



**2020/2077(INI)**

21.9.2020

# **DRAFT OPINION**

of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

for the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

on the new Circular Economy Action Plan  
(2020/2077(INI))

Rapporteur for opinion (\*): Patrizia Toia

(\* ) Associated committee – Rule 57 of the Rules of Procedure

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## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy calls on the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Welcomes the Commission's intention to review Directive 2009/125/EC; stresses that broadening its scope should not lead to any watering down of the results achieved in the field of energy efficiency;
2. Underlines that research into materials, processes, technologies and products, as well as into their industrial scale-up, can provide European companies with a worldwide competitive advantage; believes that shortening a number of value chains would make European industrial ecosystems more resilient, competitive and profitable, as well as promote the EU's strategic autonomy;
3. Stresses the importance of boosting research efforts in the field of chemical recycling which, paired with organic and mechanical recycling, will complete a technology-neutral framework;
4. Calls on the Commission to step up its efforts to make more small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) fit for the circular economy, by supporting them through adequate incentive schemes and financing tools, capacity building and technical assistance, as well as by reducing their administrative and legal burdens;
5. Is of the opinion that the transition towards a digital economy in all sectors can reduce their environmental footprint, while also boosting the green transition; points out that measures are nevertheless needed to deal with the short- and medium-term costs of the transitions and to make them just;
6. Believes that the positive role played by social economy enterprises, which are paving the way to circular economy models, should serve as an inspiration to other companies, and that such best practices should be made more visible;
7. Asks the Commission to support a digital transition that builds on maximising the value of data and deploying digitally-enabled solutions to permit the sustainable use of resources and to maintain the value of products and materials for as long as possible.