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*Von der Leyen Grilled in Solo Showdown, Biden Exits Presidential Race;
Meloni Fumes Over Italy Report; Olympics Kick-Off in Paris*

July in a nutshell.

Circular Economy Newsletter | Summer 2024

Before we go on a summer break, we summarised for you all the latest news on the EU files affecting the recycling industry, highlighted events you cannot miss, recommended must-read articles and provided a recap of our advocacy efforts for the recycling industry's interests.

Our newsletter will be back on September 2.

Register now for ERC 2024 and enjoy your summer break worry-free!

Join us on **26 September 2024**, at the illustrious Grand Villa Torretta in Milano, Italy, as we celebrate a decade of EuRIC's commitment to circularity and sustainable recycling practices.

In partnership with **Assofermet**, we proudly present our anniversary event themed "Recycling Today, Resourcing Tomorrow"

GET YOUR TICKET



The banner features a dark blue background with white and light blue text and graphics. On the left, there is a circular graphic of concentric white lines. The main text reads: "6th EUROPEAN RECYCLING CONFERENCE" in large, bold, white letters, followed by "26 SEPTEMBER 2024" and "Milano, Italy" in smaller white text. To the right, the slogan "Recycling today. Resourcing tomorrow." is displayed, with "tomorrow." in a light blue box. Below the slogan, it says "Registrations are open! SPECIAL OFFER on accommodation!". On the far right, the logos for ERC (European Recycling Conference), EuRIC (10 Year Anniversary), and Assofermet are shown.

| EuRIC's EU policy monitoring



ELVs

The Council has published a partial **compromise text** on the European Commission's proposal on circularity requirements for vehicle design and on end-of-life (ELVs) vehicles' management. Read the Hungarian Presidency's partial compromise text **here**.

In April, MEP Ondřej Kovařík (Renew Europe, Czechia) **asked** the European Commission to explain why the definition of recycled plastic under the End-of-Life Vehicles Regulation differed from the findings of the 2023 Joint Research Center Study on recycled plastic. Kovařík argued that the ELVR definition poses significant challenges to the regulation's efficacy, as it includes materials like elastomers, thermosets, and process materials such as paints, adhesives, and sealants—typically deemed non-recyclable or difficult to recycle according to JRC findings. In mid-July, Virginijus Sinkevičius, the EU Commissioner for Environment, Ocean, and Fisheries, **responded** that the proposed recycling targets align



Ecodesign


The European Commission has published an article on the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR), the new EU law on sustainability requirements for a wide range of everyday household products that entered into force last week. "To make sure everyone knows what to expect, and that companies have enough time to prepare, the Commission will publish multiannual working plans, listing the products and measures to be addressed. Noting that the first working plan will be adopted within 9 months, the Commission also highlights that **ESPR, in addition to energy-related products, is likely to include highly impactful products, such as clothes, furniture, steel, aluminium, tyres,** and ICT products. Read the article [here](#).



Net-Zero

The revised Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) has been **published** in the EU's Official Journal and entered into force on 5 August. Following that date, EU member states will have up to 22 months to incorporate the provisions of the directive into their national legislation.

The IED is the main EU instrument regulating pollutant emissions from industry. The new rules will offer better protection of human health and the environment by reducing harmful emissions from industrial installations, while promoting energy efficiency, a circular economy and decarbonisation.

 **Timeline:** On 5 April 2022, the European Commission proposed a revision of Directive 2010/75/EU, the so-called IED. After the Council and Parliament adopted their positions in March and July 2023, correspondingly, a provisional agreement was reached on 29 November 2023. The agreement was formally adopted by Parliament on 12 March 2024 and by the Council on 12 April 2024, while the final act was signed on 24 April 2024.



Demolition

In its Manifesto, to be **published** on August 5, EuRIC's Construction and Demolition Branch presents 5 five key policy recommendations for the EU's next five-year mandate (2024–2029) to increase circularity in the construction sector.



Waste Shipments

- The European Commission has adopted a delegated regulation under the Waste Shipments Regulation on certifying interim and non-interim recovery and disposal operations. This act introduces a certificate template for facilities performing interim waste treatment, confirming subsequent treatment completion at another facility. The information will be provided via an electronic system when waste is shipped for further treatment.

The European Parliament and Council are reviewing this act until 19 September. If no objections are raised, it will be adopted. You can access the adopted act [here](#).

- The Commission is expected to present a Report on the effectiveness of the WSR in addressing the management of plastic waste, not earlier than 21 May 2029. The expected Report, which is required by Article 73(5) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1157, would assess the implementation of the provisions addressing the management of plastic waste and would provide information on the evolution of the capacity of waste operators in the field of plastic waste management. Furthermore, if deemed necessary, the Report could be accompanied by a legislative proposal amending the Waste Shipment Regulation which could include stricter conditions on the export of plastic waste to third countries.



E-waste

The European Commission has proposed enshrining the Basel Convention provisions into EU law. This means that every e-waste shipment, regardless of whether the waste is hazardous or not, must follow the prior notification procedure. Mandating a prior notification procedure for all e-waste shipments, irrespective of hazard classification, means more

EuRIC has issued a **joint position paper with Eurometaux**, challenging the Commission's move.

[Read our joint position paper](#)



Other EU files

Green Claims Directive:

The Council of the European Union has published a **note** on the outcome of European Parliament's first reading on the Green Claims Directive. With the Council having adopted its position (general approach) on 17 June, trilogues are now ready to begin with the EP.

