

EU Policy & legal developments



21st February 2024, Leuven

Commission work programme 2024 - Delivering today and preparing for tomorrow

- delivered on over **90% of the commitments** made in the 2019 Political Guidelines
- contains a **limited number of new initiatives** that deliver on existing commitments or respond to emerging challenges.
- **The European Green Deal remains a central part of the Commission's work.**
- remain **committed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** and its SDGs.
- The Commission will put the development of artificial intelligence tools and large language models at the core of this exercise.
- evaluations of programmes and funds of the multiannual financial framework, due in 2024, offers another opportunity to assess how to reduce burdens linked to the EU's financial programmes.
- will launch the process to establish a 2040 climate target, to keep the EU on course towards climate neutrality by 2050.

New initiatives in the 2024 Work Programme

A European Green Deal

1	Wind power package	European wind power package (non-legislative, Q4 2023)
2	2040 climate target	2040 climate target (non-legislative, Q1 2024)
3	Water resilience	Initiative for water resilience (non-legislative, Q1 2024)

A Europe Fit for the Digital Age

4	A safe space for the green and digital transition	EU space law (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Articles 114 and 191 TFEU, Q1 2024) Strategy on space data economy (non-legislative, Q1 2024)
5	Artificial intelligence to serve European innovation and competitiveness	Initiative to open up European supercomputer capacity to ethical and responsible artificial intelligence start-ups (legislative and non-legislative, Q1 2024)

An Economy that Works for People

6	Biotech and biomanufacturing	EU biotech and biomanufacturing initiative (non-legislative, Q1 2024)
7	Social dialogue	Follow-up to the Val Duchesse summit (Q1/Q2 2024)
8	Green and digital transition, open strategic autonomy	Advanced materials for industrial leadership (non-legislative, Q1 2024)
9	European Works Council	Initiative on rules on the European Works Council (legislative or non-legislative, incl. impact assessment, Article 153(2)(b), in conjunction with Article 153(1)(e) TFEU, Q1 2024, responds to Article 225 TFEU resolution P9_TA(2023)0028 'Revision of the European Works Councils Directive')

A Stronger Europe in the World

10	Strengthening partnerships	Joint Communication on a strengthened partnership with Africa (non-legislative, Q2 2024)
11	European defence	European defence industrial strategy (legislative and/or non-legislative, Q1 2024)

Promoting our European Way of Life

12	Fight against migrant smuggling	Update the legal framework and strengthen co-operation to fight the smuggling of migrants (non-legislative and/or legislative, Articles 83(2) and 79(2)(c) TFEU, Q4 2023)
13	A joint European degree	Joint European degree (non-legislative, Q2 2024) Council Recommendation on attractive and sustainable careers in higher education (non-legislative, Articles 165 and 166 TFEU, Q2 2024) Council Recommendation on a European quality assurance and recognition system (non-legislative, Articles 165 and 166 TFEU, Q2 2024)

