



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK – TOPICAL DIGEST

February 2018

Cities play a key role in the transition to a sustainable economy and in achieving the targets of the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals. They are important actors in climate change mitigation and adaptation and in the move towards clean energy and low-emission mobility. On the occasion of the European Covenant of Mayors' Investment Forum & Ceremony on 21-22 February 2018, this Topical Digest brings together some of the European Parliament's main think tank publications on cities, climate change and energy.

Cities: Front line of climate action

Briefing by Vivienne Halleux, European Parliamentary Research Service, February 2018

Cities have a crucial role to play in addressing the climate change challenge and delivering on the ambitions of the Paris Agreement. Many European cities are leading the way in this regard, for instance in the framework of the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy.

Research for REGI committee – Cohesion policy and Paris Agreement Targets

Study by the European Parliament's Policy Department for Structural and Cohesion Policies, June 2017

This study examines experience of the mainstreaming of climate policy objectives into cohesion policy in the current (2014-2020) and earlier programming periods, including with respect to its urban dimension, and to territorial cooperation.

Challenges for EU cohesion policy: Issues in the forthcoming post-2020 reform

Briefing by Vasilis Margaras, European Parliamentary Research Service, February 2018

The debate on the shape of the post-2020 cohesion policy is well under way. Stakeholders have identified a number of principal issues or questions in this regard, relating to the operation of the policy itself as well as its impact and relationship with other EU policies and with the wider goals and objectives of the Union.

Research for ENVI committee – Implementing the Paris Agreement: New Challenges in View of the COP 23 Climate Change Conference

Study by the European Parliament's Policy Department for Economic and Scientific Policies, October 2017.

This study summarises the developments leading to the adoption of the Paris Agreement on climate change in 2015 and provides an overview of its contents.

Towards low-emission EU mobility

Briefing by Marketa Pape, European Parliamentary Research Service, March 2017

The European Commission has put forward a comprehensive strategy to accelerate the transformation towards low-emission mobility, without compromising European mobility and competitiveness.

Review of the Clean Vehicles Directive

Briefing by Gregor Erbach, European Parliamentary Research Service, January 2018

Should public authorities be forerunners in the adoption of clean vehicles? The Commission proposed public procurement targets that should boost the demand and encourage manufacturers to invest in clean vehicles.

Financing the transition to clean energy in Europe

Briefing by Gregor Erbach, European Parliamentary Research Service, October 2017,

Financing the transition towards clean energy is primarily a task for the private sector, but governments and the EU also have a critical role in creating a supportive policy framework.

Third report on the state of the energy union

Briefing by Alex Wilson, European Parliamentary Research Service, December 2017

The European Commission's third report on the state of the energy union outlines the progress made, as well as the further steps that need to be taken to achieve its goals.

[Towards a circular economy - Waste management in the EU](#)

Study by STOA (Science and Technology Options Assessment), September 2017

This STOA study explores waste management in the EU and its role in the transition towards a circular economy. It highlights progress and challenges across Member States and in municipalities for reducing waste and generating high-quality waste streams for re-use and recovery.

Further reading

[Research for REGI Committee - Financial instruments for energy efficiency and renewable energy](#)

Study for the REGI Committee by the European Parliament's Policy Department for Structural and Cohesion Policies, September 2017

[Improving energy performance of buildings](#)

'EU Legislation in Progress' briefing by Alex Benjamin Wilson, European Parliamentary Research Service, November 2017

[Revised Energy Efficiency Directive](#)

'EU Legislation in Progress' briefing by Nikolina Šajn, European Parliamentary Research Service, October 2017

[Promoting renewable energy sources in the EU after 2020](#)

'EU Legislation in Progress' briefing by Alex Benjamin Wilson, European Parliamentary Research Service, October 2017

[Green Public Procurement and the EU Action Plan for the Circular Economy](#)

Study for the ENVI Committee, by the European Parliament's Policy Department for Economic and Scientific Policies, June 2017

[The role of cities in the institutional framework of the European Union](#)

Study for the AFCO Committee by the European Parliament's Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs, October 2017

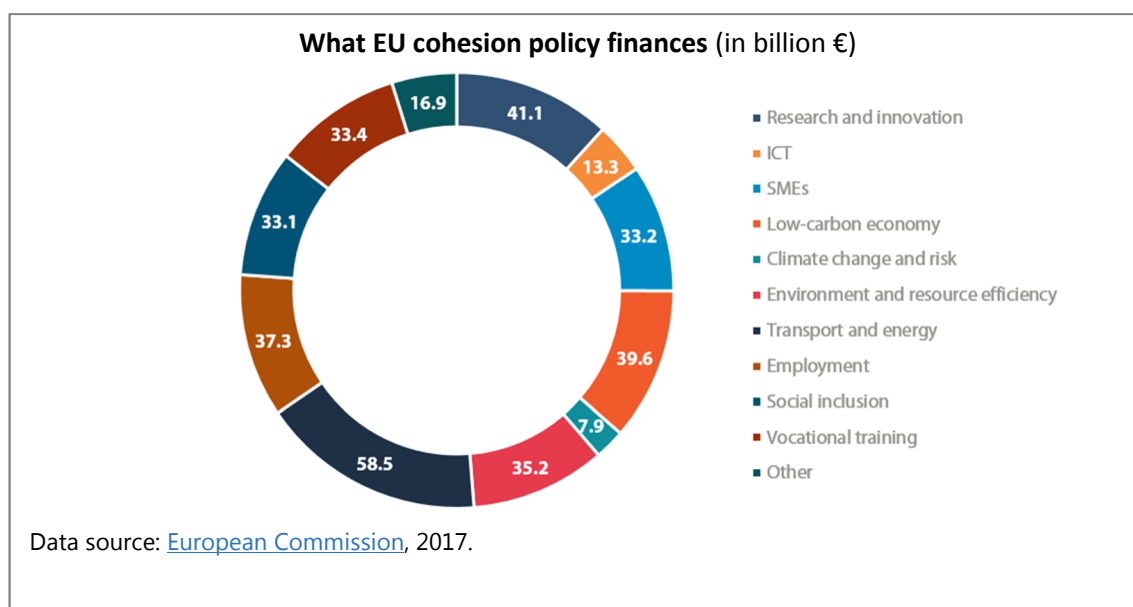
[Urban agriculture in Europe Patterns, challenges and policies](#)

In-Depth Analysis by James McEldowney, European Parliamentary Research Service, December 2017

[Moving forward with the Urban Agenda for the EU](#)

Briefing by Christiaan van Lierop, European Parliamentary Research Service, November 2017

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