

NEWS FROM BRUSSELS 19/2020

EU Action Plan towards a Zero Pollution Ambition: Consultation started

The purpose of this consultation is to gather views from citizens and stakeholders on an EU Action Plan “Towards a Zero Pollution Ambition for air, water and soil”. The European Green Deal announced that to protect Europe’s citizens and ecosystems, the EU needs to move towards a zero pollution ambition, and better prevent and remedy pollution from air, water, soil, and consumer products. To address these interlinked challenges, in 2021 the Commission will adopt a Zero Pollution Action Plan. The consultation is open until 10 February 2021: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12588-EU-Action-Plan-Towards-a-Zero-Pollution-Ambition-for-air-water-and-soil/public-consultation>

European Commission 2020 publishes Strategic Foresight Report

President von der Leyen’s political guidelines set a strategic long-term direction to achieve the transition towards a green, digital and fair Europe. Strategic foresight will thus play a key role in helping future-proof EU policymaking by ensuring that short-term initiatives are grounded in a longer term perspective. This first annual Strategic Foresight Report outlines how foresight will inform policies with a view to strengthening the EU’s resilience in four interrelated dimensions: social and economic, geopolitical, green, and digital: <https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regdoc/rep/1/2020/EN/COM-2020-676-F1-EN-MAIN-PART-1.PDF>

Analysing Automobile Industry Supply Chains

The aim of this study published by the European Commission is to evaluate recent trends in the automobile and related sectors using a global value chain (GVC) approach. Building on these results, the potential impact across countries and sectors of a hypothetical negative demand shock for cars has been evaluated. The analysis concludes by studying the current position of the automobile sector across countries in light of the transition towards electric vehicles: https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/economy-finance/dp134_en_0.pdf