SESEI Newsletter

SECONDED EUROPEAN STANDARDIZATION EXPERT IN INDIA

European Committee for Standardization | European Committee for Electro Technical Standardization | European Telecommunications Standards Institute | European Commission | European Free Trade Association

Dear Readers,

Greeting from Project SESEI!

We are pleased to bring our April 2025 edition of the "SESEI Newsletter – India", putting together updates on new legislations, strategic announcements and standardisation in the EU on topics related to Digitization and Clean and Green Technologies.

With its aim to become a global leader in AI, the European Commission launched its "AI Continent Action Plan". This ambitious initiative is set to transform Europe's strong traditional industries and its exceptional talent pool into powerful engines of AI innovation and acceleration. The "AI Continent Action Plan" will also boost the European Union's AI innovation capabilities through actions and policies built around five key pillars. In this endeavour to support the startups and small innovators in the AI space, the EU is likely to minimise the compliance burden of AI Act as well.

ETSI Technical Committee (TC) on Securing Artificial Intelligence (SAI), has developed latest technical specification ETSI TS 104 223, which sets a benchmark for securing Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems against the backdrop of rising cybersecurity threats. This '**ETSI TS 104 223 - Securing Artificial Intelligence (SAI); Baseline Cyber Security Requirements for AI Models and Systems**' details transparent, high-level principles and provisions for securing AI.

ETSI's Industry Specification Group (ISG) on Integrated Sensing and Communication (ISAC), has released its first report ETSI GR ISC 001 covering advanced ISAC use cases and deployment scenarios, setting the foundation for future 6G systems. ETSI has also released two new Group Reports (GRs) on Reconfigurable Intelligent Surfaces (RIS) ETSI GR RIS 004 and ETSI GR RIS 005 .

The EU Commission is also heavily investing in deployment of critical technologies ensuring continent's tech sovereignty through the Digital Europe Programme for 2025 to 2027, which focuses on deployment of AI, its uptake, cloud and data, cyber resilience and digital skills.

A new European Standard EN 18037:2025 'Guidelines on a sectoral cybersecurity assessment', developed by CEN-CENELEC JTC 13 'Cybersecurity and Data Protection' is also released for ICT products covering risk-based identification of cybersecurity, certification, and assurance requirements, processes, and services within complex, multi-stakeholder sectoral systems.

To support the Commissions' vision to boost Circular and efficient products in the EU, Commission has adopted **2025-2030 working plan** for the **Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR)** and **Energy Labelling Regulation**. The European Commission has also launched public consultation on the Digital Product Passport seeking stakeholders' views on how data should be stored and managed by service providers and on the need for a certification scheme for such service providers. The Digital Product Passport is a key innovation under the 2024 Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation to store and share relevant data about a product's sustainability, durability and other environmental aspects.

To reduce the emissions from vehicles, the EU Commission proposed a **targeted amendment** to the Regulation setting CO2 emission performance standards for new cars and vans. The amendment introduces a flexibility measure with their CO2 targets between 2025 and 2027. EU Commission is also working towards simplifying the measures for Implementation of the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) has published new guidance documents for ease of Member States, operators and traders.

The newsletter also provides details of upcoming events organised by European Standardization bodies which could be of interest to you. We hope that you will find this newsletter informative.

Happy Reading!!

Best regards,
Dinesh Chand Sharma
Director Standards & Public Policy

IN THIS ISSUE

Generic/ Standards

New Rules for Safer Toys in the EU

The European Commission welcomes the provisional political agreement between the European Parliament and the Council on the new toy safety rules, following the Commission's proposal for a Regulation on Toy Safety from 28 July 2023.

The new Regulation will ban the use of harmful chemicals, such as PFAS, endocrine disruptors and bisphenols, in toys. All toys will have a Digital Product Passport to prevent unsafe toys sold online and offline from entering the EU. The Regulation sets stricter rules on online sales and give inspectors greater powers to remove dangerous toys from the market. This will ensure that imported toys are as safe for consumers as toys manufactured in the EU.

