European Parliament
2024-2029

TEXTS ADOPTED

P10_TA(2026)0394

Speeding-up environmental assessments (Omnibus VIII on environmental legislation)

Amendments adopted by the European Parliament on 25 November 2026 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on speeding-up environmental assessments (COM(2025)0984 – C10-0337/2025 – 2025/0391(COD))[1]

(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)

[1] The matter was referred back for interinstitutional negotiations to the committee responsible, pursuant to Rule 60(4), fourth subparagraph (A10-0290/2026).

Amendment 1
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 1

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(1) The political guidelines for the European Commission's 2024-2029 term[3] , sets out a plan for the Union's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness. Making business easier and deepening the Single Market are among the key priorities.	(1) The political guidelines for the European Commission's 2024-2029 term[3], sets out a plan for the Union's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness. Making business easier and deepening the Single Market are among the key priorities ***while staying the course on Union´s climate and environmental goals***.
[3] Europe's Choice, Political Guidelines for the next European Commission 2024−2029, Ursula von der Leyen	[3] Europe's Choice, Political Guidelines for the next European Commission 2024−2029, Ursula von der Leyen

Amendment 2
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 2

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(2) The Union has committed to the accelerated decarbonisation of its economy to achieve climate neutrality, namely net-zero emissions or emissions after the deduction of removals, by 2050. That objective is at the heart of the European Green Deal and is in line with the Union's commitment to global climate action under the Paris Agreement.	(2) The Union has committed to the accelerated decarbonisation of its economy to achieve climate neutrality, namely net-zero emissions or emissions after the deduction of removals, by 2050. That objective is at the heart of the European Green Deal and is in line with the Union's commitment to global climate action under the Paris Agreement ***and should be achieved with respect to the goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework***.

Amendment 3

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 3

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(3) At the same time, the findings of the 2024 Draghi report[4] indicate that lengthy and uncertain permit granting procedures are an obstacle for the roll-out of critical projects such as new power supply and grids. The Clean Industrial Deal Communication[5] indicates that it is to speed up permit granting procedures, in particular for the deployment of grids, energy storage and renewables projects, industrial access to energy and industrial decarbonisation projects as well as manufacturing of clean technologies. Faster permit granting procedures are necessary, amongst ***other, for Data centre projects,*** EuroHPC supercomputer facilities***, AI factories, AI Gigafactories,*** semiconductor projects. Also, this is needed for projects supporting the digital transition, for those related to the decarbonisation of maritime and inland ports, airports and railways of trans-European transport network. Faster permitting is also necessary for projects which are critical to ensure food security in the Union.	(3) At the same time, the findings of the 2024 Draghi report[4] indicate that lengthy and uncertain permit granting procedures are an obstacle for the roll-out of critical projects such as new power supply and grids. The Clean Industrial Deal Communication[5] indicates that it is to speed up permit granting procedures, in particular for the deployment of grids, energy storage and renewables projects, industrial access to energy and industrial decarbonisation projects as well as manufacturing of clean technologies. Faster permit granting procedures are necessary, amongst ***others, for*** EuroHPC supercomputer facilities ***and*** semiconductor projects. Also, this is needed for projects supporting the digital transition, for those related to the decarbonisation of maritime and inland ports, airports and railways of trans-European transport network. Faster permitting is also necessary for projects which are critical to ensure food security in the Union.
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[4] Draghi, M. (2024) The future of European competitiveness. Available at: The Draghi report on EU competitiveness	[4] Draghi, M. (2024) The future of European competitiveness. Available at: The Draghi report on EU competitiveness
[5] Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, The EUROPEAN Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions of 26 February 2025,	[5] Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, The EUROPEAN Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions of 26 February 2025,

The Clean Industrial Deal: A joint roadmap for competitiveness and decarbonisation (COM(2025) 85 final).	The Clean Industrial Deal: A joint roadmap for competitiveness and decarbonisation (COM(2025) 85 final).

Amendment 4
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 4

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(4) Affordable housing should be available to households that are not able, due to market outcomes and notably market failures, to access housing at affordable conditions. For this purpose, housing affordability should be measured on the basis of reliable indicators such as for example the housing cost overburden rate, a rent-to-income ratio, a mortgage payment to income ratio, a price to income ratio, or years of income to buy a home. Energy costs should be considered as part of the total housing costs, at least for buildings with a low energy performance.	***deleted***

Amendment 5
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(4a) In order to reduce unnecessary administrative burden for project developers while ensuring a high level of protection of the environment, Member States should provide transparent and predictable assistance throughout

	environmental assessment procedures. To that end, they should publish and regularly update guidance as regards the scope and level of detail of the information required from project developers for different categories of projects and situations, in line with Commission guidance on screening and environmental impact assessment requirements under Directive 2011/92/EU. In addition, in the context of joint or coordinated procedures and in line with the 'once-only principle', developers should not be required to submit the same information or documents more than once where those have already been submitted to the competent authorities involved. This should be without prejudice to requests for updates, clarifications or additional information necessary for the assessment of the application concerned.

Amendment 6
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(5) Procedures linked to environmental assessments should be accelerated and streamlined for plans, programmes and projects across all sectors of the economy by establishing a common acceleration framework for environmental assessments in order to boost ***EU's*** roll out of key technologies, reduce dependencies and strengthen	(5) Procedures linked to environmental assessments should be accelerated and streamlined for plans, programmes and projects across all sectors of the economy by ***securing qualified staff, expertise and resources in competent authorities, avoiding any overlap or unnecessary administrative burdens and*** establishing a

competitiveness. This Regulation provides for such framework, while maintaining the same level of protection of human health and of the environment.	common acceleration framework for environmental assessments in order to boost ***Union's*** roll out of key technologies, reduce dependencies and strengthen competitiveness. This Regulation provides for such framework, while maintaining the same level of protection of human health and of the environment.

