



ENERGY

Brussels controversially labels gas and nuclear energy as green despite a growing backlash: The great debate on gas and nuclear energy to be labelled as green has ended with the Commission's decision to do so despite the controversy. Some gas and nuclear projects will be added to the EU Taxonomy, making up a list of projects that substantially contribute to the EU environmental objectives. The reticency of some Member States has been addressed by the Commission, affirming this is a real solution to get the 2050 climate neutrality objective and that this inclusion is to be done under strict conditions and surveillance.

Commission presents Complementary Climate Delegated Act to accelerate decarbonisation: The Commission presented Taxonomy Complementary Climate Delegated Act. It covers climate change mitigation and some gas and nuclear activities. The climate-neutral objective of the EU needs private investment support and aims at guiding them to achieve the Union's environmental goals. The presented act includes new economic activities to the EU taxonomy and introduces specific gas and nuclear sectors' activities requirements. Once translated, the Parliament and Council will have four months to scrutinise and object to it. If not objected, the document will enter into force on January 1, 2023

DIGITAL & TECHNOLOGY

New approach to enable global leadership of EU standards promoting values and a resilient, green and digital Single Market: Standardisation is a crucial pillar for the EU Single Market and competitiveness globally. Now more than ever, the green and digital transitions, the climate-neutral goals and a resilient economy need strong and common European Standards. This will allow the EU to maintain its position in the global sphere and continue to export its values. The new strategy for standardisation aims at responding to the before-mentioned needs. It includes standardisation needs in strategic areas, governance of European standardisation, European leadership in the sector, innovation and next generation preparedness.

EU auditors raise the alarm about delays and security risks in the rollout of 5G networks: 5G networks are expected to introduce considerable advances to the previous 3G and 4G. The EU has also estimated that benefits from this new generation network could amount to 113€ billion benefits and create 2.3 million jobs. Member States adopted in 2016 an action plan for the rolling out of 5G in all urban areas by 2025 and in 2020 further target EU-wide 5G by 2030. The Union supports its Members in the task but vendors being from outside the EU is a problem seeing that EU standards are usually higher, and vendors outside them are high-risk. Due to this, member states are using the EU toolbox to protect sensitive parts of the network.

AGRICULTURE

CAP plans unlikely to be adopted before September, says Commission: With the CAP adopted, the next step was to submit national strategic plans to the Commission by January 2022. Reality showed that the deadline was far from achievable, and the EU does not expect approval of the first plans before September this year, which would only be possible for those submitted on time. This delay in the strategic plans hugely affects farmers who should know about these plans before summer to prepare for next year. Even if the Commission is worried about the delays and their impact, there are no foreseen penalties as they say said delays will backfire to the member states by themselves.

MOBILITY

Urban mobility: new Commission guidance on regulating taxis and private hire vehicles for more sustainable, accessible and fair services: The European Commission has published a guidance note for taxis and private vehicles. With this guide, the EU aims for a much more integrated public mobility, fewer empty runs and encouraging pooling of passengers. The EU wants to show the Member States that these mobility services can indeed be more sustainable, accessible, and fair with due regulations. This document is framed inside the European Green deal and is the first deliverable of the Urban mobility Framework.