The new requirements

Building on the existing rules, the new Toy Safety Regulation will update the safety requirements that toys must meet to be marketed in the EU, whether they are manufactured in the EU or elsewhere. More specifically, agreement will:

- **Better protect against harmful chemicals:** In addition to the substances already banned, the new Regulation will prohibit the use of chemicals that affect the endocrine system (endocrine disruptors) or the respiratory system, those that can create skin allergies or are toxic to a specific organ. It will also ban the use of dangerous bisphenols and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in toys.
- **Better use of digital tools:** with the new Regulation, all toys will be required to have a Digital Product Passport in the format of a data carrier, such as a QR code, on the toy. Consumers or authorities will easily see the toy's product, compliance and other information. Importers will have to submit digital product passports at the EU borders, including for toys sold online. A new IT system will screen all digital product passports at the EU's external borders and will identify the shipments that need detailed controls at customs. Checks on toys by national inspectors will be facilitated, as information will be readily available in the digital product passport. This will streamline actions against unsafe toys in the EU and ensure that all toys manufacturers can compete equally and fairly.

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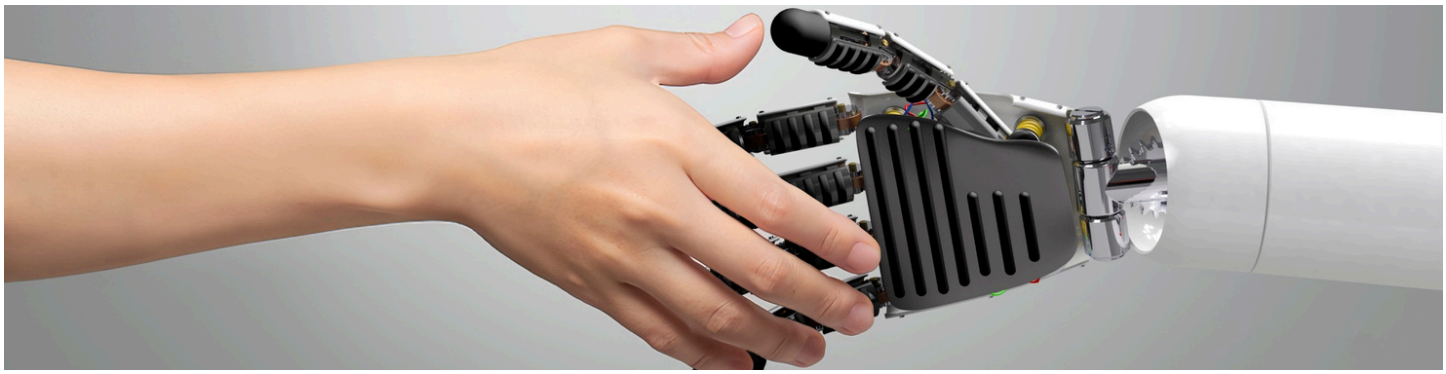
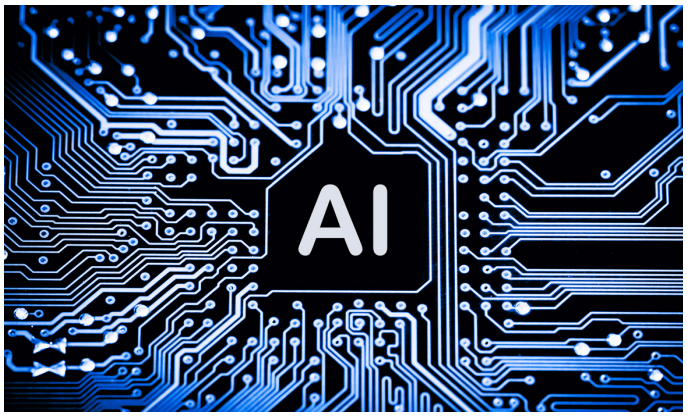
Digitization



Commission to Invest €1.3 Billion in Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity and Digital Skills



The Commission will allocate €1.3 billion for the deployment of critical technologies that are strategically important for the future of Europe and the continent's tech sovereignty through the Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL) work programme for 2025 to 2027 adopted.

The work programme focuses on the deployment of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its uptake by businesses and public administration, cloud and data, cyber resilience and digital skills.

More specifically, key priorities under the DIGITAL work programme include:

- Improving the availability and accessibility of **generative AI applications**, including in the health and care sectors. Available funding will go towards testing immersive environments, known as 'virtual worlds', implementing the AI Act and deploying energy efficient common data spaces. These measures are key to the implementation of the AI Factories initiative to develop generative AI models for businesses and the public sector.
- Supporting the European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIHs). This is a network of hubs that provides companies and the public sector with access to technical expertise and testing of technologies, as well as with advice, training and skills to adopt the latest technologies. It will promote the widespread take-up of AI in private and public organisations across Europe.
- Building-up the award-winning Destination Earth initiative that is working to build a digital model of Earth to support climate adaptation and disaster risk management. Funding will build a more powerful model that more researchers can access.
- **Boosting cyber resilience.** Cybersecurity solutions such as the EU Cybersecurity Reserve will improve the resilience and security of critical infrastructures including hospitals and submarine cables.
- Developing **EU education and training institutions' capacity** in digital skills so they may nurture and attract talent while boosting advanced skills in the European workforce.
- Facilitating the new EU Digital Identity Wallet architecture and the European Trust Infrastructure, as well as promoting its adoption in Member States.
- Stimulating the transformation of the public sector by developing efficient, high-quality, interoperable **digital public services.**