Amendment 7
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(5a) The efficiency and speed of environmental assessment procedures depend, among others, upon the capacity of competent authorities, the availability of reliable environmental information and the quality of applications submitted by project developers. In order to ensure the effective implementation of this Regulation and accelerate permit granting procedures, Member States should regularly assess whether the competent authorities responsible for environmental assessments are adequately equipped to perform their tasks within the applicable deadlines. Such assessments should take into account the actual workload and complexity of the procedures concerned. Where fees or administrative charges are levied in connection with environmental assessment procedures, Member States should ensure that those revenues contribute to

	maintaining and strengthening the operational capacity of the competent authorities. Transparency in the use of such revenues and regular monitoring of administrative capacity can contribute to identifying structural shortcomings and supporting the continuous improvement of environmental assessment systems across the Union.

Amendment 8
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 6

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(6) Some sectors may, however, require yet faster environmental assessments. Therefore, in order to safeguard the coherence of the legal framework of environmental assessments, whilst allowing for the additional needs for acceleration ***in certain strategic sectors***, a dedicated toolbox should be provided which applies where appropriate, with particular focus on decarbonisation, resource efficiency and ***resilience. This should apply where existing sectorial Union legislation, such as on critical raw materials[6] , net zero industry[7] , semiconductors[8] as well as maritime and inland ports, airports, railways, which are part of trans-European transport network[9] and future sectorial Union legislation defines*** strategic sectors or categories of projects ***for the purpose of faster permitting***.	(6) Some sectors may, however, require yet faster environmental assessments. Therefore, in order to safeguard the coherence of the legal framework of environmental assessments, whilst allowing for the additional needs for acceleration ***of projects referred to in Annex Ia and where Union legislation refers to this provision according to Article 14(2)***, a dedicated toolbox should be provided which applies where appropriate, with particular focus on decarbonisation, resource efficiency and ***defence. The objectives of decarbonisation, resource efficiency and defence referred to in Article 14 describe the purpose of the toolbox for*** strategic sectors or categories of projects ***and are relevant elements when assessing overriding public interest. The requirement for strategic projects to***

contribute to decarbonisation, resource efficiency or defence in order to be recognised as having an overriding public interest applies only to projects that seek to benefit from Article 14 and either reference Article 14 or are listed in Annex Ia. This does not prevent projects that do not seek to benefit from Article 14 from being considered as having an overriding public interest even if they do not meet these objectives, provided that other Union legislation independently recognises them as such.

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[6] Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 establishing a framework for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials and amending Regulation (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1724 and (EU) 2019/1020 (OJ L 1252, 3.5.2024, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1252/oj).

[7] Regulation (EU) 2024/1735 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 on establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe's net-zero technology manufacturing ecosystem and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1724 (OJ L, 2024/1735, 28.6.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1735/oj).

[8] Regulation (EU) 2023/1781 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 September 2023 establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe's semiconductor ecosystem and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/694 (Chips Act), OJ L 229, 18.9.2023, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/1781/oj.

[9] Regulation (EU) 2024/1679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network, amending Regulations (EU) 2021/1153 and (EU) No 913/2010 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013, OJ L, 2024/1679, 28.6.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1679/oj.

Amendment 9
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 14

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(14) ***Data centre projects, construction of EuroHPC supercomputer facilities, AI factories, and giga factories under Regulation (EU) 2024/1732[16] and Regulation (EU) 2025/xxxx amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 on establishing the EuroHPC, semiconductor projects, affordable housing development projects, and projects on recharging points for electric vehicles fall within Annex II of Directive***	(14) Projects falling within *Annex* ***II to Directive 2011/92/EU*** are not subject to a mandatory environmental impact assessment. Instead, it is for Member States to determine whether those projects need to be subject to an environmental impact assessment because of their likely significant effects on the environment either case by case or through the establishment of thresholds or other criteria.

2011/92/EU. Projects falling within ***that*** Annex are not subject to a mandatory environmental impact assessment. Instead, it is for Member States to determine whether those projects need to be subject to an environmental impact assessment because of their likely significant effects on the environment either case by case or through the establishment of thresholds or other criteria.

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[16] Council Regulation (EU) 2024/1732 of 17 June 2024 amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 as regards a EuroHPC initiative for start-ups in order to boost European leadership in trustworthy artificial intelligence, OJ L, 2024/1732, 19.6.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1732/oj.

Amendment 10
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 15

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(15) Member States should establish an environmental single point of contact for environmental assessments. Member States should be able, in light of their internal organisation, to choose whether to establish or designate their points of contact at local, regional or national level, or at any other relevant administrative level. Moreover, the relevant competent authorities should specify and make available to the environmental single point of contact the requirements and extent of information to be requested from the developer.	(15) Member States should establish an environmental single point of contact for environmental assessments. Member States should be able, in light of their internal organisation, to choose whether to establish or designate their points of contact at local, regional or national level, or at any other relevant administrative level. Moreover, the relevant competent authorities should specify and make available to the environmental single point of contact the requirements and extent of information to be requested from the developer.

The environmental single point of contact should***, in its role of coordinator, facilitate the provision of*** information ***to*** the competent authorities.	The environmental single point of contact ***is responsible for the overall procedural management, facilitation and coordination, of environmental assessment procedures, without prejudice to the responsibilities of competent authorities, as set out in Article 3(1c). For those purposes, the environmental single point of contact*** should ***organise and set out the order of the procedural steps of the environmental assessment in accordance with Article 7, coordinate the submission and exchange of all necessary documents and*** information ***for environmental assessments and facilitate interactions between*** the competent authorities. ***In addition, it should provide information on when an application is considered to be completed in accordance with Article 7 and notify the project developer of the outcome of the reasoned conclusion.***

