

NEWS FROM BRUSSELS 22/2020

First year of the von der Leyen Commission

On the occasion of the first year of the von der Leyen Commission an overview including a factsheet about key topics and achievements of this first year has been published with a special focus on the Commission's response to the coronavirus pandemic: https://ec.europa.eu/info/about-european-commission/what-european-commission-does/delivering-political-priorities/first-year-von-der-leyen-commission_en

Safety Related Traffic Information Ecosystem: Data for Road Safety

The European Commission-backed Data for Road Safety initiative announced that it is aiming for the long term deployment of a Safety-Related Traffic Information ecosystem which will warn drivers about dangerous driving conditions. The announcement has been marked with the signing of a multi-party agreement in which automobile manufacturers, automotive suppliers, road traffic authorities, EU member states and location technology providers commit to the long-term exchange of safety data. The European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA) succeeds the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure as Chair of this initiative: https://www.dataforroadsafety.eu/images/Documenten/3rd_DTF_Joint_Press_Release_December_2020_FINAL_EMBARGO_VERSION.pdf

Consultation on the Trade Policy Review

The European Commission launched a major review of the European Union's trade policy, including a public consultation seeking input from the European Parliament, Member States, stakeholders and civil society. The Commission's objective is to build a consensus around a medium-term direction for EU trade policy, responding to a variety of new global challenges and taking into account the lessons learned from the coronavirus crisis: https://trade.ec.europa.eu/consultations/index.cfm?consul_id=266

European Research Institutions present Joint Action Plan to accelerate Development of Electrolysis

Industrialization of water electrolysis technologies is considered a critical step for the large-scale implementation of clean hydrogen and deep-decarbonization. While Europe is strongly positioned to capture the economic value of the growing markets associated with clean hydrogen production, the timeline set by the energy transition requires a more coordinated effort. With the »HySpeedInnovation Joint Action Plan«, a number of leading European Research and Technology institutes describe the upscaling challenges that lie ahead and how they can tackle these challenges in order to make Europe a leader in the field of electrolysis: <https://www.irec.cat/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Position-Paper-HySpeedInnovation-DEF2.pdf>