







EU Institutions and Agencies in Environmental Decision-Making

Course 3

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Jean Monnet Chair - Green Deal and European Negotiations

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Content:

- 3. 1. The European Parliament, European Council, and European Commission: roles and functions
- 3. 2. The European Environment Agency and other relevant agencies
- 3. 3. Interactions and dynamics between EU institutions in environmental policy-making





3. 1. The European Parliament, European Council, and European Commission: roles and functions

- 3.1.1. The European Parliament (EP)
- 3.1.2. The European Council
- 3.1.3. The European Commission
- 3.1.4. The Council of the European Union
- 3.1.5. The European Environment Agency (EEA) and Other Relevant Agencies
- 3.1.6. Interactions and Dynamics between EU Institutions in Environmental Policy-Making

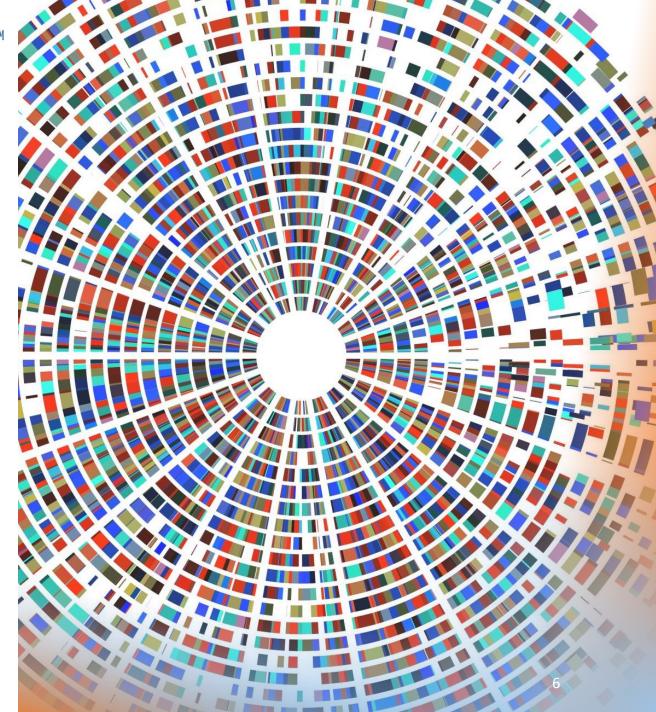






3.1.1. The European Parliament (EP)

- Role and functions of the European Parliament in the EU's legislative process
- Composition, election process, and representation of MEPs (Members of the European Parliament)
- The EP's role in shaping environmental policies and regulations







European Climate Law: EU Parliament backs overhaul of Europe's biggest climate policy

 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U yjRRfeXTH4&ab channel=WION







- Role of the European Council as a key decision-making body in the EU
- Composition of the European Council and the role of heads of state or government
- The European Council's involvement in setting strategic priorities for the EU, including environmental policies

3.1.2. The **European Council**









3.1.3. The European Commission



The European Commission as the EU's executive branch and administrative body



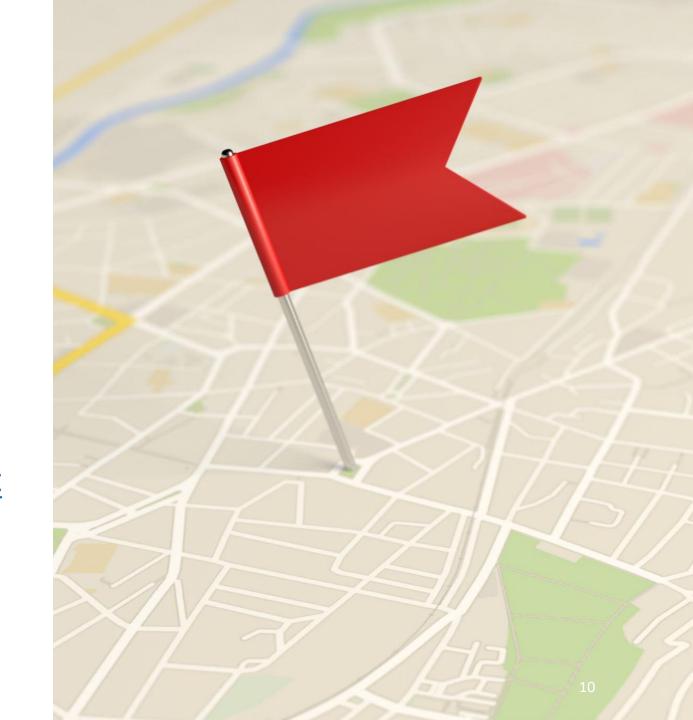
Appointment of Commissioners and their responsibilities, including the Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries