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Commission Sets Course for Europe's AI Leadership with an Ambitious AI Continent Action Plan

To become a global leader in artificial intelligence (AI) is the objective of the **AI Continent Action Plan** launched. As set out by President **von der Leyen** at the AI Action Summit in February 2025 in Paris, this ambitious initiative is set to transform Europe's strong traditional industries and its exceptional talent pool into powerful engines of AI innovation and acceleration.

The race for leadership in AI is far from over. From cutting-edge foundation models to specialised AI applications, the AI landscape in the EU is dynamic. It is driven by research, emerging technologies and a thriving ecosystem of startups and scaleups. The AI Continent Action Plan will boost the European Union's AI innovation capabilities through actions and policies around five key pillars:

1. **Building a large-scale Artificial intelligence data and computing infrastructure**

The Commission will strengthen Europe's AI and supercomputing infrastructure with a network of **AI Factories.** 13 of these factories are already being deployed around Europe's existing world-leading supercomputers. They will support EU AI startups, industry and researchers in developing AI models and applications.

As announced in the Competitiveness Compass, the EU will also help set up **AI Gigafactories**. These will be large-scale facilities equipped with approximately 100,000 state-of-the-art AI chips, four times more than current AI factories. They will integrate massive computing power and data centres to train and develop complex AI models at unprecedented scale. The AI Gigafactories will lead the next wave of frontier AI models and maintain the EU's strategic autonomy in critical industrial sectors and science, requiring public and private investments. A call for expression of interest for interested consortia is published today.

Private investment in Gigafactories will be further stimulated through the **InvestAI**, which will mobilise €20 billion investment for up to five AI Gigafactories across the Union.

To stimulate private sector investment in cloud capacity and data centres, the Commission will also propose a **Cloud and AI Development Act**. The goal is to at least **triple the EU's data centre capacity in the next five to seven years**, prioritising highly sustainable data centres.

2. Increasing access to large and high-quality data

Bolstering AI innovation also requires access to large volumes of high-quality data. An important element of the Action Plan is the creation of **Data Labs**, bringing together and curating large, high-quality data volumes from different sources in AI Factories. A comprehensive **Data Union Strategy** will be launched in 2025 to create a true internal market for data that can scale up AI solutions.

3. As an example, the company Cosmian is launching its new encryption solution based on ETSI standard.

Despite the potential of AI, only 13.5% of companies in the EU have adopted AI. To develop tailored AI solutions, boost their industrial use and full adoption in EU strategic public and private sectors, the Commission will launch the **Apply AI Strategy** in the coming months. European AI innovation infrastructure, including notably the AI Factories and the European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIHs), will play an important role in this Strategy.

4. Strengthening AI skills and talents

To meet rising demand for AI talent, the Commission will facilitate international recruitment of highly skilled AI experts and researchers through initiatives such as the Talent Pool, the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action 'MSCA Choose Europe' and **AI fellowships** schemes offered by the upcoming **AI Skills Academy**. These actions will contribute to legal migration pathways for highly skilled non-EU workers in the AI sector and attract the best European AI researchers and experts back to Europe. It will also develop educational and training programmes on AI and Generative AI in key sectors, preparing the next generation of AI specialists and supporting the upskilling and reskilling of workers.

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Europe Wants to Lighten AI Compliance Burden for Startups

The European Commission plans to seek feedback to help lighten the regulatory burden for startups struggling to comply with European Union rules on the use of artificial intelligence.

The move is the latest by the EU executive to water down legislation enacted in recent years following complaints by businesses across Europe about the volume and cost of red tape hampering their operations.

"There is an opportunity to minimise the potential compliance burden of AI Act, particularly for smaller innovators," said the document, the AI Continent Action Plan.

"The Commission aims to build on the first learnings from the current implementation phase and identify further measures that are needed to facilitate a smooth and simple application of the AI Act," it said.