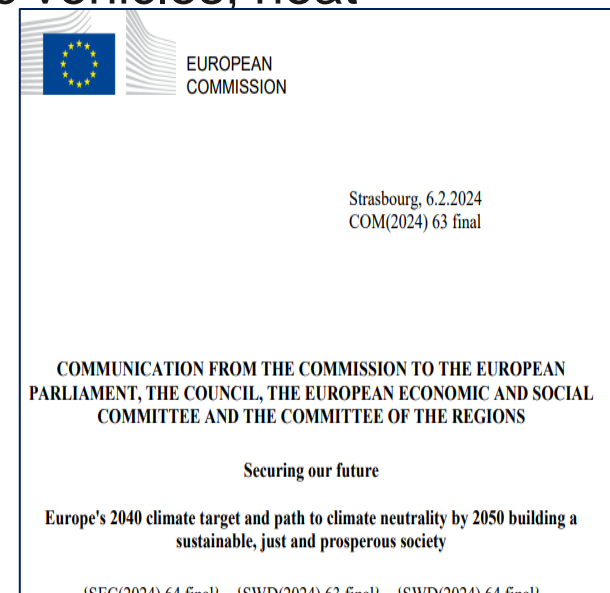
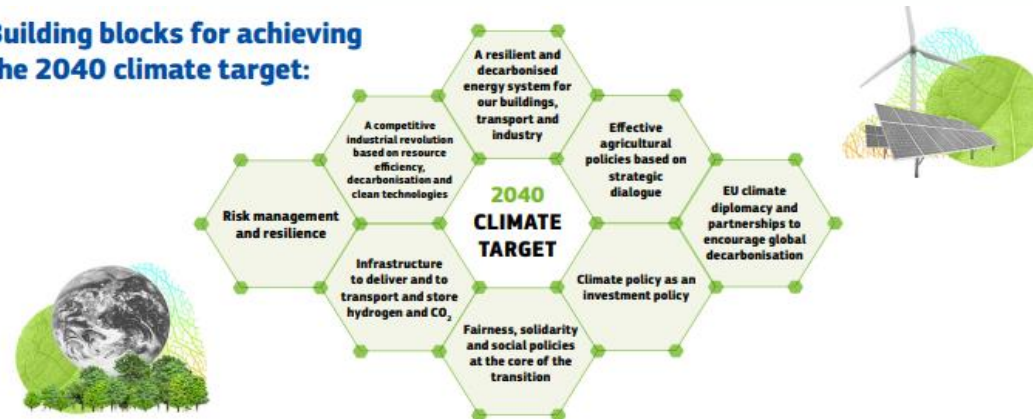
A New Push for European Democracy

14	Preparing for enlargement	Communication on pre-enlargement reforms and policy reviews (non-legislative, Q2 2024)
15	Child protection	Commission Recommendation on integrated child protection systems (non-legislative, Article 292 TFEU, Q1 2024)

Recommendations for 2040 targets to reach climate neutrality by 2050

- ❑ fully implement existing EU laws to reduce emissions by at least 55% by 2030
- ❑ decarbonise industry by relying on existing strengths like wind power, hydropower, and electrolysers.
- ❑ increase domestic manufacturing in growth sectors like batteries, electric vehicles, heat pumps, solar cells and others
- ❑ keep fairness, solidarity and social policies at the core of the transition
- ❑ have an open dialogue with all concerned, including farmers, businesses, social partners and citizens

Building blocks for achieving the 2040 climate target:



REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

laying down measures for a high level of public sector interoperability across the Union (Interoperable Europe Act)

6 February 1st reading text adopted
Awaiting Council's 1st reading position

WHO is adressed

- Public sector bodies of Member States and Union institutions, agencies & bodies

WHAT is layed down

- measures to promote the cross-border interoperability of network and information systems which are used to provide or manage public services or **Trans-European public services**
- by establishing common rules and a framework for coordination on the public sector interoperability, with the
- aim of fostering the development of interoperable trans-European digital public services infrastructure

HOW

- **Mandatory interoperability assessments** to evaluate the impact of changes in IT systems related to cross-border interoperability in the EU
- Sharing on request or by publication on the Interoperable Europe Portal or a linked Portal
- **Interoperable Europe Board**



Benefits of the Data Act

Consumers and businesses generate data by using products and services.
With the Data Act, they will benefit from:

◆ Cheaper prices for aftermarket services and reparation of their **connected objects**.

A factory robot breaks down.



TODAY

Only the manufacturer can access the data, leaving no alternative for the company but to call them for repairing.

TOMORROW

The user could request that a repair service that may be cheaper also gets access to the data.

◆ New opportunities to use services relying on access to this data.

A farmer has equipment from different manufacturers (tractor, automatic irrigation system).



He cannot outsource the data analytics of its different equipment, the data is locked with each manufacturer.

He could receive customised advices from a company gathering data from the different equipment.

◆ Better access to data collected or produced by a device.

A bar owner wants to serve better coffee, and the coffeemaker company wants to improve its product.



Only the company can access the data produced by the machine to design the next generation of coffeemakers but the bar owner cannot access information such as the quantity and temperature of water or coffee strength.

The Data Act clarifies that both parties can access all data collected by the machine.

