

EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability

#ChemicalsStrategy

#EUGreenDeal



European
Commission

© 2020 / Gettyimages

Chemicals in Numbers



Europe is the second largest producer with **16.9%** of global sales



EU chemicals industry employs **1.2 million** people



59% of chemicals supplied to other sectors, such as health, constructions, automotive, electronics, textiles

84%

Europeans are worried about the impact of chemicals present in everyday products on their health

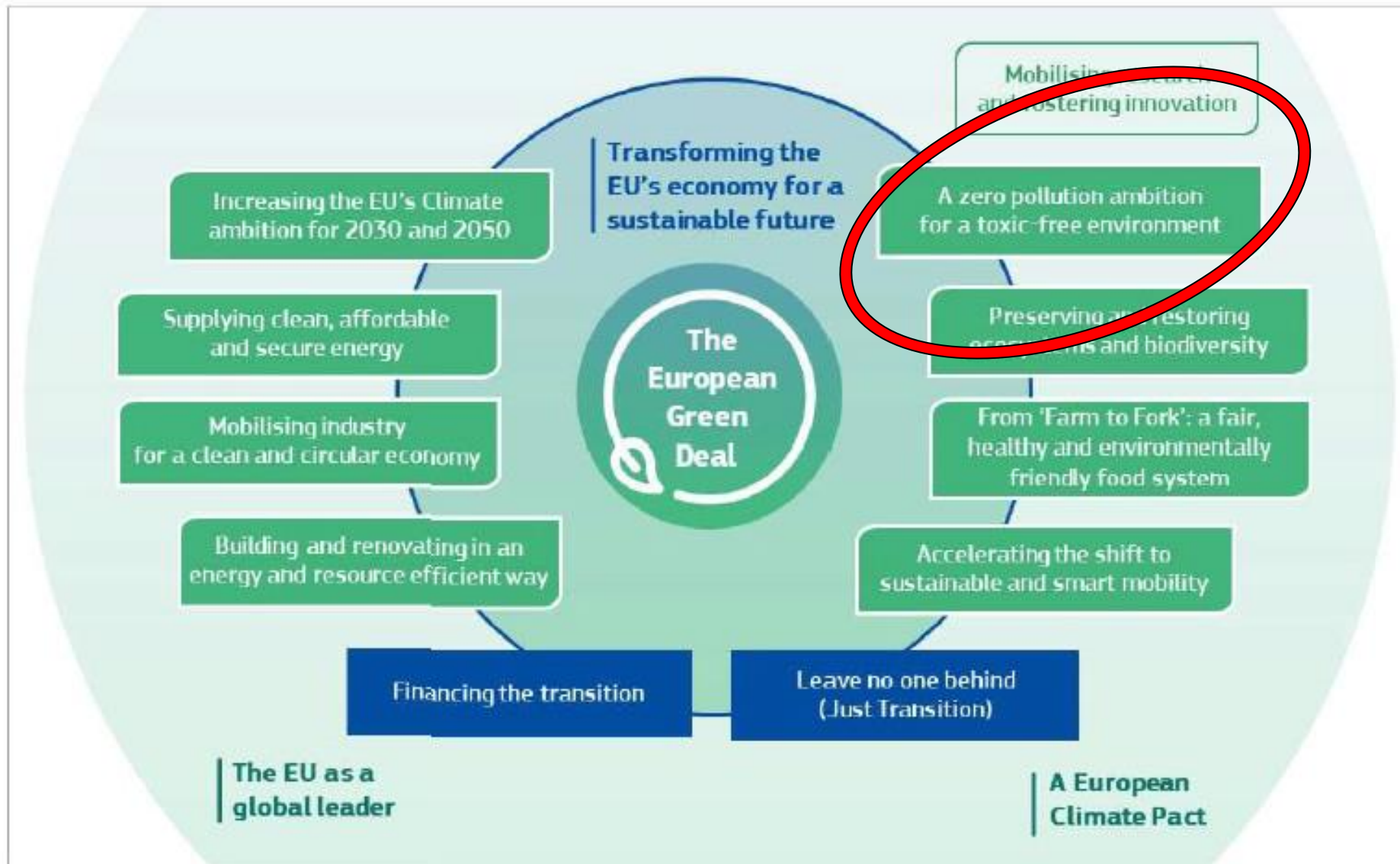


90%

Europeans are worried about the impact of chemicals on the environment



The European Green Deal



Building on an advanced framework and extensive policy evaluations and input

Fitness check of the most relevant chemicals legislation (excluding REACH)