The 27-country European Union signed off the landmark AI Act last year, a more comprehensive rulebook than the United States' light-touch voluntary compliance approach. China's AI regulations aim to maintain social stability and state control. The AI Act imposes strict transparency obligations on high-risk AI systems, while the requirements for general-purpose AI models are lighter.

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ETSI Technical Specification sets International Benchmark for Securing Artificial Intelligence

ETSI unveils its latest technical specification which sets a benchmark for securing Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems against the backdrop of rising cybersecurity threats.

'ETSI TS 104 223 - Securing Artificial Intelligence (SAI); Baseline Cyber Security Requirements for AI Models and Systems' new specification offers reliable and implementable cybersecurity guidance that delivers protection for end users. Taking a whole lifecycle approach, a set of 13 core principles, expanding to a total of 72 trackable principles, have been defined across 5 lifecycle phases to raise the security level of all AI systems.

The specification details transparent, high-level principles and provisions for securing AI. It provides stakeholders in the AI supply chain—from developers and vendors to integrators and operators—with a robust set of baseline security requirements, helping to protect AI systems from evolving cyber threats.

AI presents unique challenges compared to traditional software, including risks such as data poisoning, model obfuscation, indirect prompt injection, and vulnerabilities tied to complex data management. In taking these differences into account, ETSI TS 104 223 offers targeted guidance that integrates established practises in cybersecurity and AI with novel approaches.

The specification was developed by the ETSI Technical Committee (TC) on Securing Artificial Intelligence (SAI), which includes representatives from international organisations, government bodies, and cybersecurity experts. This cross-disciplinary collaboration ensures that the requirements are both globally relevant and practically implementable.

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A Risk-Based Approach to Sectoral Cybersecurity: Introducing EN 18037:2025

In an increasingly digital world, ensuring consistent and robust cybersecurity across complex, multi-stakeholder systems is more critical than ever. The new European Standard EN 18037:2025 'Guidelines on a sectoral cybersecurity assessment', developed by JTC 13 'Cybersecurity and Data Protection', fills this gap by specifying an approach for the risk-based identification of cybersecurity, certification, and assurance requirements for ICT products, processes, and services within complex, multi-stakeholder sectoral systems.

The sectoral cybersecurity assessment process encompasses all necessary steps to specify, implement, and maintain such requirements. Sectoral ICT systems are prevalent in application domains such as mobile networks, digital identity, e-health, public transportation, and payment systems. These systems typically involve numerous stakeholder organizations operating in defined roles to deliver sector-specific services. Some roles – such as those of Mobile Network Operators or Public Transport Service Providers – may involve competitive dynamics among stakeholders.

Cybersecurity and assurance are critical not only from the customer's perspective but also for fostering trust among sectoral stakeholders. A clear and consistent definition of cybersecurity and assurance requirements – tailored to specific stakeholder roles – is essential, as security deficiencies by one actor can pose risks to the business objectives of others within the ecosystem.

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ETSI Publishes First Report on Integrated Sensing and Communication (ISAC) Use Cases for 6G

ETSI has released the first Report that outlines a comprehensive analysis of advanced Integrated Sensing and Communication (ISAC) use cases and deployment scenarios, setting the foundation for future 6G systems.

This Report, ETSI GR ISC 001, developed by ETSI ISAC ISG, is a major step toward identifying the critical functional and performance requirements necessary to support these cutting-edge use cases.

The document details **18 advanced ISAC use cases** ranging from **human motion recognition and emergency rescue** to **autonomous vehicle navigation and industrial robotics**. Each use case is explored in terms of deployment scenarios, enabling technologies, sensing modes, and required system capabilities.

ETSI's analysis introduces **three integration levels**—tight, intermediate, and loose—as well as **six sensing modes**, including monostatic and bistatic sensing configurations for both base stations and User Equipment. These definitions form a key part of a proposed framework to standardize sensing capabilities within future 6G networks.

"This first Report on advanced ISAC use cases and requirements sets the foundations for ISAC's forthcoming specifications in 6G. I'm delighted that this GR has been released on time for further consideration by specification groups such as 3GPP SA1 in their work toward 6G," said Alain Mourad, Chair of ISAC ISG at ETSI.

Key highlights from the Report include:

- **Deployment Versatility:** Use cases span indoor, outdoor, mixed environments, with varied mobility and sensing targets, including people, vehicles, UAVs, and robots.
- **Frequency Band Utilization:** Proposed sensing strategies incorporate **low (sub-6 GHz), mid (~7–24 GHz), and high (mmWave/THz)** frequency bands, often combining them with non-RF sensors such as cameras or environmental detectors.
- **Fusion of Data Sources:** Both 6G System and non-6G System data fusion are considered critical, with architectural implications for system design and trust management.
- **Security, Privacy, and Sustainability:** The document places a strong emphasis on the need for secure, private, and sustainable ISAC implementations, especially for human-centric use cases.