Public sector bodies will be able to access and use data held by the private sector

1. to help respond to **public emergencies such as floods and wildfires**, or
2. **when implementing a legal mandate where the required data is not readily available through other means.**

Entered in force on 11 Jan 24 -
applicable as of 11 September 2025

Open data and the re-use of PSI directive state of play

- ❑ Transposition deadline expired on 17 July 2021 - four Member States having been referred to the Court of Justice of the EU in early 2023
- ❑ Evaluation of the directive **no sooner than 17 July 2025**. There are two steps: the evaluation and review part to examine how the Directive works in the Member States. After that, the Commission could decide to go on with the revision.
- ❑ HVD Regulation applicable from 9 June 2024 - Member States to report on their HVDs to the Commission from February 2025.
- ❑ The study to help identify possible new thematic categories of HVDs is procured.

Multiple **obstacles** shall be overcome to effectively leverage available data

- Legal framework that needs to be modernised
- Complex technical requirements
- Parallel implementations on the national level
- Rapidly evolving technological landscape
- Many opportunities created by the horizontal legislation defined by the European Strategy for data
- Data Act, Data Governance Act, HVD implementing provisions

Science for policy – beyond INSPIRE – JRC team

Actions

- Legal

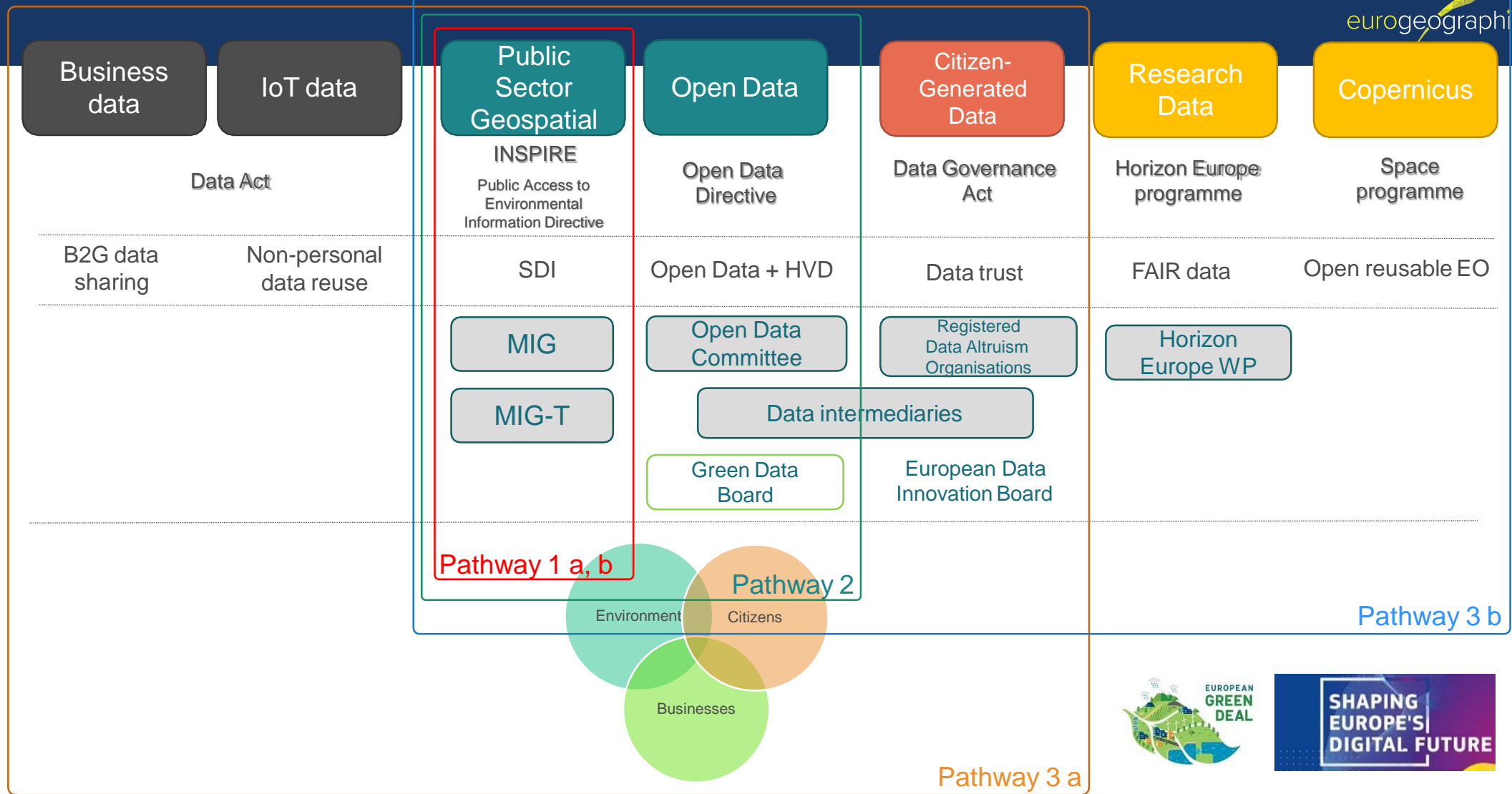
1. Avoid overspecification in legislation
2. Use a simple licensing framework

