

#TRENDY THURSDAY

MIGRATION

Commission to amend migration law before start

The European Commission is pushing to fast-track key parts of the Pact on Migration and Asylum ahead of its full implementation, expected by June next year. The Commission aims to swiftly process asylum applications from individuals coming from countries where fewer than 20% of applicants are granted asylum across the EU. At the same time, the Commission is proposing to give Member States greater flexibility in managing their own national lists of safe countries of origin. To set the groundwork, the Commission has introduced an initial list of safe countries of origin, which includes Bangladesh, Colombia, Egypt, India, Kosovo, Morocco, and Tunisia.

ENERGY

EU strategy to cut on Russian oil expected for next month

The European Commission's roadmap to end Russian energy imports—which aims to entirely phasing out dependence on Russian energy supplies by 2027—will finally be unveiled on Tuesday, May 6th, the Commission has confirmed. After being postponed twice without a specified future date, the Commission is now set to publish the long-awaited energy strategy next month. Although the Commission has not yet confirmed what tools it plans to propose to accelerate the phase-out of Russian energy, increased fuel purchases from the US are expected, particularly following negotiations between the US and the EU on export tariffs.

HEALTH

A stronger EU framework for rare diseases

Under the Polish EU Council Presidency, experts and policymakers gathered in Warsaw to take a crucial step toward a comprehensive EU action plan on rare diseases. The meeting's goal was to build a coordinated framework that complements existing legislation, supports investments and strengthens cooperation at both EU and national levels. Rare diseases affect over than 36 million people across Europe, but "only 6% of them have access to treatment—and not in every country", remarked Adam Jarubas, Chair of the Public Health Committee in the European Parliament. Commissioner for Health Olivér Várhelyi underscored the EU's commitment, announcing €77 million in funding to advance early diagnosis, prevention and equitable access to affordable care.



ENVIRONMENT

New roadmap on product circularity

The European Commission has adopted the 2025-2030 working plan to promote sustainable, repairable, circular and energy efficient products across Europe. The plan introduces a list of priority products for ecodesign and labelling requirements, based on their potential to contribute to the circular economy. Steel and aluminium, textiles and furniture will be subject to significantly stricter design standards in terms of product performance and information. The working plan "will deliver significant benefits for all Europeans, create opportunities for businesses and employment, and protect the planet through proven impact on reducing emissions", said Commissioner Séjourné.

EUROPEAN UNION

Commission mobilizes €1.6 billion for Palestine

Ahead of the first-ever High-Level Political Dialogue between the European Union and the Palestinian Authority, the European Commission is proposing a Multiannual Comprehensive Support Programme amounting to €1.6 billion to support Palestine's recovery and resilience. Covering the 2025-2027 period, the programme aims to address the most urgent needs of Palestinian people, support the recovery and stabilization of the West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza and strengthen the private sector. The EU Comprehensive Programme for Palestine reflects the Commission's proposal resulting from further discussions with the Palestinian Authority.

DIGITAL

Help shape the future of EU Cybersecurity

The European Commission has launched a public consultation on the evaluation and revision of the EU Cybersecurity Act. This initiative seeks to strengthen the EU's cybersecurity landscape by making rules simpler, reducing administrative burdens, and creating a regulatory environment that better supports businesses and innovation. The review will also assess the mandate of the EU Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA) and the effectiveness of the European Cybersecurity Certification Framework. Your insights matter. Whether you're from industry, civil society, academia or public administration, this is your opportunity to contribute to shaping a more secure and resilient digital Europe.