



#### **NEWSLETTER N° 194 - 12 NOVEMBER 2024**

**Just like Alice tumbling down the rabbit hole**, Europe has found itself in a whirlwind of political twists and turns. Donald Trump's victory has added a layer of unpredictability on the global stage, while at home, the German government's recent shake-up with Finance Minister Christian Lindner's firing (and the impending vote of confidence) has raised the stakes within the EU. And let's not forget Ireland's upcoming elections on 29 November, along with the start of the highly anticipated hearings for the Commissioners-designate.

THE PRAGUE PHOTOS ARE LIVE



**USA elections:** On 6 November, Donald Trump was re-elected as President of the United Sates. What does this mean for the climate and the environment? Not anything positive as both these topics do not appear in his **political program**. He is also planning to leave the

Paris Agreement once more (<u>he left once in 2017</u>) and wants to abolish the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (works to understand and predict changes in climate, weather, oceans, and coasts), <u>POLITICO</u> reports.

NGOs call for an ambitious mandate embracing a holistic vision on circular economy: On 4 November, thirteen NGOs (including Zero Waste Europe, EEB, ecos, right to repair) <u>published</u> a letter addressed to MEPs ahead of the Commissioners-designate's hearings (in particular, Jessika Roswall's hearing).

**Jessika Roswall hearing:** Jessika Roswall's <u>hearing</u> did not go smoothly, with the decision about her fate being postponed to the afternoon the following day. This, even though she pledged to 'stay the course' on EU environmental legislation and prioritise the implementation and enforcement of the European Green Deal. In the end, MEPs confirmed her nomination.

**Dan Jørgensen hearing:** Dan Jørgensen's (future Commissioner for Energy) <u>hearing</u> on the other hand, went by much more smoothly getting two-thirds majority of support on the same day (5 November).

**Valdis Dombrovskis hearing:** Valdis Dombrovskis, the Commissioner-designate for Economy and Productivity, Implementation and Simplification was <u>validated</u> by MEPs on 7 November.

**Wopke Hoeskstra hearing:** Wopke Hoekstra, the Commissioner-designate for Climate Action was **approved** by a large majority of MEPs after his hearing on 7 November.

**From waste plants to resource plants:** On 23 October, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) held a plenary session during which they adopted the <u>opinion</u> 'From waste plants to resource plants'.

**Plastic bags tax - Sweden:** Sweden has <u>abolished</u> its plastic bags tax from 1 November. The tax was put into force in 2020 and has reduced the amount of plastic bags bought at the store from 74 per person in 2019 to 17 per person in 2023, much lower than the 40 per person European objective.

**Hazardous products found in cosmetics:** On 30 October, ECHA <u>reports</u> that although banned, PFOAs and other environmental toxic substances are still used in cosmetics 'of

different types, different sellers and all price ranges'.

**Clean Hydrogen:** On 5 November, the Council <u>adopted</u> the conclusions on the special report of the Court of Auditors on the EU's industrial policy on renewable hydrogen.

**Urban wastewater:** On 5 November, the Council <u>adopted</u> the new rules on urban wastewater. This approval is the last step before its publication in the official journal and entry into force.

**Construction products regulation (CPR):** On 5 November, the Council <u>adopted</u> the construction products regulation (CPR). This is the last step in the decision-making procedure.

**Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM):** On 30 October, the UK Ministry of Economy and Finance published a <u>document</u> which confirms its intention to implement a CBAM. The mechanism will be implemented from 1 January 2027.

**Carbon removals - call for action:** On 28 October, 45 organisations such as bioenergy Europe and Carbon Business Council, published a <u>letter</u> addressed to Wopke Hoesktra (EU Commissioner-designate for Climate, Net Zero and Clean Growth) calling for action on carbon removals to support EU climate goals and competitiveness.

**Bio-waste - Zero Waste Europe and Bio-based Industries Consortium report:** On 5 November, Zero Waste Europe and Bio-based Industries Consortium published a <u>report</u> titled 'Bio-waste generation in the EU: Current capture levels and future potential' which shows that despite some improvement, a large amount of bio-waste is still not collected separately.

**Green Deal - Press release:** 60 companies published a press releases, each asking for a 'smart implementation' of the Green Deal. In the <u>press release</u>, companies such as IKEA, H&M, Patagonia, Ecosia, 'urge the European Commission to support businesses in successfully implementing existing and upcoming environmental standards' by modernising the EU and national administrations through digitalisation, and giving access to clean, cheap renewable energy for businesses and more.

**OECD Working paper on circular economy policies:** On 22 October, the OECD published a <u>working paper</u> titled 'Trade implications of upstream circular economy priorities'. The paper aims to fill the knowledge gap on the impact of circular economy

policies, such as EPR schemes, ESPR and the Green public procurement, have on trade, especially international trade.