REACH Review

Many other specific evaluations

Conference in June 2019

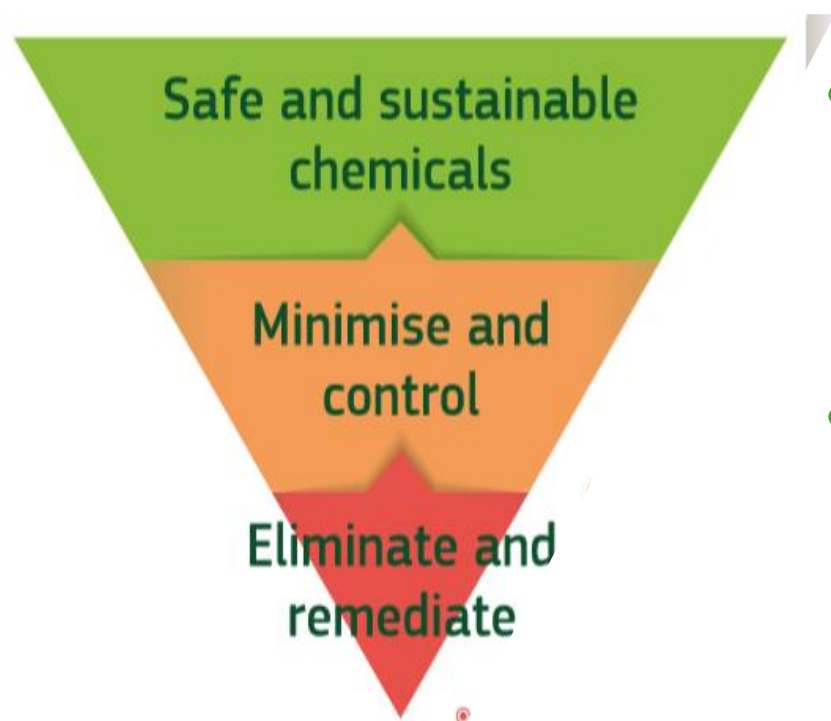
Roadmap consulted

Council Conclusions 2019

EP Resolution 2020



2030 vision – towards a toxic-free environment



- Chemicals are produced/used in a way that **maximises their benefits to society** while **avoiding harm to planet & people**
- Production and use of *safe and sustainable chemicals* becomes the EU market norm and a global standard

TOXIC-FREE ENVIRONMENT: 5 building blocks

Innovation,
competitiveness,
recovery

Strengthen
legislation for
better protection

Simplification &
coherence

Knowledge and
science

Global

1. Boosting innovation



- Promoting chemicals that are **safe and sustainable-by-design: criteria and support network**
- **Support industrial innovation** : climate neutral & clean production
- **Identify key chemical value chains/technologies** & promote open strategic autonomy
- **Non-toxic material cycles** in products & waste decontamination solutions

2. Strengthening legislation

Ensure that the most harmful chemicals are not contained in consumer products

- *(CMRs), endocrine disruptors, persistent and bio-accumulative substances, chemicals affecting immune, neurological and respiratory systems and toxic to specific organs*

- **new hazard classes (CLP)** on endocrine disruptors, PBTs/vPvBs and persistent and mobile substances
- Address **chemical mixtures** across legislation, i.e. Mixture Assessment Factor (REACH)
- Boost protection of **children (childcare articles), professional users, and workers**
- Apply the concept of **essential uses** in chemical legislation
- Phase out the non-essential **uses of PFAS**

3. Simplifying and consolidating



- **'One substance, one assessment':**
 - **Improve transparency** via a tool to give overview of all planned and ongoing initiatives, discussion with MS and agencies, internal Commission coordination mechanisms
 - **Reallocation of scientific work**
- **Improve methodologies, data interoperability and accessibility** including through a common open data platform on chemicals
- **Reform the authorisation and restriction** processes under REACH
- **Strengthen compliance, enforcement and market surveillance**, by i.a.
 - **Audits** on enforcement systems
 - **Compliance** of registration dossiers,
 - **More and better (targeted) controls** e.g. online sales and imported articles

4. A comprehensive knowledge base

- Establish a EU research & innovation agenda for **chemicals**
- Promote **innovative testing and risk assessment methods** and their regulatory uptake
- **Improve knowledge on chemical properties** and uses
 - by requiring more information (polymers, environmental footprint, low volumes, for specific hazard properties)
 - by tracking substances on concerns in products/materials
- Finance via the Research and Innovation programmes **Human and Environmental (Bio)-monitoring**
- **EU early warning and action system** for chemicals
- Framework of **indicators** to better assess our policies



5. Setting the example globally

- Global strategic objectives and targets beyond 2020
- Promote the use of the **Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)**
- **Chemicals banned in the EU not produced for export**
- **Common standards and innovative assessment tools internationally** notably with OECD
- **Sound management of chemicals in international cooperation** – Africa & neighboring countries



Processes and participation

- High level roundtable:
 - Industry, incl. SMEs
 - Science
 - Civil society
- **Targeted** amendments of REACH, CLP and sectoral legislation
- Legislative processes will be **underpinned by better regulation including impact assessments**



Thank you

EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability

© European Union 2020



Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders