

NEWS FROM BRUSSELS 12/2022

Council decides on fourth package of sanctions against Russia

On 15 March, the Council adopted a fourth package of restrictive measures in response to the Russian military aggression against Ukraine. Sanctioned entities include companies in the aviation, military and dual use, shipbuilding and machine building sectors. Altogether, EU restrictive measures now apply to a total of 877 individuals and 62 entities. Those designated are subject to an asset freeze and EU citizens and companies are forbidden from making funds available to them: [Fourth package of sanctions in view of Russia's military aggression against Ukraine: 15 additional individuals and 9 entities subject to EU restrictive measures - Consilium \(europa.eu\)](#)

Council defines position on the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)

On 15 March, the Council reached an agreement on CBAM, which is supposed to gradually replace the existing European Union mechanisms to address the risk of carbon leakage, in particular the free allocation of EU ETS allowances. Compared to the Commission proposal, the Council opted for a greater centralisation of the CBAM governance. It Council also foresees a minimum threshold which exempts from the CBAM obligations consignments with a value of less than €150: [Council agrees on the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism \(CBAM\) - Consilium \(europa.eu\)](#)

Environment Council (ENVI) exchanges on "Fit for 55" and defines position on Battery Regulation

On 17 March, the Environment Council configuration was discussing a potential extension of the emission trading system to include transport and building in the context of the "Fit for 55" package. Several member states from Eastern Europe expressed concern about this idea, in view of rising energy prices. In the second part of the session, the ENVI adopted their position on the EU Battery Regulation. The Council and Parliament will now start trilogue negotiations with a view to progressing towards an agreement: [Sustainable batteries: member states ready to start negotiations with Parliament - Consilium \(europa.eu\)](#)

European Parliament: TRAN Committee discusses Alternative Fuels Infrastructure (AFIR) and Renewable Energy Directive (RED)

On 14 March, MEPs in the TRAN Committee were exchanging views on the draft report of Ismail Ertug (S&D) regarding the AFIR. Some MEPs were criticizing the focus on electromobility, asking for a more inclusive approach with regards to biogas and liquified natural gas. The deadline for compromise amendments ended on 18 March, the committee vote on the report is scheduled for 16 May. Furthermore, MEPs were also discussing the draft report of Barbara Thaler (EPP) on the RED. The Committee vote on this report is also scheduled for 16 May: [European Parliament Multimedia Platform \(europa.eu\)](#)

European Parliament: IMCO-Committee adopts draft resolution on Right to repair

On 16 March, the IMCO Committee has adopted a draft resolution on the Right to repair, to inform the Commission's legislative proposal, which is supposed to be presented in Q3 of 2022. The draft resolution highlights the importance of informing consumers at the point of sale about the product's expected durability and reparability and calls on the Commission to propose harmonised rules for such consumer information, including among others repair scores, information on estimated lifespan, information on spare parts, repair services, as well as on the period of time during which software updates are available for goods with digital elements: [Microsoft Word - MfR Right to Repair EN.docx \(europa.eu\)](#)

The Alliance of European Car Dealers and Repairers (AECDR) represents and promotes the interests of 57,500 franchised dealers and authorised repairers. In total these companies employ 1.175,000 people.