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Commission Launches Consultation on the Digital Product Passport

The Commission launched a public consultation on the future Digital Product Passport. The objective is to gather stakeholders' views on how data should be stored and managed by service providers and on the need for a certification scheme for such service providers. The feedback gathered through the public consultation will inform the development of an effective functioning of the Digital Product Passport system.

The Digital Product Passport is a key innovation under the 2024 Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation to store and share relevant data about a product's sustainability, durability and other environmental aspects. The Digital Product Passport will be available to consumers, businesses and relevant public authorities. It will help to make informed decisions and increase the demand for sustainable products. The Digital Product Passport could also host additional information, for instance product instructions or conformity documents.

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ETSI Releases New Reports on Reconfigurable Intelligent Surfaces

ETSI released two new Group Reports on Reconfigurable Intelligent Surfaces (RIS). **ETSI GR RIS 004** provides implementation and practical insights concerning RIS and **ETSI GR RIS 005** studies RIS-integrated MIMO systems, especially focused on diversity and multiplexing schemes.

ETSI Report on "Implementation and Practical Considerations" provides implementation and practical insights concerning the deployment of RIS. It includes RIS unit cell design, switching methods, RIS types, RIS controller, associated costs, field trials, and measurement methods. The contents serve as a reference point for relevant specifications and implementations of RIS-integrated systems.

ETSI Report on "Diversity and Multiplexing of RIS-aided Communications" focuses on diversity and multiplexing schemes using RIS. It highlights how RIS, similar to Multiple-Input-and-Multiple-Output technologies in LTE/5G, can provide additional performance gains. The report emphasizes the importance of understanding RIS-integrated MIMO systems and their impact on future cellular system design and standardization.

The ETSI RIS group has also issued updates for its three previously published reports, **ETSI GR RIS 001** on "Use Cases, Deployment Scenarios and Requirements", **ETSI GR RIS 002** on "Technological Challenges and Impact on Architecture and Standards" and **ETSI GR RIS 003** on "Communication Models, Channel Models, Channel Estimation, and Evaluation Methodology", based on the latest technical advancements in RIS research and international standardization.

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Pan-European eCall: When Cars Call for Help

EN 16072:2025 'Intelligent transport systems - ESafety - Pan-European eCall operating requirements', developed by **CEN/TC 278 'Intelligent Transport Systems'**, sets out the operational requirements for eCall: an automatic in-vehicle emergency call system that connects directly with emergency responders

To make eCall truly **pan-European**, vehicles and emergency call centres across all EU Member States must speak the same technical language. That is where EN 16072:2025 comes in. This standard ensures that:

- Every car with eCall can connect with emergency centres regardless of the country.
- The data sent is consistent and reliable.
- Drivers' privacy and security are protected.
- Voice and data communication works seamlessly, even in cross-border situations.

This updated version replaces the 2022 edition and brings several improvements:

- Enhanced clarity on how location and direction data are handled.
- Better instructions for PSAP operators on how to respond, especially when voice connection is not possible.
- Stronger privacy measures to ensure eCall only activates in genuine emergencies.

It also adds new technical details to ensure compatibility with both older mobile networks (like GSM) and newer systems using the internet (IP-based communication).

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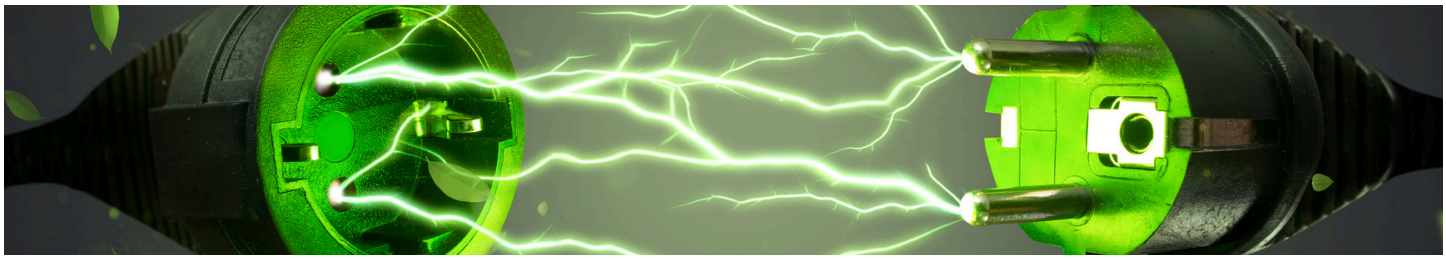
Green and Clean Technologies



Commission Rolls out Plan to Boost Circular and Efficient Products in the EU

The European Commission adopted the **2025-2030 working plan** for the **Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR)** and **Energy Labelling Regulation**.