Amendment 11
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 16

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(16) In order to allow businesses and developers, including for cross-border projects, to directly enjoy the benefits of the internal market without incurring an unnecessary additional administrative burden, Regulation (EU) 2018/1724 of the European Parliament and of the Council[17] , which established the Single Digital Gateway, provides for	(16) In order to allow businesses and developers, including for cross-border projects, to directly enjoy the benefits of the internal market without incurring an unnecessary additional administrative burden, Regulation (EU) 2018/1724 of the European Parliament and of the Council[17], which established the Single Digital Gateway, provides for

general rules for the online provision of information, procedures and assistance services relevant for the functioning of the internal market. Single points of contact established or designated pursuant to that Regulation are included in the list of assistance and problem-solving services in Annex III to that Regulation. For the purpose of this Regulation, Member States should be able to designate single points of contact that coincide with the single point of contact designated pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1724.	general rules for the online provision of information, procedures and assistance services relevant for the functioning of the internal market. Single points of contact established or designated pursuant to that Regulation are included in the list of assistance and problem-solving services in Annex III to that Regulation. For the purpose of this Regulation, Member States should be able to designate single points of contact that coincide with the single point of contact designated pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1724 ***and make them fully digital***.
[17] Regulation (EU) 2018/1724 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 2 October 2018 establishing a single digital gateway to provide access to information, to procedures and to assistance and problem-solving services and amending Regulation (EU) No 1024/2012 (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/1724/oj).	[17] Regulation (EU) 2018/1724 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 2 October 2018 establishing a single digital gateway to provide access to information, to procedures and to assistance and problem-solving services and amending Regulation (EU) No 1024/2012 (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/1724/oj).

Amendment 12
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 17

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(17) In order to increase speed, effectiveness and cost-efficiency of environmental assessment procedures required under Union law, and to reduce administrative burden, environmental assessments should be combined to the furthest extent possible, taking into account the specific organisational characteristics of	(17) In order to increase speed, effectiveness and cost-efficiency of environmental assessment procedures required under Union law, and to reduce administrative burden, environmental assessments should be combined to the furthest extent possible, taking into account the specific organisational characteristics of

Member States. The fact that assessments are combined should not affect their content or quality. Combined assessments should be carried out in a manner that does not lead to a prolongation of the time limits set out in this Regulation.	Member States. The fact that assessments are combined should not affect their content or quality. Combined assessments should be carried out in a manner that does not lead to a prolongation of the time limits set out in this Regulation ***and that prevents unnecessary duplication of information requests, procedural steps or administrative communication with the project developer***.

Amendment 13
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 18

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(18) Coordinating or joining the environmental assessment procedures applicable to a plan, programme or project aims to avoid overlaps and redundancy, while also taking full advantage of synergies, and to minimise the time needed for authorisation. Where such coordinated or joint procedures are carried out, in particular, under Directives 2001/42/EC and 2011/92/EU, Member States should ensure that the procedural steps of environmental assessments, including scoping, preparation of an environmental assessment report, carrying out consultations and issuing a reasoned conclusion on the environmental effects, are combined.	(18) Coordinating or joining the environmental assessment procedures applicable to a plan, programme or project aims to avoid overlaps and redundancy, while also taking full advantage of synergies, and to minimise the time needed for authorisation. Where such coordinated or joint procedures are carried out, in particular, under Directives 2001/42/EC and 2011/92/EU, Member States should ***be able to*** ensure that the procedural steps of environmental assessments, including scoping, preparation of an environmental assessment report, carrying out consultations and issuing a reasoned conclusion on the environmental effects, are combined.

Amendment 14
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 20

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*

(20) With view to streamlining the decision-making process while ensuring effective and timely consultations of the public concerned and of the authorities likely to be concerned by the plan, programme and project by reason of their specific environmental responsibilities or local and regional competences, such consultations should be run in parallel**.** Member States should ensure that the consultations are conducted in the most effective way to conduct these consultations. Member States should not expressly and generally require that the authorities likely to be concerned by the project by reason of their specific environmental responsibilities or local and regional competences are consulted before the public concerned. At the same time, Member States shall ensure that the public concerned is consulted on all the essential elements of a plan, programme or project, that would significantly impact the environment or human health.	(20) With view to streamlining the decision-making process while ensuring effective and timely consultations of the public concerned and of the authorities likely to be concerned by the plan, programme and project by reason of their specific environmental responsibilities or local and regional competences, such consultations should be run in parallel. Member States should ensure that the consultations are conducted in the most effective way to conduct these consultations***, in line with the Aarhus Convention***. Member States should not expressly and generally require that the authorities likely to be concerned by the project by reason of their specific environmental responsibilities or local and regional competences are consulted before the public concerned. At the same time, Member States shall ensure that the public concerned is consulted on all the essential elements of a plan, programme or project, that would significantly impact the environment or human health.

Amendment 15
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 21

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(21) In order to avoid overlaps and redundancy, while also taking full advantage of synergies, minimising the time needed for authorisation and maximising efficiency in data collection, it is appropriate that the respective competent authorities of Member States make available to the developer within a reasonable	(21) In order to avoid overlaps and redundancy, while also taking full advantage of synergies, minimising the time needed for authorisation and maximising efficiency in data collection, it is appropriate that the respective competent authorities of Member States make available to the developer within a reasonable

time-frame and sufficiently early in the process, any available results of other relevant environmental assessments under Union or national legislation for the preparation of the environmental report for a given project, in particular with regard to the assessment of reasonable alternatives, where available.	time-frame and sufficiently early in the process, any available results of other relevant environmental assessments under Union or national legislation for the preparation of the environmental report for a given project, in particular with regard to the assessment of reasonable alternatives, where available. ***In doing so, the competent authorities should respect the limitations relating to commercial and industrial confidentiality, including intellectual property, the protection of personal data, public security and national defence, and the safeguarding of the public interest.***

Amendment 16
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 22

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(22) While the Court of Justice of the European Union has consistently held that the wording of Directive 2011/92/EU indicates that it has a wide scope and a broad purpose[18] , it has also ***considered that that Directive must be interpreted as not requiring that any project likely to have a significant effect on the environment be made subject to the*** environmental impact assessment provided ***for in that directive, but only those referred to in Annexes I and II*** of that Directive***[19] .*** In particular, the Court of Justice has held that ***certain*** extensions ***to projects falling under Annexes I and II***	(22) While the Court of Justice of the European Union has consistently held that the wording of Directive 2011/92/EU indicates that it has a wide scope and a broad purpose[18], it has also ***held that Member States retain a degree of discretion in determining whether changes or extensions to existing projects require a full*** environmental impact assessment ***or not*** provided ***that the practical effect*** of that Directive ***is not undermined.*** In particular, the Court of Justice has held that ***screening of changes or*** extensions ***must account for the current state of the environment in the area***

of that Directive***, do not, as such, fall under the*** projects ***categories covered by those provisions[20]*** .

