

NEWS FROM BRUSSELS 18/2021

Special Report: Infrastructure for charging electric vehicles

With the European Green Deal announced in December 2019, the EU is now aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport by 90 % by 2050 compared with 1990, as part of a larger effort to become a climate-neutral economy. An essential part of reducing emissions from road transport is the transition to alternative, lower-carbon fuels. In view of this, the European Court of Auditors now published a special report on infrastructure for charging electric vehicles: https://www.eca.europa.eu/Lists/ECADocuments/SR21_05/SR_Electrical_charging_infrastructu_re_EN.pdf

Zero Pollution Action Plan: Commission aims for zero pollution in air, water and soil

The European Commission adopted the EU Action Plan “Towards Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil” which represents a key deliverable of the European Green Deal and the main topic of this year's EU Green Week. It sets out an integrated vision for 2050: A world where pollution is reduced to levels that are no longer harmful to human health and natural ecosystems, as well as the steps to get there. The plan ties together all relevant EU policies to tackle and prevent pollution, with a special emphasis on how to use digital solutions to tackle pollution. Reviews of relevant EU legislation are foreseen to identify remaining gaps in EU legislation and where better implementation is necessary to meet these legal obligations: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_2345

Industrial Strategy: Discussion with Commissioner Breton

Last week, Industry Commissioner Thierry Breton attended a meeting of the European Parliament's Industry, Research and Energy Committee (ITRE). The subject of the debate was the revised European industrial strategy. Breton emphasized that one had to reduce the dependencies in the value chain, for example in the case of semiconductors. To this end, the EU has examined which products are strategically important and potentially vulnerable. They are looking for substitutes for these products, setting up their own production or diversifying the supply chain: https://multimedia.europarl.europa.eu/en/committee-on-industry-research-and-energy_20210510-1600-COMMITTEE-ITRE_vd