The plan provides a list of products that should be prioritised to introduce eco-design requirements and energy labelling over the next five years. This will foster sustainable, repairable, circular and energy efficient products across Europe, in line with the Clean Industrial Deal and the Competitiveness Compass.

The priority products for eco-design and energy labelling requirements are **steel and aluminium, textiles (with a focus on apparel), furniture, tyres and mattresses**. These were selected based on their potential to deliver on the circular economy.

Harmonised product sustainability requirements at EU level will reinforce the single market, prevent barriers to trade, improve the level playing field, reduce the administrative burden, and strengthen the global competitiveness of businesses offering sustainable products.

In addition, the Commission will introduce horizontal measures to **requirements on repairability for products such as consumer electronics and small household appliances. This will include** the introduction of a repairability score for products with the most potential, and **requirements on recyclability** of electrical and electronic equipment.

The selection of products included in the present working plan, is based on an inclusive process with stakeholders and reflects both the input from stakeholders and Member States. It is based on a thorough technical analysis and criteria notably related to the EU's climate, environment and energy efficiency objectives, as well as an extensive consultation process, including through the Ecodesign Forum.

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Commission Proposes Flexibility to Help Manufacturers Comply with 2025 CO2 Emission Targets for New Cars and Vans

The European Commission proposed a **targeted amendment to the Regulation setting CO2 emission performance standards for new cars and vans**. The amendment introduces a **flexibility** measure with their CO2 targets between 2025 and 2027.

This proposal was announced as part of the Commission's Industrial Action Plan for the European automotive sector, adopted on 5 March 2025. This followed the Strategic Dialogue on the Future of the Automotive Industry launched by President **von der Leyen** on 30 January 2025 and involving an open public consultation and multiple discussions and engagement with industry leaders, social partners and stakeholders to address the most pressing challenges facing the sector.

President of the European Commission, Ursula **von der Leyen**, said: “Our highly innovative automotive industry is decarbonising to contribute to the fight against climate change, but also to maintain its competitive edge on the world markets. With today's initiative, we grant more flexibility to this key sector, and at the same time we stay the course of our climate goals. Together, we want to prove that decarbonisation and competitiveness can go hand in hand.”

The proposed flexibility measure allows manufacturers' compliance with the CO_2 targets for 2025, 2026 and 2027 to be assessed over the entire three-year period averaging their performance, rather than annually. This approach allows manufacturers to **balance any excessive annual emissions by outperforming the target in the remaining year(s).**

This additional flexibility will help **safeguard the industry's capacity to invest in the clean transition**, while **maintaining the 2025 target** and keeping the industry **on track** for the next round of **emissions reductions**. The EU wide targets intend to make the EU's transport system more sustainable and put road transport on a firm path to zero-emission mobility in 2050.

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Commission Launches Consultation to Promote Industry Cooperation to Procure and Recycle Critical Raw Materials in Line with EU Competition Rules

The European Commission has published a Call for Input seeking feedback from market participants on **how European companies procure and recycle certain critical raw materials and the interplay with EU competition rules**. This fact-finding exercise was announced in the Clean Industrial Deal Communication and aims to assess the need for greater industry cooperation in that field.

Critical raw materials are vital to the EU's industrial competitiveness and its strategic objectives. To address the challenges in securing access to and recycling critical raw materials, the Commission calls for input from stakeholders **to support greater cooperation between those companies in line with EU competition rules.**

The Commission invites in particular EU companies involved in the extraction, processing and recycling of critical raw materials to share their views. The project will initially focus on 14 critical raw materials of critical importance for sectors such as **renewable energies, digital technologies, aerospace and defence technologies.**

This initiative builds on the **objectives of the Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA)**. The CRMA underscores the significance of securing a sustainable and diversified supply of critical raw materials. On 25 March 2025, the Commission adopted a list of 47 Strategic Projects to boost domestic strategic raw material capacities. This initiative is complementary to the **system for demand aggregation** of critical raw materials, to be set-up this year under the CRMA.