The Commission's role in proposing legislation, implementing policies, and enforcing EU environmental regulations

Strategic Foresight Report of European Commission

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= dvfKtHtPzBE&ab channel=EuropeanC ommission











3.1.4. The Council of the European Union



Role of the Council of the European Union in the legislative process and policy-making



Different configurations of the Council, including the Environment Council responsible for environmental policy discussions



Decision-making procedures within the Council and the adoption of environmental legislation







Spanish Presidency of the Council of EU 1 July-31 December 2023

- Priorities:
 - reindustrialize the EU
 - advance in the green transition
 - promote social and economic justice
 - strengthen European unity



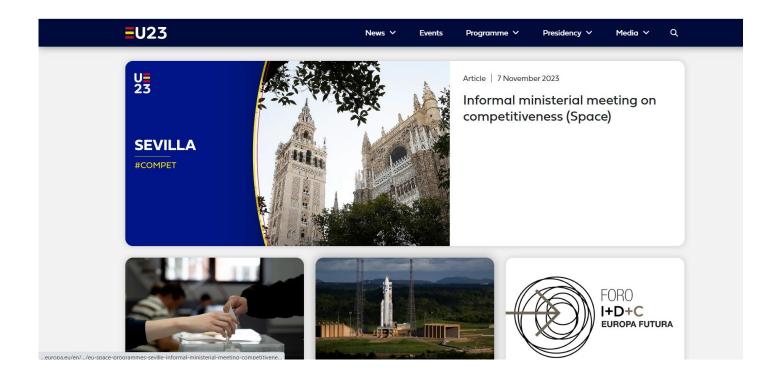






Spanish Presidency website

 https://spanishpresidency.consilium.europ a.eu/en/





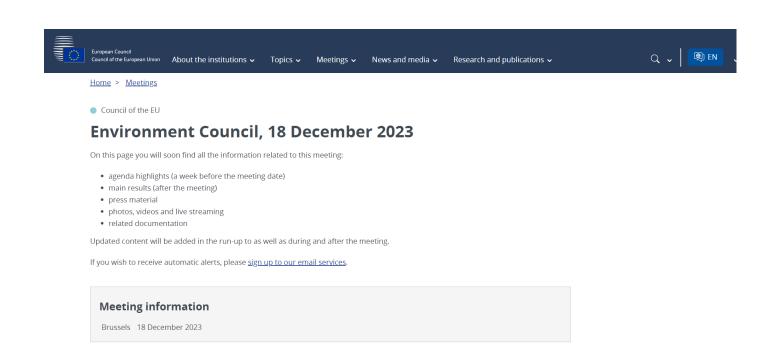






ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL of EUROPEAN UNION

 Next meeting – 18th of December











- The Environment Council is responsible for EU environment policy, including environmental protection, prudent use of resources and the protection of human health. It also deals with international environmental issues, especially in the area of climate change.
- It is made up of ministers responsible for matters specifically relating to the environment. The European Commission is represented in meetings by both the Commissioner for the environment and the Commissioner for climate action.
- There are about four Environment Council meetings a year.





- Future meetings 18 December, under the Spanish presidency of Council of EU
- Example of ENV meeting:
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ad
 OPbZvnTjl&ab channel=EU2017EE





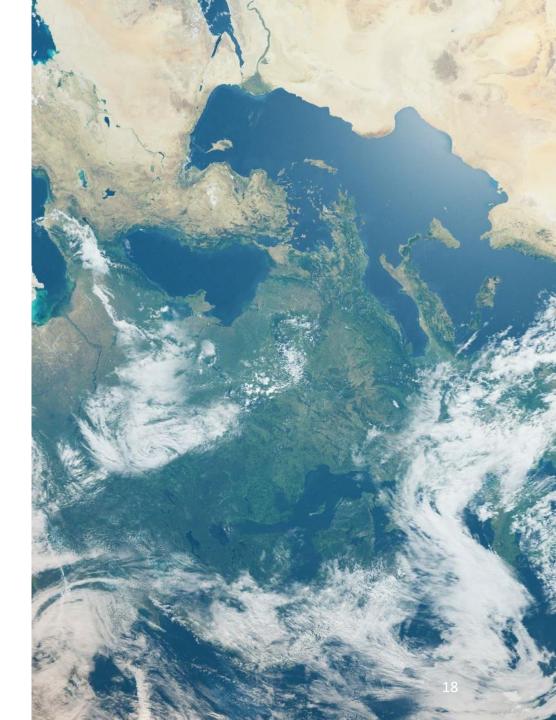
Environment policy:

