

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Batteries Regulation: An important package for Europe's battery materials supply chain

Brussels, 12 December 2022: “We congratulate EU legislators for reaching today’s landmark agreement. The Battery Regulation’s new recycling and sustainability rules are an important step to differentiating Europe’s batteries market on the global stage”, said Kamila Slupek, Sustainability Director of Eurometaux (Europe’s metals association), welcoming last Friday’s trilogue agreement on the new EU Batteries Regulation.

“We’re now committed to work with legislators for effectively implementing the Regulation. A big push is needed to deliver a robust package of delegated acts that translate today’s ambition into workable rules for Europe’s growing batteries supply chain”.

EU institutions agreed on a package of new rules for green batteries on the European market, including recycling targets, due diligence requirements, carbon footprint reporting, and a targeted hazardous chemicals approach.

Particularly important, the EU has set several different recycling targets for battery materials and their content in new products. These will be reviewed in 2028 to keep pace with market developments.

Slupek continued: “Recycling will be Europe’s best long-term opportunity to establish strategic autonomy for battery metals. But the batteries market will expand rapidly this decade. No one knows today how much battery scrap will be available by 2030. The Commission’s commitment to review its recycled content targets by 2028 is especially important to confirm feasibility for European players once the picture is clearer”.

“We’re also pleased negotiators have agreed that battery production scrap will count towards recycled content targets, as this will make up the bulk of European supply until after 2030”

The Batteries Regulation agreement comes as the European Union considers its reaction to the US Inflation Reduction Act, which promises lavish subsidies and tax breaks for US battery materials producers and cell manufacturers. The US’s industrial strategy risks diverting new investments away from the European battery supply chain.

Kamila Slupek concluded: “The EU must partner today’s new rules with an even stronger industrial plan to grow Europe’s battery materials supply chain in the face of US subsidies and China state-support. In the next two years we need much more European investment into mining, refining, and recycling operations for battery materials”.

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About Eurometaux: Eurometaux is a trade association representing the collective European non-ferrous metals industry, including miners, smelters, refiners, fabricators and recyclers. The industry employs 500,000 people across over 900 facilities, with an annual turnover of €120bn.