likely to be affected and the cumulative effects of the change or extension together with the original project, in accordance with Annex IV to Directive ***2011/92/EU. Changes or extensions of*** projects ***that aim to ensure decarbonisation or reduction of emissions, including nitrogen emissions, should only be subject to screening by the competent authorities in order to determine if they are likely to have significant effects on the environment, as defined in Directive 2011/92/EU***. ***Where such changes or extensions are likely to have significant effects on the environment, they should be subject to an environmental assessment. Competent authorities should also be able, including when carrying out screening pursuant to Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC, to take into account project characteristics and positive effects that are directly linked to and inherent in the project under assessment, in view of the conservation objectives of the site concerned.***

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[18] C-72/95, C-435/97, C-227/01, C-486/04, C-2/07, C-142/07, C-205/08, C-275/09, C-404/09, C-560/08, C-300/13, C-156/07, C-329/17.

[19] C-156/07, C-275/09.

[20] C-300/13.

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[18] C-72/95, C-435/97, C-227/01, C-486/04, C-2/07, C-142/07, C-205/08, C-275/09, C-404/09, C-560/08, C-300/13, C-156/07, C-329/17.

Amendment 17
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 24

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(24) In order to ensure a high level of environmental protection, legal certainty and administrative efficiency, Member States should have the option within their respective national systems to require that all relevant arguments are raised during the administrative stage of the procedure leading to the authorisation of a project prior to any potential judicial review, thereby enabling competent authorities to address them during the decision-making to avoid excessive delays in the permit granting process, without prejudice to the right of access to justice.	***deleted***

Amendment 18
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 25

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(25) Further to the 2017 Ministerial Declaration on eGovernment (Tallinn declaration) and the 2023 Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles for the Digital Decade, and line with the 2025 Commission Communication on implementation and simplification 'A simpler and faster Europe'[21] , the Commission will further embed the 'digital by default' through the use of European Digital Identity Wallets and European Business Wallets and 'once-only' principles in partnership with national, regional and local authorities and	(25) Further to the 2017 Ministerial Declaration on eGovernment (Tallinn declaration) and the 2023 Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles for the Digital Decade, and line with the 2025 Commission Communication on implementation and simplification 'A simpler and faster Europe'[21] , the Commission will further embed the 'digital by default' through the use of European Digital Identity Wallets and European Business Wallets and 'once-only' principles in partnership with national, regional and local authorities and

the relevant Union agencies in order to lighten reporting burdens and compliance costs. Digital public services with a cross-border data exchange are governed by the Regulation (EU) 2024/903 of the European Parliament and of the Council[22] , while the European Interoperability Framework (EIF) facilitates cross-border data exchange. Authorities falling within the scope of that Regulation are required to set up ***gradually*** a fully digitalised procedure for environmental assessments, including submission of application and online accessibility of information.	the relevant Union agencies in order to lighten reporting burdens and compliance costs. Digital public services with a cross-border data exchange are governed by the Regulation (EU) 2024/903 of the European Parliament and of the Council[22] , while the European Interoperability Framework (EIF) facilitates cross-border data exchange. Authorities falling within the scope of that Regulation are required to set up a fully digitalised procedure for environmental assessments, including submission of application and online accessibility of information.
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[21] Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions of 11 February 2025, 'A simpler and faster Europe: Communication on implementation and simplification' (COM/2025/47 final).	[21] Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions of 11 February 2025, 'A simpler and faster Europe: Communication on implementation and simplification' (COM/2025/47 final).
[22] Regulation (EU) 2024/903 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 March 2024 laying down measures for a high level of public sector interoperability across the Union (Interoperable Europe Act) (OJ L, 2024/903, 22.3.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/903/oj).	[22] Regulation (EU) 2024/903 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 March 2024 laying down measures for a high level of public sector interoperability across the Union (Interoperable Europe Act) (OJ L, 2024/903, 22.3.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/903/oj).

Amendment 19
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 28

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(28) In order to ensure that the tasks allocated to the authorities under this Regulation are performed at a sufficiently high quality Member States should ensure that the environmental single point of contact and all competent authorities responsible for any step along the screening and environmental assessments processes, including all procedural steps, have a sufficient number of qualified staff and sufficient financial, technical and technological resources necessary.	(28) In order to ensure that the tasks allocated to the authorities under this Regulation are performed at a sufficiently high quality Member States should ensure that the environmental single point of contact and all competent authorities responsible for any step along the screening and environmental assessments processes, including all procedural steps, have a sufficient number of qualified staff and sufficient financial, technical and technological resources necessary***, including for fully digitalised procedures***. ***For that reason, Member States are encouraged to continuously monitor the capacities of their authorities, and the duration of environmental and other assessments in order to adopt concrete measures to improve the processes.***

Amendment 20
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 29

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(29) While streamlining and simplifying procedures is crucial, it is equally important that the environmental standards, including those that are stemming from international law, are respected, including the obligations under the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, signed at	(29) While streamlining and simplifying procedures is crucial, it is equally important that the environmental standards, including those that are stemming from international law, are respected, including the obligations under the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, signed at

Aarhus on 25 June 1998, and under the UNECE Convention on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context, signed at Espoo on 25 February 1991 and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment, signed in Kyiv on 21 May 2003.	Aarhus on 25 June 1998, and under the UNECE Convention on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context, signed at Espoo on 25 February 1991 and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment, signed in Kyiv on 21 May 2003. ***The Union is therefore committed to achieving a high level of protection of the environment and human health, the long-term and sustained recovery of biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, as well as transparency and effective public participation in environmental decision making, in line with those international agreements.***

Amendment 21
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 30

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(30) In order to provide developers and investors with the security and clarity needed to increase development of projects, Member States should ensure that the environmental assessment ***process*** related to such projects does not exceed ***pre-set time limits. Clear timelines for decisions to be taken by the competent authorities throughout the*** environmental assessment ***process on the basis of a complete application should be introduced to accelerate the development of projects***. The time taken to build the actual project should not be counted towards those timelines, except	(30) In order to provide developers and investors with the security and clarity needed to increase development of projects, Member States should ensure that the ***complete*** environmental assessment***, screening of plans and programmes,*** related to such projects does not exceed ***a period of 300 days. That period does not include the preparation of an*** environmental ***impact*** assessment ***report by the developer***. The time taken to build the actual project should not be counted towards those timelines, except when it coincides with other administrative steps in the environmental assessment

when it coincides with other administrative steps in the environmental assessment process. In exceptional cases related to the nature, complexity, location or size of the proposed project, Member States should be able to extend the timelines. Such exceptional cases could include unforeseen circumstances triggering the need to add to or complete environmental assessments related to the project.	process. In exceptional cases related to the nature, complexity, location or size of the proposed project, Member States should be able to extend the timelines ***by 60 days***. Such exceptional cases could include unforeseen circumstances triggering the need to add to or complete environmental assessments related to the project.