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Commission invests €86 million to improve climate resilience and water security

The Commission invests **€86 million** in new **Strategic Integrated Projects** focusing on improving water quality and availability, cleaning up polluted rivers, improving fire and flood protection, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This funding will support projects awarded as part of the 2023 calls for proposals to help Europe become a climate-neutral continent by 2050.

The selected projects are located in **Denmark, Estonia, Poland, Slovenia and Iceland** and will help national, regional and local authorities implement national and European environmental and climate legislation.

They are **expected to mobilise significant additional investment** from other EU funding sources. This includes agricultural, structural, regional and research funds, in addition to national funds and private sector investment.

The Commission also adopted the **work programme for the implementation of the LIFE Programme in 2025-2027**. It sets out key strategies, actions and funding opportunities with the aim to drive Europe's transition to a clean, circular, competitive and climate-resilient economy. The work programme establishes an overall budget of €2.3 billion for projects tackling circular economy, zero pollution, nature and biodiversity, climate mitigation and adaptation, and clean energy.

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Commission Takes Action to Simplify the Implementation of the EU Deforestation Regulation

The Commission is providing further simplifications and reducing the administrative burden to facilitate the implementation of the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR). In this context, it has published **new guidance documents** in view of the Regulation's entry into application at the end of this year for Member States, operators and traders. With these clarifications and simplifications, the Commission is also replying to feedback from its international partners.

The Commission is delivering on its commitment to the European Parliament and the Council, while guaranteeing regulatory certainty within the boundaries of the Regulation.

The updated guidance and Frequently Asked Questions will provide companies, EU Member States' authorities and partner countries with additional simplified measures and clarifications on how to demonstrate that their products are deforestation-free. Both documents reflect the input from Member States, partner countries, businesses, and industry. This will also **guarantee harmonised implementation of the law across the EU**.

The simplifications introduced will be further complemented by a **Delegated Act**, published also today for public consultation. The Act provides further clarifications and simplification on the scope of EUDR, addressing stakeholders' request for guidance on specific categories of products. This will also avoid unnecessary administrative costs for economic operators and authorities.

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EU Emissions Trading System has Reduced Emissions in The Sectors Covered by 50% Since 2005

In 2024, emissions under the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) were further reduced. The power sector was again the most important driver of the decarbonisation progress.

The data reported by EU Member States by the deadline of 31 March 2025 show a 5% reduction in emissions in 2024, compared to 2023 levels from the reporting stationary installations and aircraft operators. With this development, ETS emissions are now around 50% below 2005 levels and on track to achieve the 2030 target of -62%.

The observed trend confirms the effectiveness and efficiency of the EU's cap and trade system as an important policy instrument for the decarbonisation of the European economy.

Electricity generation – significant increase in the use of renewables

The most important driver for the decrease in EU ETS emissions has been the power sector, with emissions from electricity production having been reduced by 12% below 2023 levels. This reduction is due to an increase in electricity production from renewables by 8% and nuclear by 5%, coupled with a decrease in gas by 8% and coal by 15%. The main drivers of the increased electricity production from renewables have been solar (by an impressive 19%) and hydropower. Wind-generated power remained steady in spite of less favourable weather conditions in certain periods of the year. The total production of electricity also remained consistent, with levels similar to 2023.

Industry – emissions stayed stable

The emissions of energy intensive industry continued to be on average stable. There are, however, differences between sectors. Emissions in the fertilizer sector increased, for example, by 7% while emissions in the cement sector decreased by 5%. These changes seem to be mainly the result of changes in production volumes. The fertilizer sector is partly recovering, growing its production by 6% in 2024, while the cement sector experienced a 5% reduction in production.

Aviation – emissions rise

Aviation emissions covered by the EU ETS rose compared to 2023 by around 15%, in part due to the broadening of geographical coverage (re-inclusion of non-domestic flights to and from airports in outermost regions).

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EU/EFTA-India

India, EU Exploring Possibility to Negotiate FTA in Phases

India and the European Union (EU) are exploring the option of negotiating their free trade agreement (FTA) in phases amidst an uncertain global trade environment following imposition of sweeping tariffs by the US, an official said. India has followed the practice of negotiating such trade pacts in two phases with Australia.

Negotiating the FTA in two phases allows both sides to first conclude areas where agreement can be reached more easily. Complex issues can be dealt with at a later stage. "FTA in tranches are being explored with the EU," the official said.

The two sides concluded the 10th round of negotiations in Brussels last month for the proposed agreement. The next round of talks is expected in May here.