Environmental Crime Directive:

In late July, the Hungarian Presidency presented the Council's **conclusions** on combating cross-border environmental crime at the Law Enforcement Working Party (LEWP)-Police. Among others, the conclusions urge Member-States to timely transpose the new Environmental Crime Directive.



Hungarian Presidency

EU Internal Market and Industry Ministers met in Hungary on 8-9 July to discuss the Hungarian Presidency's goal to establish a European Competitiveness Deal. This initiative, inspired by the Antwerp Declaration for a European Industrial Deal and Enrico Letta's report "Much More Than a Market," aims to create a robust framework for EU policies from 2024 to 2029, steering the implementation of the new Strategic Agenda.

Key topics at the informal Compet meeting included the rise of the electric vehicle industry, essential elements of the new competitiveness deal, and the impacts of artificial intelligence on competitiveness. Read more **here**.

her, the Political Guidelines for the next Commission (2024-2029) have been **published**. Achieving a more circular and resilient economy holds a prominent spot among the priorities! The incumbent European Commission President plans to introduce a new Circular Economy Act, aiming to "create market demand for secondary materials and a single market for waste, notably in relation to critical raw materials." "Working to decarbonise our economy will be part of our continued shift to a more sustainable pattern of production and consumption, retaining the value of resources in our economy for longer," von der Leyen states. Read more [here](#).

The European Parliament's environment committee (ENVI) has chosen its new leadership. Antonio Decaro, who will lead as chair has pledged to "not go back on the previous legislation," signaling his commitment to the Green Deal. Vice chair positions have been filled as follows:

- 📄 Esther Herranz García (Spain) - First Vice Chair
- 📄 Pietro Fiocchi (Italy) - Second Vice Chair
- 📄 Anja Hazekamp (the Netherlands) - Third Vice Chair
- 📄 András Tivadar Kulja (Hungary) - Fourth Vice Chair

| Opportunities



Dear EuRIC members, partners and sponsors!

EuRIC is looking for a Technical advisor to join our team in Brussels as soon as possible!

Know someone with experience in **tyres**? Someone up to speed on EU efforts in **Ecodesign, ELVs, Batteries, REACH, and/or POPs**?

Share this vacancy and encourage them to apply for our Technical Advisor position! To

[Vacancy details here](#)

| Highlights



Visit of Remondis site in Eindhoven

In early July, EuRIC visited the Remondis site in Eindhoven, which processes 600,000 tonnes of waste a year and sort it into 22 fractions. The visit also joined Roger Versluis - Regional Director (Remondis), Tijn de Jong – Project Manager in charge of sustainability (Remondis), Unico van Kooten – DWMA, Japanese delegation – Japan's Industrial Waste Information Centre.



Visit of Stora Enso site in Langerbrugge

At Stora Enso's Langerbrugge site, Philippe Doliger, EuRIC's Policy Advisor, alongside our Belgian member, Denuo, explored circularity in paper and cardboard waste management. Each year, 400,000 tons of household paper and cardboard are sorted, with some recycled into newsprint on-site, demonstrating effective loop-closing. Special thanks to Katrijn van Riet for her insightful explanations and warm hospitality during the visit.

| Interesting reads

Draghi report on competitiveness delayed until after the summer, EU confirms

By Thomas Moller-Nielsen | Euractiv Est. 3min

24 Jul 2024 (updated: 31 Jul 2024)

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Content-Type: News



Former European Central Bank President Mario Draghi. SHUTTERSTOCK/ALEXANDROS MICHAELIDIS



Most read articles

- Von der Leyen's second attempt at single-ticket rail travel **1**
- EDF CEO: New nuclear reactors in less than six years each **2**

The release of a much-anticipated report on the European Union's competitiveness by former European Central Bank president Mario Draghi has been delayed until after the

| Updates from the CIMPA Project



> CIMPA/EuRIC booth at the Plastics Recycling World Expo in Brussels

On 11-12 September 2024, CIMPA/EuRIC will be present at the Plastics Recycling World Expo in Brussels. Visit our booth to know more about the plastic recycling industry and the challenges for food contact materials. Project results will also be presented.

[Check out the programme](#)

> CIMPA value chain workshop in Berlin

On 18 September, CIMPA organises a value chain workshop in Berlin to scale up innovative solutions for the plastic recycling industry. If your registration is confirmed, your travel expenses and accommodation will be covered by the CIMPA project.

[Register here](#)

> EU Funding Opportunities

EU funding opportunities are now open for research proposals! LIFE applications are open until September 19th, with calls focusing on circular economy areas like textiles, plastics, CRM, and WEEE recycling. Explore more [here](#).

If you're applying for Horizon Europe funding, check our resources to help with your application:

● Who can apply: <https://europa.eu/!7CdPwF>

[Explore CIMPA's website](#)

| Sponsored content



Plastics Recycling World Expo, 11-12 September 2024, Brussels, Belgium

This free-to-attend event brings together global leaders from the plastics recycling industry for two days of networking and innovation. Your free ticket grants you access to the co-located Compounding World and Plastics Extrusion World Expos.

Explore three conference theatres with a dynamic two-day programme featuring technical presentations, seminars, and industry debates. Join us in Brussels and engage with experts, expand your network, and stay at the forefront of industry advancements!

[Get your free ticket](#)



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