Amendment 22
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 33

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(33) In order to simplify and harmonise exchanges between competent authorities and developers, such exchanges should be enabled through the use of the European Business Wallets established pursuant to [OP please add - Proposal for a Regulation on the establishment of European Business Wallets], as they provide a secure, standardised, and interoperable platform for developers to interact with competent authorities enabling ***an*** efficient and effective submission of required information ***more efficient and effective***, while ensuring a high level of data protection, cybersecurity, and integrity of information.	(33) In order to simplify and harmonise exchanges between competent authorities and developers, such exchanges should be enabled through the use of the European Business Wallets established pursuant to [OP please add - Proposal for a Regulation on the establishment of European Business Wallets], as they provide a secure, standardised, and interoperable platform for developers to interact with competent authorities enabling ***more*** efficient and effective submission of required information, while ensuring a high level of data protection, cybersecurity, and integrity of information ***and of other sensitive information, such as information relating to national defence, public security or critical infrastructure***.

Amendment 82

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 34

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(34) The construction, operation, and decommissioning of projects can lead to incidental killing ***or*** disturbance of bird species protected under Directive 2009/147/EC and other species protected under Directive 92/43/EEC. The extent of killing ***or*** disturbance can vary depending on the type of project and its design, the ecological importance of the area for the species and their presence in the area concerned. However, appropriate mitigation measures and use of best available technologies should be included in such projects to prevent or reduce those adverse effects to insignificant levels.	(34) The construction, ***refurbishment*** operation, and decommissioning of projects can lead to incidental killing***,*** disturbance***, destruction or damage to nests and eggs*** of bird species protected under Directive 2009/147/EC and other species protected under Directive 92/43/EEC. The extent of killing***,*** disturbance ***destruction or damage*** can vary depending on the type of project and its design, the ecological importance of the area for the species and their presence in the area concerned. However, appropriate mitigation measures and use of best available technologies should be included ***and cumulation effects, when they are identified, taken into account,*** in such projects to prevent or reduce those adverse effects to insignificant levels. ***The occasional killing, disturbance, or the destruction of or damage to the nests or eggs should not deteriorate the populations level of the bird species concerned, as referred to in Article 2 of Directive 2009/147/EC at national level and, where the available data allow, at Union level, or the conservation status of the species concerned, as defined in Article 1, point (i), of Directive 92/43/EEC, at the level of the biogeographical region concerned within the Member State, and, where the***

	available data allows, at Union level. Where appropriate, while assessing whether the populations level or the conservation status of the species concerned deteriorate, and provided that local data is available, competent authorities may take into account the effects on the local populations.
	Best available technologies should be understood as technically recognised measures and industry best practice, based on the most recent scientific data and that are most effective, technically and economically viable as well as accessible to operators, including techniques which are proven to help avoiding occasional killing and preventing disturbance and destruction of, or damage to, nests or eggs of protected species during the construction, refurbishment, operation or decommissioning of projects.

Amendment 83

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 35

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(35) Mitigation measures should be appropriate and proportionate, ensuring on the basis of the best available scientific data that any residual effects do not ***adversely affect*** the populations of the species concerned. The level of mitigation effort shall therefore correspond to the degree of risk	(35) Mitigation measures should be appropriate and proportionate, ensuring on the basis of the best available ***technologies and latest*** scientific data that any residual effects do not ***deteriorate*** the populations ***level or conservation status*** of the species concerned. The level of

and the vulnerability of the species, without exceeding what is necessary to achieve that objective. While the cost of mitigation should also be considered as part of the proportionality assessment, economic factors alone should not justify the omission of necessary measures, nor should they serve as grounds to reject effective mitigation.

mitigation effort shall therefore correspond to the degree of risk and the vulnerability of the species***, with particular attention paid to species listed as priority species under Annex II to the Habitats Directive, species with declining populations, and species subject to international protection under the Ramsar Convention, the Convention on Migratory Species or other international agreements***, without exceeding what is necessary to achieve that objective. While the cost of mitigation should also be considered as part of the proportionality assessment, economic factors alone should not justify the omission of necessary measures, nor should they serve as grounds to reject effective mitigation. ***The cumulation of effects with other existing and/or approved projects, when identified according to Annex IV to Directive 2011/92/EU, should also be taken into account, as well as any existing environmental problems relating to areas of particular environmental importance likely to be affected or the use of natural resources. Member States are responsible to ensure that those measures are applied and their effectiveness is monitored and that, in the light of the information gathered, further measures are taken as required to ensure that there are no significant adverse impacts on the populations of the species concerned and that the populations level or***

	conservation status of the species concerned does not deteriorate at the level of the biogeographical region concerned within the Member State, and, where the available data allows, at Union level.

Amendment 25
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 36

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(36) When establishing whether projects may be covered under the provision on assessing overriding public interest under this Regulation, specific attention should be given to their strategic nature, whether they contribute to decarbonisation goals, resource efficiency and ***resilience*** as well as to what extent they are likely – or not – to cause significant effect on the environment. ***In the upcoming Circular Economy Act, projects which concern prevention, separate collection, re-use, preparing for re-use, and recycling of waste should also be defined as strategic, given their important contribution to circular economy. Also, in the upcoming Industrial Accelerator Act, projects related to decarbonisation of energy intensive industries as well as those located in industrial acceleration areas should also be defined as strategic given their importance to resilience and decarbonisation.***	(36) When establishing whether projects may be covered under the provision on assessing overriding public interest under this Regulation, specific attention should be given to their strategic nature ***as referred to in Annex Ia and where Union legislation refers to this provision in accordance with Article 14(2)***, whether they contribute to decarbonisation goals, resource efficiency and ***defence*** as well as to what extent they are likely – or not – to cause significant effect on the environment.

Amendment 26
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 38

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(38) In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation, implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission to identify strategic projects concerning construction and renovation of residential affordable or social buildings, as well as the necessary infrastructure that directly serves those buildings.	***deleted***

Amendment 27
Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
1. By [OP please insert – 6 months after the entry into force of this Regulation], Member States shall establish or designate environmental single points of contact at the relevant administrative level for environmental assessments. ***Each single point of contact shall be responsible for facilitating and coordinating all aspects of the environmental assessments under this Regulation, including for providing information on when an application is considered to be completed in accordance with Article 7 of this Regulation.***	1. By [OP please insert – 6 months after the entry into force of this Regulation], Member States shall establish or designate environmental single points of contact at the relevant administrative level for environmental assessments.

Amendment 28
Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	1a. The environmental single point of contact established or designated pursuant to paragraph 1 shall be the sole point of contact for the developer for environmental assessments under this Regulation.
	Where more than one environmental single point of contact is responsible for an environmental assessment under this Regulation, the Member State concerned shall designate one of them as the environmental single point of contact responsible.

Amendment 29
Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 1 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	1b. The environmental single point of contact shall be responsible for the overall procedural management, facilitation and coordination of the environmental assessment procedure under this Regulation. For those purposes it shall:
	(i) organise and set out the order of the procedural steps of the environmental assessment in accordance with Article 7;
	(ii) coordinate the submission and exchange of all necessary documents and information for environmental assessments;

	(iii) facilitate interactions between the competent authorities; it shall provide information on when an application is considered to be completed in accordance with Article 7 and notify the project developer of the outcome of the reasoned conclusion.

Amendment 30
Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 1 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	1c. The responsibilities of the environmental single point of contact laid down in paragraph 1b of this Article shall be without prejudice to the responsibilities of competent authorities pursuant to Article 1(2), points (g) (ii), (iii), (iv) and (v), of Directive 2011/92/EU.

Amendment 31
Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
2. Where a single point of contact is required for an overall permit-granting process pursuant to other Union or national legislation, the environmental single point of contact referred to in paragraph 1 shall be the same as the one established for that overall permit-granting procedure.	2. Where a single point of contact ***exists or*** is required for an overall permit-granting process pursuant to other Union or national legislation, the environmental single point of contact referred to in paragraph 1 shall be the same as the one established for that overall permit-granting procedure.

Amendment 32
Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	3a. Member States shall ensure that competent authorities involved in screening or environmental assessment procedures cooperate with the environmental single point of contact and provide it with the information necessary to coordinate the procedural work, consolidate information requests and communicate with the developer within the applicable timelines as set out in Article 7.

Amendment 33
Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
4. The environmental single point of contact established or designated pursuant to paragraph 1 shall be the sole point of contact for the developer for the environmental assessments under this Regulation. It shall coordinate and facilitate the submission of all relevant documents and information and shall notify the project promoter of the outcome of the comprehensive decision.	***deleted***

Amendment 34
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Under the coordinated procedure	Under the coordinated procedure

referred to in the first subparagraph, a competent authority shall coordinate the various individual assessments of the environmental impact of a particular plan, programme or project required by the relevant Directives.	referred to in the first subparagraph, a competent authority shall***, where applicable,*** coordinate the various individual assessments of the environmental impact of a particular plan, programme or project required by the relevant Directives.

Amendment 35
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
2. Member States shall establish appropriate mechanisms for coordination and cooperation at strategic and project level among all their competent authorities involved in environmental assessments or screenings of plans, programmes or projects. Where a plan, programme or project is subject to a coordinated procedure for assessment under both Directives 2001/42/EC and 2011/92/EU, the procedural steps under those Directives ***shall*** be combined.	2. Member States shall establish appropriate mechanisms for coordination and cooperation at strategic and project level among all their competent authorities involved in environmental assessments or screenings of plans, programmes or projects. Where a plan, programme or project is subject to a coordinated procedure for assessment under both Directives 2001/42/EC and 2011/92/EU, the procedural steps under those Directives ***may*** be combined.

Amendment 36
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 4 – subparagraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	The first subparagraph of this paragraph shall apply without prejudice to public consultation obligations as laid out in Article 6 of Directive 2011/92/EU and Article 6 of Directive 2001/42EC.

Amendment 37
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 5

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
5. Member States shall ensure that the results of other relevant environmental assessments under Union or national legislation are made available to developers for their preparation of the environmental reports referred to in Article 5 of Directive 2011/92/EU within reasonable timelines, respecting the limitations with regard to commercial and industrial confidentiality, including intellectual property, data protection and the safeguarding of the public interest. When preparing an environmental assessment report, the developer of a project shall be allowed to use data or information as old as five years, provided that the data into the report take into account the site-specific conservation objectives of Natura 2000 sites where relevant, more recent data is not available, and the environmental conditions in which the data were collected have not substantially changed in a way that is likely to influence the environmental impact assessment.	5. ***With a view to avoiding duplication,*** Member States shall ensure that the results ***and data*** of other relevant environmental assessments under Union or national legislation are made available to developers for their preparation of the environmental reports referred to in Article 5 of Directive 2011/92/EU within reasonable timelines, respecting the limitations with regard to commercial and industrial confidentiality, including intellectual property, data protection and the safeguarding of the public interest. When preparing an environmental assessment report, the developer of a project shall be allowed to use data or information as old as five years, ***including data collected or supplied for other environmental assessments,*** provided that the data into the report take into account the site-specific conservation objectives of Natura 2000 sites where relevant, more recent data is not available, and the environmental conditions in which the data were collected have not substantially changed in a way that is likely to influence the environmental impact assessment.