- Organisational

1. Embrace co-design by default
2. Rethink the existing governance structures
3. Adopt an ecosystem approach

- Technological

1. Continue to improve the discoverability and accessibility of data
2. Ensure neutrality and embrace well-adopted standards and technologies
3. Avoid custom extensions
4. Embrace well-documented, standard-based APIs
5. Optimise data for search engines
6. Leverage on the developments of federated European cloud infrastructure



Pathway 3 a

Preparation in 2024 for actions in 2025

TO BE AWARE OF

1. SDGs Resolution & follow up
2. DestinE – link with Digital Europe
3. Political guidance for the future of the EU's Copernicus programme "Copernicus by 2035"

TO BE PREAPRED

Open data & PSI re-use
Directive Implementation
assessment

HVD possible new categories
of HVD

ACTION

GreenData4All
initiative is
drive for
INSPIRE
review

EU GENERATION 2024 - 2029

New Parliament's
constituent Plenary with the
new President

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European Commission
President takes office

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July 2024

New European Council
President takes office

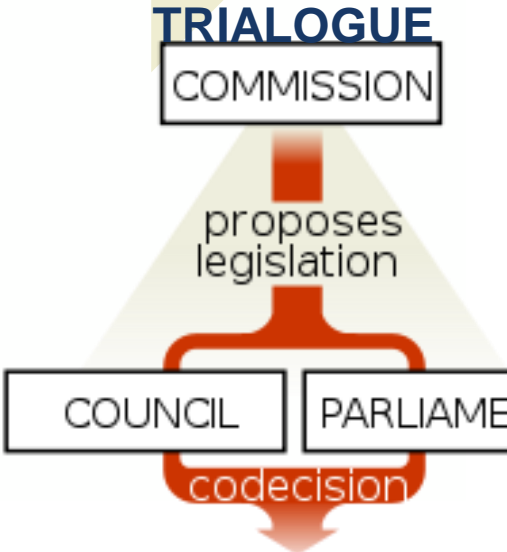
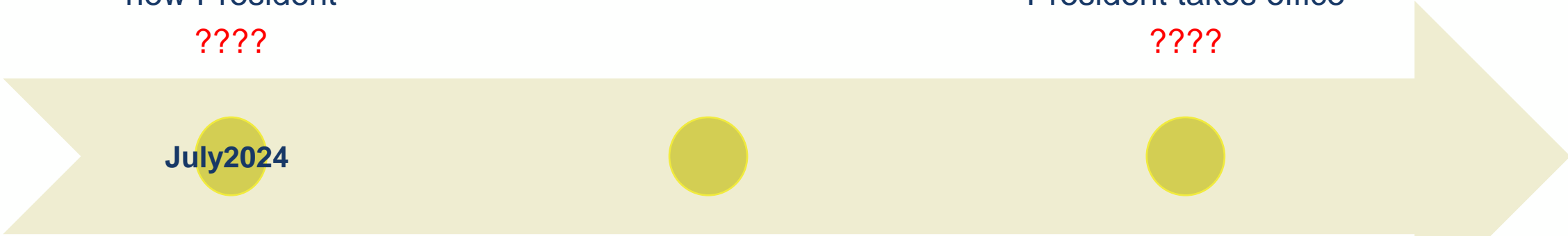
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TRIALOGUE
COMMISSION

proposes
legislation

COUNCIL | PARLIAMENT

codecision



Mix, Mingle & Network



Thank you