FEAD news: Last week, FEAD was busy with a few externals events:

- On 06 November, FEAD Senior Legal and Policy Officer, Aizea Astor-Hoschen, was at <u>Recycling Renewables Summit</u> co-organised by Solarplaza and PV CYCLE.
- We were also present at ECOMONDO, participating to a few events:
- On 6 November, FEAD President, Claudia Mensi, gave a presentation at an <u>event</u> on 'The market design of the municipal waste integrated cycle between public service and competition'
- On 6 November, FEAD Secretary General, Paolo Campanella, participated to an event on 'The European regulation on transboundary movement of waste – the new operational changes' by <u>Assoambiente</u>
- On 6 November, FEAD Secretary General, Paolo Campanella, participated to an event on Tessile o non Tessile? by <u>Confindustria Cisambiente</u>
- On 7 November, FEAD Secretary General, Paolo Campanella, participated to an event on The new End-of-Waste regulation on C&D waste by <u>Assoambiente</u> and ANPAR
- On 7 November, FEAD Secretary General, Paolo Campanella, participated to Talk Ambiente on CRM
- On 8 November, FEAD Secretary General, Paolo Campanella, moderator an <u>event</u> on End of Life Vehicles: towards the new ELV regulation





# Decontamination of landfill waste leads to increase in toxic chemicals, says study

LA County suing PepsiCo, Coca-Cola over plastic beverage pollution

### With Trump's win, Biden's historic climate policies are poised to be undone

Mass balanced materials to count as recycled content in UK



#### VOEB-Seminar Weiterbildung & Schulungen





Training as a responsible person - according to 26 AWG 2002 | NEW

#### 18-21 November 2024

New in the VOEB program: Training as a responsible person - in accordance with Section 26 AWG 2002. The VOEB Academy will be offering the 4-day course for the first time in November 2024. Numerous experts and practitioners from waste management - from authorities to companies - enable a practical transfer of knowledge: from waste law to collection and recycling. The varied theoretical units are rounded off by an excursion to the waste incineration plant of Energie AG (WAV Wels). The training is recognized in some federal states as legal proof of professional knowledge and skills.

The 4-day course consists of the training modules Law | Regulations for AWG | Occupational and Employee Protection as well as Fire and Explosion Protection | Chemical Basics in Waste Management | Collection, Recycling and Treatment and an excursion to WAV-Wels (Energie AG). In addition, the course also includes a joint dinner for increased exchange and networking.



We are excited to announce that our conference on Circular Economy Priorities will be held on **5 December 2024 at 9h30 in Brussels**.

Unfortunately, this event is now fully booked. For those joining us, the full programme will soon be available!

# SUN2025

8<sup>th</sup> Multidisciplinary Symposium on Circular Economy & Urban Mining 21 - 23 MAY 2025 / Procida, Italy

## SUM 2025 - 8th Multidisciplinary Symposium on Circular Economy and Urban Mining will be held from 21 to 23 May 2025 in the stunning island of Procida (Naples, Italy).

The conference, organised by IWWG-International Waste Working Group, has been held every two years since 2012. Following the great success of the 2024 edition, which attracted participants from 34 different countries and various disciplines (including Agronomy, Biology, Chemistry, Economics, Engineering, Law, Material Science, Medicine, Geography and other Social Sciences), and considering the intense and rapid development of topics and issues related to Circular Economy, the SUM Symposium has become an annual event.

This decision is aimed at promoting a more continuous interaction and collaboration across diverse fields, encouraging sustained, multidisciplinary dialogue and strategic partnerships.

The Call for Papers is officially open! All authors interested in presenting their work at SUM 2025 are invited to submit their papers on the symposium topics by filling in the online submission form

Deadline: **10 March 2025** Detailed instructions are available at: <u>https://www.sumsymposium.it/en/call-for-papers</u>

For any further information, please visit the official website at <u>www.sumsymposium.it</u> or contact the Organising Secretariat at info@sumsymposium.it



FEAD mentions in the Press:

Recyclopro: PFAS-studie stelt dubbele beoordeling voor

Retema: Reportaje - Europa hacia la circularidad: la necesidad de una Ley de uso circular de materiales

Circulaire-IT: Afvalbeheerassociatie FEAD wil circulaire materiaalgebruikswet voor EU

RecyclingToday: FEAD publishes manifesto calling for European circular material use act

Resource: EUROPEAN LEADERS ASKED TO INTRODUCE AN EU CIRCULAR MATERIAL USE ACT

EUWID: FEAD calls for new EU Circular Material Use Act in pre-election manifesto

GSAigieniurbana: LA FEAD PUBBLICA IL SUO MANIFESTO PER LE ELEZIONI EUROPEE DEL 2024

Letsrecycle: FEAD calls for a Circular Material Use Act



- Go to your Member Area (<u>https://fead.be/index.php</u> > "Members Only")
- Enter your login and password (Please ask your login and password to **info@fead.be** if you forgot it)
- Go to "Active Files". Here you have access to all files followed by FEAD Secretariat.

For further information or enquiries, please contact the FEAD Secretariat at info@fead.be