Amendment 38
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*

	Article 4a
	Assistance to project developers
	1. Member States shall publish and regularly update guidance on how to comply with Article 4(2) to (6) of Directive 2011/92/EU in line with existing Commission guidelines in relation to requirements for project screenings and environmental impact assessments.
	2. For plans, programmes or projects subject to an environmental assessment arising from one or simultaneously from two or more of the Directives referred to in Article 1(1), Member States shall ensure that a project developer is not required to re-submit documents and information that have been already submitted. This shall be without prejudice to requests for updates, clarifications or additional information that are necessary for the assessment of the application concerned.

Amendment 39
Proposal for a regulation
Article 5 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
1. Changes or extensions of projects***, such as repurposing of pipelines or of industrial sites, and extension of their operation period and modifications*** to ensure decarbonisation, shall only be subject to screening by the	1. Changes or extensions of projects to ensure decarbonisation ***or reduction of emissions***, shall only be subject to screening by the competent authorities in order to determine if they are likely to have significant effects on the

competent authorities in order to determine if they are likely to have significant effects on the environment***. Those*** changes or extensions shall be subject to an environmental assessment ***only where they involve major works that represent risks that are similar to or greater than, in terms of their effects on the environment, to those posed by the original project***.

environment***, as defined in Directive 2011/92/EU. Where such*** changes or extensions ***are likely to have significant effects on the environment, they*** shall be subject to an environmental assessment.

Amendment 115

Proposal for a regulation
Article 5 – paragraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	2a. The maintenance, cleaning and clearing of riverbeds, ravines, drainage channels, irrigation channels and existing flood defence works, including dredging, desilting, removal of debris and sediment, restoration of water flow and reinforcement of existing protective infrastructure as well as the management of vegetation and forest fuel for the prevention of wildfires, including brush clearing, removal of deadwood, controlled vegetation management and the creation and maintenance of firebreaks which restore or preserve the existing functionality, safety or resilience of the land or infrastructure shall not constitute projects or changes to projects within the meaning of Directive 2011/92/EU and shall not be subject to screening or an environmental impact assessment.

Amendment 40
Proposal for a regulation
Article 6

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 6	***deleted***
Substantial preclusion	
In the context of judicial proceedings relating to environmental assessments within the meaning of this Regulation, Member States may preclude arguments from being raised before a court of law where they were not raised during the administrative stage, as long as the competent authority made available the necessary information in due time so that those arguments were known or could have been known and reviewed during the administrative stage leading to the authorisation of the project, without prejudice to the right of access to justice.	

Amendment 41
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
1. Where a project falls within the scope of Directive 2011/92/EU Member States shall ensure that:	1. Where a project falls within the scope of Directive 2011/92/EU***,*** Member States shall ensure that ***the complete environmental assessment and screening of plans, programmes and projects, excluding the preparation of an environmental impact***

	assessment report by the developer, does not exceed 300 days and that:

Amendment 42
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(a) for projects subject to screening, the competent authorities carry out that screening within a period of maximum ***60*** days from the date that the developer has submitted all information required; for changes or extensions of projects referred to in Article 5 of this Regulation, that timeline shall be a maximum of 45 days;	(a) for projects subject to screening, the competent authorities carry out that screening within a period of maximum ***45*** days from the date that the developer has submitted all information required; for changes or extensions of projects referred to in Article 5 of this Regulation, that timeline shall be a maximum of 45 days;

Amendment 43
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(b) for projects subject to an environmental assessment, the competent authority issues an opinion ***on the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in an environmental assessment report*** within a ***period of*** maximum 30 days from the date on which the developer has submitted its request ***for an*** opinion***;***	(b) for projects subject to an environmental assessment, ***provided that the developer submitted all necessary information,*** the competent authority issues an opinion within a maximum ***of*** 30 days from the date on which the developer has submitted its request***, and that the*** Opinion ***states the following:***

Amendment 44
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1 – point b – point i (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(i) the maximum 300-day period for the full environmental assessment and screening of plans, programmes and projects, including set deadlines for the process such as set time-frames for consulting the public concerned and when a reasoned conclusion can be expected from the competent authority.

Amendment 45
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1 – point b – point ii (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(ii) the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the environmental assessment report;

Amendment 46
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(c) the ***time-frames*** for consulting the public concerned on the environmental report referred to point (b) is ***between 30 and 90*** days;	(c) the ***time-frame*** for consulting the public concerned on the environmental report referred to point (b) is ***not less than 30*** days;

Amendment 47
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(d) *within 30 days* following the completion of the respective	(d) following the completion of the respective consultations

consultations under Articles 6 and 7 of Directive 2011/92/EU, the competent authority acknowledges the completeness of the information provided by the developer which is necessary to take an informed decision on the environmental effects of the project. This information shall include the necessary information gathered pursuant to Articles 5, 6 and 7 of Directive 2011/92/EU including, where relevant, specific assessments required under other Union legislation	under Articles 6 and 7 of Directive 2011/92/EU, the competent authority acknowledges the completeness of the information provided by the developer which is necessary to take an informed decision on the environmental effects of the project. This information shall include the necessary information gathered pursuant to Articles 5, 6 and 7 of Directive 2011/92/EU including, where relevant, specific assessments required under other Union legislation***;***
If, before the end of the 30 days period, the competent authority considers that it does not have all necessary information to make the informed decision, the developer shall submit that information within a reasonable timeframe. Following the acknowledgment of completeness referred to in this point, the developer shall not be asked to provide any new information unless duly justified.	

Amendment 48
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1 – point d a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(da) the requests for additional information following the acknowledgment of completeness referred to in point (d) is duly justified.

Amendment 49
Proposal for a regulation

Article 7 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1 – point e

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(e) the competent authority issues a reasoned conclusion on the environmental assessment of the project within ***a maximum of 90 days following the acknowledgement of completeness*** referred to in ***point (d)***.	(e) the competent authority issues a reasoned conclusion on the environmental assessment of the project within ***the time- frame*** referred to in ***subparagraph 1 of this paragraph***.

