commission's proposal on organic farming.

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**Eurostat News Release:** [Agriculture, forestry and fishery statistics](#) (.PDF) (20/02/2015)

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**ECA Special Report:** [Is EU support for preventing and restoring damage to forests caused by fire and natural disasters well managed?](#) (24/02/2014)

In the 2007–13 programming period, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) provided support for restoring forestry potential in forests damaged by natural disasters and fire, as well as for preventive actions. The Court's audit concludes that the support was not sufficiently well managed and that the Commission and the Member States cannot demonstrate that the intended results were achieved in a cost-effective way.

[Download as PDF](#)

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**European Voice Article:** [MEPs stand their ground on biofuel](#) (24/02/2015)

Members of the European Parliament's environment committee voted to stand by an original position to cap the use of crops to make biofuel and to account for their negative impact on the climate.

**Also see:**

- **Oxfam Article** - [Oxfam welcomes European Parliament vote to lower cap on biofuels threatening food security](#)
- **EurActiv Article** - [Biofuels: Which future are you working for?](#) (16/02/2015)
- **EurActiv Article** - [Europe needs to introduce practical incentives for best biofuels](#) (18/02/2015)
- **EurActiv Article** - [Biofuels: Good news and false solutions](#) (20/02/2015)
- **EurActiv Article** - [EU lawmakers back 6% cap on food-based biofuels](#) (25/02/2015)

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**Open Democracy Article:** [Tough to swallow: TTIP's threat to our food and farming](#) (26/02/2015)

For a decade, dozens of trade deals have been negotiated, signed and implemented without garnering much public attention in Europe. So what is it about the EU-US trade deal, currently being hammered out, that has caused such an outcry?

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**European Voice Article:** [All eyes on Juncker for GM crops decision](#) (05/03/2015)

The hard-fought compromise on genetically-modified (GM) crops will call into question the inviolability of the European single market, so what happens with GMs in the coming weeks and months could have repercussions far beyond the world of maize, wheat and potatoes.

**Also see:**

- **European Voice Article** - [First GM crop to be approved following authorisation agreement](#) (26/02/2015)
  - **EurActiv Article** - [MEPs, NGOs at odds over effect of Europe's GMO stance on developing world](#) (27/02/2015)
  - **European Voice Article** - [Juncker faces test on GM crops](#) (02/03/2015)
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**EurActiv Article:** [It's time for the EU to get serious about wildlife crime](#) (05/02/2015)

At this year's UN World Wildlife Day, people and organisations all over the world celebrated the stunning diversity of flora and fauna around the planet, writes Catherine Bearder MEP.

**Also see:**

- **EurActiv Article** - [How lax legislation is killing the wildlife in Europe](#) (03/03/2015)
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**Open Democracy Article:** [To address the global food crisis, we have to address the power of big agribusiness](#) (08/03/2015)

There is plenty of evidence that the livelihoods of farmers and communities can be improved, and that agroecology can deliver a huge range of other benefits.

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## Transport



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**European Voice Article:** [EU failing on river transport](#) (03/03/2015)

Eighty years ago, Europe's rivers and canals were bustling with activity, with boats transporting passengers and goods between cities. Today, many of those inland waterways sit empty, appreciated more for their aesthetic value than their commercial potential.

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**EurActiv Article:** [EU efforts to promote sea transport bring little progress](#) (04/03/2015)

Almost 40% of goods traded within the European Union are transported by sea, a cleaner alternative to road transport. Despite efforts from Brussels to promote maritime transport, the sector's market share within the EU has not grown in the last 15 years.

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**EurActiv Article:** [Sulphur Directive pushes shipping into stormy waters](#)

(05/03/2015)

The European Union's Sulphur Directive limits sulphur emissions from commercial shipping to 0.1%, in a zone that extends from the English Channel to the Baltic Sea. Enforcing the regulation is proving problematic for member states.

**Also see:**

■ **EMSA publication** - [New limits for the sulphur content of marine fuels](#)

(02/03/2015)

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**EurActiv Article:** [French MEP: Shipping is transport for the future](#) (06/02/2015)

Europe is a global leader in maritime transport, a sector which emits 15 times less CO2 than road haulage. Yet, the European Union has so far failed to develop so-called "motorways of the sea", Dominique Riquet told EurActiv France.

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**EurActiv Article:** [Electric cars could cut oil imports 40% by 2030, says study](#)

(11/03/2015)

Electric cars could cut the UK's oil imports by 40% and reduce drivers' fuel bills by £13bn if deployed on a large scale, according to a [new study](#).

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**EurActiv Article:** [Parliament backs the introduction of safer trucks in 2022](#)

(12/03/2015)

The European Parliament approved new rules on Tuesday (10 March) allowing manufacturers to build larger and more aerodynamic trucks that supporters say will improve road safety and reduce polluting emissions.

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## Waste



**Eurostat Article:** [Waste shipment statistics](#) (16/02/2015)

The article discusses statistics on transboundary waste shipments in the EU.

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**Euobserver Article:** [The circular economy: Europe's next big thing](#)

(11/03/2015)

The circular economy is Europe's next big thing, with a potential to bring major growth, leading industrialists predict.

