

EN

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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné
on behalf of the European Commission
(17.3.2026)

In January 2025, the Commission presented the Competitiveness Compass¹, a new roadmap to restore the EU's dynamism and boost economic growth. The European pulp and paper industry benefits from a large range of policies announced in the Competitiveness Compass and already adopted by the Commission such as the EU Omnibus Packages², the Clean Industrial Deal³ as well as the Action Plan on Affordable Energy⁴. In November 2025, the Commission presented the Strategic Framework for a Competitive and Sustainable EU Bioeconomy (EU Bioeconomy Strategy)⁵, which aims to boost innovation and support European companies in making a success of the green transition. The European pulp and paper industry will benefit from many actions announced in the EU Bioeconomy Strategy such as the creation of lead markets for bio-based materials.

Specifically in respect of the export of waste from the EU, new and stricter waste export rules under the Waste Shipment Regulation⁶ will ensure that waste is exported only where it can be ensured that it will be managed in conditions that are equivalent to those required in the EU. It is expected that more waste will be retained in the EU as a result of that stricter regime.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0030>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52025PC0081>.

³ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0085>.

⁴ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0079>.

⁵ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0960>.

⁶ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02024R1157-20250109>.