- In its role as a policy-maker, the Council is responsible for the adoption, together with the European Parliament, of ambitious environmental legislation that protects natural habitats, keeps air and water clean, ensures proper waste disposal, improves knowledge about toxic chemicals and helps businesses move towards a sustainable economy.
- It also makes sure that environmental aspects are properly integrated into other EU policies, such as industry, agriculture, transport, energy and services.
- At international level, the EU and its member states strive to ensure that the EU's environmental standards are reflected in international environmental and climate change agreements.
- The Council is responsible for preparing EU positions for international conferences and climate change negotiations.



EU environmental policy explained:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NudwLsEnA0s&a
 b channel=KarlLonsdalePrimus



Towards a greener and more sustainable Europe

- EU citizens benefit from some of the highest environmental standards in the world.
- The EU and national governments have set clear objectives to guide European environment policy until 2020 and a vision beyond that, of where to be by 2050, with the support of dedicated research programmes, legislation and funding:
 - protect, conserve and enhance the EU's natural capital
 - turn the EU into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy
 - safeguard EU citizens from environmentrelated pressures and risks to health and wellbeing



EU environmental priorities:

- EU policy protects the environment and seeks to minimize risks to climate, human health and biodiversity.
- The European Green Deal aims to make Europe:
 - the world's first climate-neutral continent, in part by
 - developing cleaner sources of energy and green technologies.



Environment is a priority for cohesion policy

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NH mXCWgEs0&ab_channel=FRANCE24English 1/31/2024











3.2. The European Environment Agency (EEA) and Other Relevant Agencies



Functions and responsibilities of the European Environment Agency in providing environmental information and assessments



Overview of other EU agencies relevant to environmental decision-making (e.g., European Chemicals Agency, European Maritime Safety Agency)



Collaborative efforts between agencies, institutions, and member states in environmental policy implementation









