

**March 2021**

Hosted by the European Economic and Social Committee on 18-20 March 2021, this year's 'Your Europe, Your Say!' (YEYS) event will take the form of a model International Climate Change Conference, with its young participants discussing how best to protect the planet for future generations and move closer towards achieving the 2050 climate neutrality goals. Based on these discussions, participants will be encouraged to formulate concrete recommendations on how to stop climate change, which the EESC will take forward and present to international environmental policy-makers during the course of the year ahead. To help translate these recommendations into specific measures, students will also be put in touch with international youth organisations as part of the YEYS event. This digest presents a selection of publications from the European Parliamentary Research Service, which can help feed into the discussions at this year's event.



**Our climate,
our future!**

18-19-20 March 2021 #YEYS2021
www.eesc.europa.eu/YEYS2021

Climate change and climate action

Ideas Paper by Gregor Erbach, EPRS, July 2020

The coronavirus crisis presents challenges as well as opportunities for policies to address the issue of climate change. Measures taken in reaction to the pandemic have led to a dramatic fall in economic and social activity, and to a corresponding temporary drop in greenhouse gas emissions. The economic crisis has had a negative impact on household or corporate finances, which may lead to reduction or delay to investment in low-carbon technologies. The postponement of the COP26 climate change conference by one year slows down international climate action, but also offers the opportunity for the parties to develop ambitious long-term strategies in the aftermath of the coronavirus crisis.

What if technology and culture combined to boost a green recovery?

'At a glance' note by Vadim Kononenko, EPRS, December 2020

With its current European Green Deal plan, the EU is striving to achieve climate neutrality in its economy by 2050 and, simultaneously, set itself on the path to recovery from the adverse effects of the global pandemic. Technology will inevitably play a significant part in this process. However, history also suggests that culture and aesthetics have a significant role to play in recovery from a crisis, be it from war, economic recession, or an epidemic.

'Farm to Fork' strategy: Striving for healthy and sustainable food

'At a glance' note by Rachele Rossi, EPRS, June 2020

Launched on 20 May 2020, the 'Farm to Fork' strategy put forward the EU's ambition for making its food system a model of sustainability at all stages of the food value chain. Ahead of the desired engagement of institutions, stakeholders and citizens in a broad debate, the strategy is already high on the agri-food community's agenda.

A more resilient, sustainable and fair Europe after coronavirus?

'At a glance' note by Nora Milotay, EPRS, June 2020

The triple-crisis – the pandemic's public health and economic consequences intertwined with the underlying environmental crisis – may lead to increasing divergence, instead of convergence and cohesion among Member States, regions, generations and different groups of society across the EU and globally.

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[european parliamentary research service](https://www.youtube.com/european-parliamentary-research-service)

Further reading

[COP25 climate change conference: Outcomes](#)

'At a glance' note by Gregor Erbach, EPRS, March 2020

[What if AI could help us become 'greener'?](#)

'At a glance' note by Vadim Kononenko, EPRS, November 2020

[What if 'rewilding' could help reverse biodiversity loss in Europe?](#)

'At a glance' note by Nera Kuljanic, EPRS, September 2020

[Forest fires: Environmental stakes](#)

Briefing by Vivienne Halleux, EPRS, November 2020

[What if we could engineer the planet to help fight climate change?](#)

'At a glance' note by Lieve Van Woensel, EPRS, February 2021

[EU agricultural policy and climate change](#)

Briefing by James McEldowney, EPRS, May 2020

[Sustainable consumption: Helping consumers make eco-friendly choices](#)

Briefing by Nikolina Šajn, EPRS, October 2020

[What if fashion were good for the planet?](#)

'At a glance' note by Lieve Van Woensel, EPRS, September 2020

[Cohesion policy contribution to New European Bauhaus](#)

'At a glance' note by Agnieszka Widuto, EPRS, February 2021

[A Just Transition Fund for climate-neutral EU regions](#)

Infographic by Sorina Ionescu and Frederik Scholaert, EPRS, October 2020

[EU climate target plan: Raising the level of ambition for 2030](#)

Briefing by Liselotte Jensen, EPRS, December 2020

[EU hydrogen policy: Hydrogen as an energy carrier for a climate-neutral economy](#)

Briefing by Gregor Erbach and Liselotte Jensen, EPRS, February 2021

[Sustainable and smart mobility strategy](#)

Briefing by Marketa Pape, EPRS, January 2021

[Next generation or lost generation? Children, young people and the pandemic](#)

Briefing by Nora Milotay, EPRS, December 2020

[Ten issues to watch in 2021](#)

In-depth Analysis by Étienne Bassot, January 2021

More information:



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