**Also see:**

■ **BlogActiv Entry** - [Circular Economy package officially dead](#) (25/02/2015)

■ **BlogActiv Entry** - [The end of the Circular Economy – but not for us](#)  
(02/03/2015)

■ **EurActiv Article:** [Commission under pressure over circular economy](#)  
(03/03/2015)

■ **EurActiv Article** - [EEA boss: Juncker plan and Energy Union should drive circular economy](#) (03/03/2015)

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**Science for Environment Policy Article:** [Carbon footprint of food waste not necessarily related to its weight](#) (.PDF) (05/03/2015)

The carbon footprint of food waste should be taken into account alongside the the weight of food wasted, says a new study. The research examined three years of food waste data from six branches of a Swedish supermarket and calculated the waste's carbon footprint. On the basis of their footprint, key products that could be targeted for waste reduction include beef mince, meatballs and cream, the results suggest.

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**EurActiv Article:** [Academics probe built-in obsolescence of fridges, notebooks](#) (06/03/2015)

Researchers at the Öko-Institut and the University of Bonn found that consumers were replacing their fridges, flatscreen TVs and notebooks more and more frequently. But how much of that is down to "built-in obsolescence" is still unclear.

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## Water



**European Commission Press Release:** [Commission takes Greece to Court over poor waste water treatment presenting a risk to public health](#) (26/02/2015)

In the EU, Member States need adequate collection and treatment systems for urban waste water, as untreated water poses risks to human health, inland waters and the marine environment. Greece was first warned in 2010 about this particular case, which concerns areas with a population in a range between 2000 and 15000. Although many of the original concerns have since been addressed, the scale of the remaining problems has now led the Commission to refer the case to the EU's Court of Justice.

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## Events



## 18 March 2015

**Event:** Conference

**Topic/Title:** Implementing the EU 2030 climate and energy framework: a closer look at renewables

**Organisation:** Centre for European Policy Studies ([CEPS](#))

**Venue:** CEPS Conference Room, Place du Congrès 1, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

[More information](#)

## 25 March 2015

**Event:** EurEau Conference

**Topic/Title:** Water Matters

**Organisation:** [EurEau](#)

**Venue:** Bozar Centre for fine Arts, Rue Ravenstein 23, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

[More information](#)

## 25 - 27 March 2015

**Event:** The 15th International Wildlife Law Conference

**Topic/Title:** Environmental law and policy in the EU

**Organisation:** [University of Granada Faculty of Law](#), [EFFACE](#) and [Stetson University College of Law's Institute for Biodiversity Law](#)

**Venue:** Granada, Spain

[More information](#)

## 31 March 2015

**Event:** 8th Forum for the Future of Agriculture (FFA2015)

**Topics include:** The future of EU agricultural production, environmental conservation and consumer's well-being.

**Organisation:** European Landowners Organization ([ELO](#)) & [Syngenta](#)

**Venue:** The Square, Glass Entrance, Rue Mont des Arts, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium

[More information](#)

## 23 April 2015

**Event:** Unique symposium (Part of the Asser 50th anniversary celebrations)

**Topic/Title:** Better Regulation in the EU revisited. Improving the European Union for the benefit of business and citizens.

**Organisation:** [T.M.C. Asser Instituut](#)

**Venue:** T.M.C. Asser Instituut, R.J. Schimmelpennincklaan 20-22, 2517 JN - The Hague, The Netherlands

[More information](#) / [Final Programme \(.PDF\)](#) / [Other Asser 50 Years Events](#)

## 1 May - 31 October 2015

**Event:** EXPO 2015

**Topic/Title:** Feeding the planet: energy for life

**Organisation:** Bureau International des Expositions ([BIE](#))

**Venue:** Milan, Italy

[More information](#) / [EU at EXPO Milano website](#)

## 18 – 19 May 2015

**Event:** Workshop

**Topic/Title:** Novel Approaches to Climate Governance and the Role of Entrepreneurship

**Organisation:** COST - Innovations in Climate Governance ([INOGOV](#))

**Venue:** Amsterdam, The Netherlands

[More information](#)

## 25 – 29 May 2015

**Event:** 2015 INSPIRE – Geospatial World Forum Conference

**Topic/Title:** Convergence: Policies + Practices + Processes via PPP

**Organisation:** [European Commission](#) and [Geospatial Media and Communications](#)

**Venue:** Lisbon Congress Center, Lisbon, Portugal

[More Information](#)



## 29 – 30 May 2015

**Event:** 2015 EU-Arctic Conference

**Topic/Title:** European Union and the Arctic

**Organisation:** [Dundee University School of Law](#) & K.G. Jensen Centre for the Law of the Sea ([JCLoS](#))

**Venue:** University of Dundee, Dundee, Scotland, UK

[More Information](#)

## 2 – 5 June 2015

**Event:** Workshop

**Topic/Title:** The External Dimension of European Union Environmental Policy (EEEP): Pursuing environmental norms, rules and policies beyond borders

**Organisation:** Centre for the Study of Governance Innovation ([GovInn](#)), University of Pretoria

**Venue:** Pretoria, South Africa

[More information](#)

## 25 - 26 June 2015

**Event:** Inaugural workshop of the UACES CRN

**Topic/Title:** European Energy Policy

**Organisation:** [UACES CRN on the European Energy Policy](#)

**Venue:** Norwich Business School, University of East Anglia, United Kingdom

[More information](#)

## 24 - 28 August 2015

**Event:** Summer Programme on International & European Environmental Law

**Topic/Title:** International & European Environmental Law: The Future We Choose

**Organisation:** [T.M.C. Asser Instituut](#)

[More information](#) / [Draft programme](#) (.PDF)

**2 - 4 September 2015**

**Event:** Conference

**Topic/Title:** Effectiveness of Environmental Law

**Organisation:** European Environmental Law Forum ([EELF](#))

**Venue:** Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Internationales et Communautaires ([CERIC](#)), University of Aix/Marseille, Aix en Provence, France

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