European Environment Agency

https://www.eea.europa.eu/en



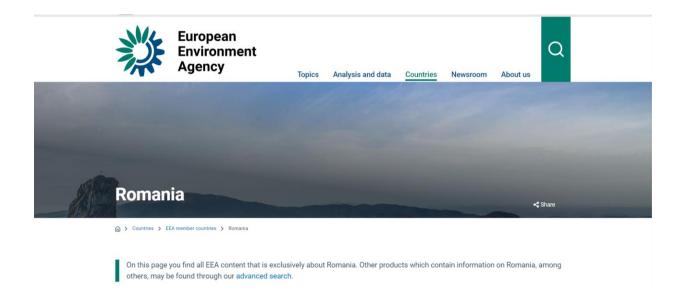








Data for Romania





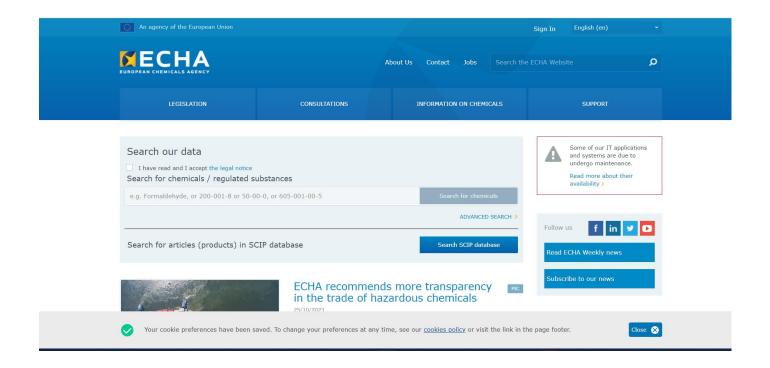






European Chemicals Agency

https://echa.europa.eu/





https://emsa.europa.eu/reducing-emissio

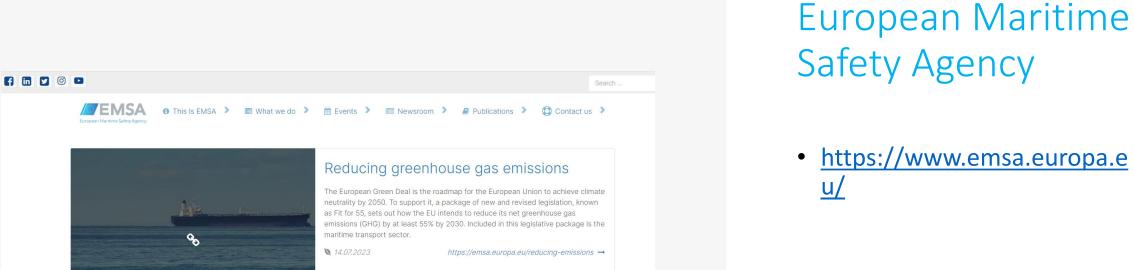


EMSAFE Report

The first comprehensive overview of maritime safety in the European Union, the





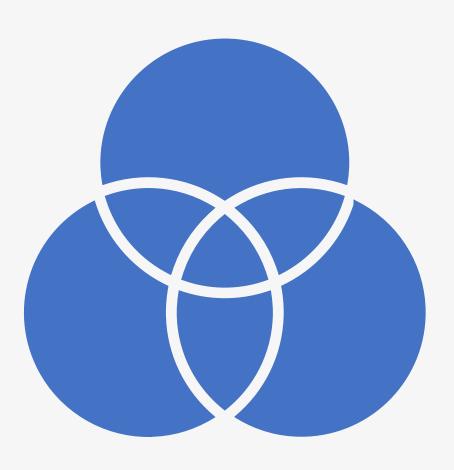












3.3. Interactions and Dynamics between EU Institutions in Environmental Policy-Making

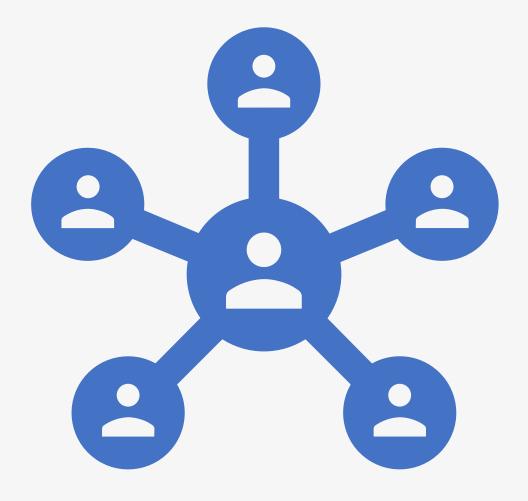
- Analyzing the interplay between the European Parliament, European Council, European Commission, and Council of the European Union in environmental decision-making
- Understanding the negotiation processes and compromises required to reach consensus on environmental policies
- Case studies illustrating successful examples of cooperation and challenges faced in EU environmental policy formation











Cooperation for reducing the climate change effects on EU – sharing knowledge, developing a resilient society

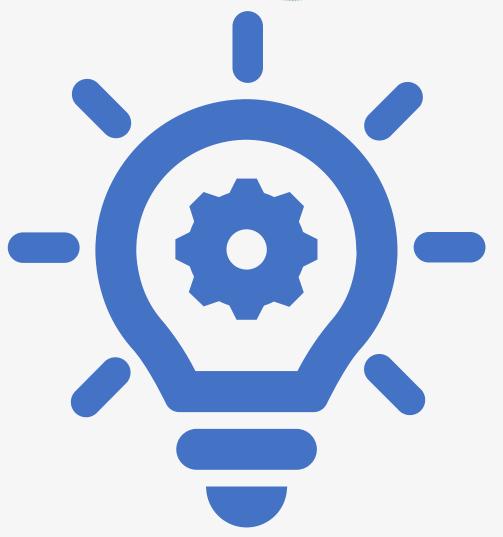
 https://www.youtube.com/watc h?v=jS0ZIUtsQHg&ab channel= EuropeanEnvironmentAgency











Interactive Session: EU Institutional Role-Playing Exercise

- Engaging participants in a role-playing exercise representing different EU institutions involved in environmental decisionmaking
- Simulating a scenario related to the development of an environmental policy or regulation









Conclusions:

Exploration of the key EU institutions and agencies involved in environmental decision-making is important for a better perspective of the green European future.

Each European institution has roles, functions, and interactions within the EU's legislative process.

The interactive role-playing exercise offered participants a hands-on experience in simulating the dynamics of EU institutional decision-making in the context of environmental policy.