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

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<th>A European Green Deal</th>
<th>A Stronger Europe in the World</th>
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<td><strong>1. Wind power package</strong></td>
<td><strong>10. Strengthening partnerships</strong></td>
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<td>European wind power package (non-legislative, Q4 2023)</td>
<td>Joint Communication on a strengthened partnership with Africa (non-legislative, Q2 2024)</td>
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<td><strong>2. 2040 climate target</strong></td>
<td><strong>11. European defence</strong></td>
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<td>2040 climate target (non-legislative, Q1 2024)</td>
<td>European defence industrial strategy (legislative and/or non-legislative, Q1 2024)</td>
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<td><strong>3. Water resilience</strong></td>
<td><strong>Promoting our European Way of Life</strong></td>
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<td>Initiative for water resilience (non-legislative, Q1 2024)</td>
<td><strong>12. Fight against migrant smuggling</strong></td>
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<td><strong>A Europe Fit for the Digital Age</strong></td>
<td>Update the legal framework and strengthen cooperation to fight the smuggling of migrants (non-legislative and/or legislative, Art. 83(2) and 79(2)(c) TFEU, Q4 2023)</td>
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<td><strong>4. A safe space for the green and digital transition</strong></td>
<td><strong>13. A joint European degree</strong></td>
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<td>EU space law (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Art. 114 and 191 TFEU, Q1 2024) Strategy on space data economy (non-legislative, Q1 2024)</td>
<td>Council Recommendation on attractive and sustainable careers in higher education (non-legislative, Arts. 165 and 166 TFEU, Q2 2024) Council Recommendation on a European quality assurance and recognition system (non-legislative, Arts. 165 and 166 TFEU, Q2 2024)</td>
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<td><strong>5. Artificial intelligence to serve European innovation and competitiveness</strong></td>
<td><strong>An Economy that Works for People</strong></td>
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<td>Initiative to open up European supercomputer capacity to ethical and responsible artificial intelligence start-ups (legislative and non-legislative, Q1 2024)</td>
<td><strong>12. Fight against migrant smuggling</strong></td>
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<td><strong>A New Push for European Democracy</strong></td>
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<td><strong>6. Biotech and biomanufacturing</strong></td>
<td><strong>Communication on pre-enlargement reforms and policy reviews</strong> (non-legislative, Q2 2024)</td>
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<td>EU biotech and biomanufacturing initiative (non-legislative, Q1 2024)</td>
<td><strong>Preparation for enlargement</strong></td>
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<td><strong>7. Social dialogue</strong></td>
<td><strong>Commission Recommendation on integrated child protection systems</strong> (non-legislative, Art. 292 TFEU, Q1 2024)</td>
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<td>Follow-up to the Val Duchesse summit (Q1/Q2 2024)</td>
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<td><strong>8. Green and digital transition, open strategic autonomy</strong></td>
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<td>Advanced materials for industrial leadership (non-legislative, Q1 2024)</td>
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<td><strong>9. European Works Council</strong></td>
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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
Interoperable Europe Act

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)

WHO is addressed

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

WHAT is laid 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
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
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
New Parliament’s constituent Plenary with the new President

European Commission President takes office

July 2024

New European Council President takes office

EU GENERATION 2024 - 2029
Mix, Mingle & Network

Thank you