The official added that after the visit of European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen with the EU College of Commissioners or senior political leaders of the bloc here, the talks are moving in a positive direction, and the momentum is also building.

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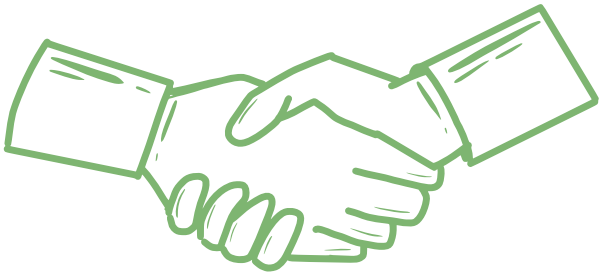

Whitepaper/Publication

European Commission work programme 2025	The Commission has adopted its **2025 work programme**, outlining its ambition to **boost competitiveness, enhance security, and bolster economic resilience** in the EU. The work programme focuses on the flagship initiatives the Commission will take in the first year of its mandate, responding to the issues that matter most to Europeans. It reflects the need for **more opportunities, innovation, and growth** for EU citizens and businesses, ultimately fostering a more secure and prosperous EU. Read More/Download
CEN and CENELEC Work Programme 2025!	CEN and CENELEC have published the 2025 Work Programme which is one of the flagship publications of CEN and CENELEC, setting out the priorities and most important actions in European standardization for the year ahead. Read More/Download
ETSI Work Programme	The ETSI Work Programme 2024-2025 provides an overview of our current standardization projects. These include the development of technologies which have had a major global impact. But at the same time, ETSI is exploring the latest emerging areas to keep in step with – and even ahead of – market demand. ETSI work programme is constantly evolving and the most up to date version is publicly available online via our database. It contains full details of all upcoming standards and specifications. Read More/Download
ECOS Annual Report 2024	Against a backdrop of political shifts, competing interests, and the stark realities of a changing climate, 2024 was challenging in many ways – but still a year full of important milestones and steps forward for ambitious environmental protection. Read More/Download
10 years of the Standardization Roadmap Industrie 4.0	Industry 4.0 requires interoperability, sovereignty and sustainability. Standardization promises to be able to achieve this. What has been done so far? At the Hannover Messe 2025, DKE presented the progress report on the standardization roadmap for Industry 4.0. Read More/Download

Upcoming Events

FutureNet World 2025

When: 07-08 May 2025
Where: London, UK

ETSI is pleased to actively support this year again FutureNet World 2025. FutureNet World 2025 is the premier event bringing the global telecoms industry together to explore and address the strategic and commercial priorities shaping today's digital landscape.

More Information

ETSI STQ Conference - Communications for All

When: 13-14 May 2025
Where: ETSI, Sophia Antipolis, France

ETSI Technical Committee **S**peech and multimedia **T**ransmission **Q**uality (TC STQ) is pleased to announce that the ETSI STQ Conference: Communications for All - Supporting Diversity and Accessibility through Quality of End-to-end Network Transmission and Devices in Human-to-human and Human-to-machine Communication.

More Information

TFS#7 Hackfest

When: 19-22 May 2025
Where: Castelldefels, Barcelona

The ETSI TeraFlowSDN (TFS) community is organizing the TFS#7 Hackfest on 19-22 May 2025. This Hackfest will be hosted by CTTC in their premises in Castelldefels, Barcelona, Spain and will be dedicated to the integration of a Network Slice Controller (NSC) with TeraFlowSDN.

More Information

ETSI/IQC Quantum Safe Cryptography Conference 2025

When: 03-05 June 2025
Where: Madrid

ETSI and the Institute for Quantum Computing are thrilled to organize the 2025 edition of their joint event, the **ETSI/IQC Quantum Safe Cryptography Conference**. This year, the event will be hosted **physically** by the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM).

More Information

ABOUT PROJECT

The SESEI project (Seconded European Standardization Expert in India) is a project cofunded by five European partners, operating from New Delhi, India, with the objective to increase the visibility of European standardization in India and to promote EU/EFTA-India cooperation on standards and related activities. The SESEI Project (http://sesei.eu/) is managed by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI - http://www.etsi.org/ and is further supported by two other EU recognized Standards Organization, namely the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) and the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC) – http://www.cencenelec.eu, as well as by the European Commission (www.ec.europa.eu) and the European Free Trade Association (http://www.efta.int/). It is a Standardization focused project, with a priority emphasis on the sectors falling under Digitization and Clean & Green Technologies etc.

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