



Policy Brief on the Environmental Omnibus Package

While the European Commission holds firmly to the importance of maintaining the EU's environment standards and that the clean transition can serve as a driver for prosperity and competitiveness, they also recognise that environmental goals should not negatively impact Europe's ability to face socioeconomic challenges because of unnecessary bureaucracy and costs. As such, on 10 December 2025, the European Commission presented its [eighth Omnibus simplification package](#), targeting several fields of environmental legislation with a projected reduction of administrative burdens totalling €1 billion per year.

Proposed Legislative Changes

The proposed changes largely fall into four categories. First, the scheme for emissions management systems (EMS) would be substantially revised. Whereas industrial and livestock rearing operators are currently required to have an EMS in place for every one of their installations, the Omnibus instead calls for the introduction of national-level systems which would encapsulate all installations operated by an entity within a particular Member State. The requirements for these systems would also be loosened – repealing the need for inventories of hazardous chemicals, chemical risk assessments, auditing, and transformation plans – which, combined with the postponement of EMS implementation from 2027 to 2030 would allow businesses a greater degree of flexibility and reduced red tape.

Second, there is the streamlining of environmental assessment procedures. The proposed Regulation on this topic within the Omnibus calls for the establishment of single points of contact within Member States to coordinate all aspects of assessments and for permit-granting. This coordination would also entail joint procedures, allowing for a single assessment to cover multiple directives. Finally, the proposal lays out a clear plan for the digitalisation of access to information and assessment submissions within two years of the Regulation entering into force.

The Omnibus targets a substantial number of Directives on waste management, particularly involving hazardous substances, electronic equipment, plastics, and batteries. These changes are largely meant to suspend various pieces of legislation which will more aptly be covered by forthcoming initiatives, such as the [One Substance One Assessment package](#), the [digital product passport](#), and the [Circular Economy Act](#).

Finally, to ensure Member States have easy access to high-quality geospatial data, the [INSPIRE Directive](#) will be updated to align it with the [Open Data Directive](#) and the goals of the [Digital Omnibus](#). The use of this data would enable climate monitoring and risk assessment, aid in planning sustainable mobility practices, and improve emergency preparedness.