Amendment 50
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
In exceptional cases, where the nature, complexity, location or size of the proposed project so require, the competent authority may extend the ***deadlines*** set out in this paragraph by a period of maximum ***30 days***. In that event, the competent authority shall inform the developer in writing without delay of the reasons justifying the extension and of the date when the respective administrative act is expected.	In exceptional cases, ***for instance*** where the nature, complexity, location or size of the proposed project so require, the competent authority may extend the ***timelines*** set out in this paragraph by a period of maximum ***60 days in addition to the 300-day period referred to in paragraph 1, subparagraph 1***. In that event, the competent authority shall inform the developer in writing without delay of the reasons justifying the extension and of the date when the respective administrative act is expected.

Amendment 116

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	1a. By way of derogation from paragraph 1, for projects for the construction or renovation of residential

buildings, water infrastructure projects contributing to water security, drought resilience or flood protection, including water storage facilities, reservoirs, dams, drainage systems and flood defence infrastructure, and projects for the modernisation of agricultural and livestock holdings and of irrigation infrastructure, including water storage, water reuse and on-farm water management systems, Member States shall ensure that:

(a) the screening is carried out within a maximum of 30 days from the date on which the developer has submitted all information required; where the competent authority has not taken a screening decision within that period, the project shall be deemed not to require an environmental impact assessment, unless the project may pose a demonstrable and significant risk to the safety of residents in its vicinity;

(b) where an environmental impact assessment is required, the complete environmental assessment, excluding the preparation of the environmental impact assessment report by the developer, does not exceed 90 days.

Amendment 51
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*

Where a plan or programme falls within the scope of Directive 2001/42/EC, Member States shall ensure that:	Where a plan or programme falls within the scope of Directive 2001/42/EC, Member States shall ensure that ***the complete environmental assessment and screening of plans, programmes and projects, excluding the preparation of an environmental impact assessment report by the developer, does not exceed 300 days and that***:

Amendment 52
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(a) the competent authorities carry out the screening under Article 3(5) of that Directive and publish its results ***within a period of 90 days***;	(a) the competent authorities carry out the screening under Article 3(5) of that Directive and publish its results;

Amendment 53
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(b) the competent authorities carry out the scoping under Article 5(3) of that Directive and publish its results ***within 40 days***;	(b) the competent authorities carry out the scoping under Article 5(3) of that Directive and publish its results;

Amendment 54
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(c) the ***time-frames*** for consulting the public concerned on the environmental report	(c) the ***time-frame*** for consulting the public concerned on the environmental report

referred to in Article 5 of that Directive is ***between 30 and*** 60 days;	referred to in Article 5 of that Directive is ***not less than 30 days and not more than*** 60 days;

Amendment 55
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(d) the competent authorities conclude and publish the environmental report required under Article 5(1) of that Directive ***within 7 months from the day when the necessary information required under that Directive has been provided to them, and the relevant consultations under that Directive have been completed.***	(d) the competent authorities conclude and publish the environmental report required under Article 5(1) of that Directive***.***

Amendment 56
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
In exceptional cases, where the nature, complexity, location or size of the proposed plan or programme so require, the competent authority may extend the timelines ***under the first*** subparagraph ***by further maximum 30 days***. In that event, the competent authority shall inform the authority developing the plan or programme in writing without delay of the reasons justifying the extension and of the date when the respective administrative act is expected.	In exceptional cases, ***for instance*** where the nature, complexity, location or size of the proposed plan or programme so require, ***or*** the competent authority may extend the timelines ***set out in this paragraph by a period of maximum 60 days in addition to the 300 days period referred to in paragraph 2,*** subparagraph ***1***. In that event, the competent authority shall inform the authority developing the plan or programme in writing without delay of the reasons justifying the extension and of the

	date when the respective administrative act is expected.

Amendment 57
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
3. In cases where a plan, programme or project is subject to a joint ***or coordinated*** procedure for assessment under both Directive 2001/42/EC and Directive 2011/92/EU, the ***deadlines*** set out in ***paragraph 1*** shall apply.	3. In cases where a plan, programme or project is subject to a joint procedure for assessment under both Directive 2001/42/EC and Directive 2011/92/EU, the ***timelines*** set out in ***paragraphs 1 and 2*** shall apply.

Amendment 58
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 4 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Where other ***EU*** legislation establishes timelines for the overall permit granting process that are shorter than the combination of the timelines of the different steps of the environmental assessment procedure under paragraph 1 or 2 of this Article, the shorter timeline for the overall permit granting process applies.	Where other ***Union*** legislation establishes timelines for the overall permit granting process that are shorter than the combination of the timelines of the different steps of the environmental assessment procedure under paragraph 1 or 2 of this Article, the shorter timeline for the overall permit granting process applies.

Amendment 59
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 5 – subparagraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	The deadlines applied by the competent authority falling within the maximum 300 days period under this Article shall

	not compromise the quality and integrity of the screenings and assessments.

Amendment 84

Proposal for a regulation
Article 8 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
1. When the implementation of plans or when the construction, operation or decommissioning of projects result in the occasional killing ***or*** disturbance of birds protected under Directive 2009/147/EC or other species protected under Directive 92/43/EEC, such killing ***or*** disturbance of protected species shall not be considered to be deliberate within the meaning of Article 5 of Directive 2009/147/EC and Article 12(1) of Directive 92/43/EEC, provided that ***the plan or project has adopted appropriate and proportionate mitigation measures and considering the best available technologies to avoid such killing and to prevent disturbance.***	1. When the implementation of plans or when the construction, ***refurbishment*** operation or decommissioning of projects result in the occasional killing***,*** disturbance***, destruction of or damage to the nests or eggs*** of birds protected under Directive 2009/147/EC or other species protected under Directive 92/43/EEC, such ***occasional*** killing***,*** disturbance***, destruction or damage*** of protected species shall not be considered to be deliberate within the meaning of Article 5 of Directive 2009/147/EC and Article 12(1) of Directive 92/43/EEC, provided that***:***

Amendments 60cp2 and 85

Proposal for a regulation
Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(a) the plan or project has adopted appropriate and proportionate mitigation measures;

Amendments 60cp3 and 86

Proposal for a regulation
Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(b) the best available technologies to avoid such killing and to prevent disturbance and prevent the destruction of or damage to their nests or eggs are considered;

Amendments 60cp4 and 87

Proposal for a regulation
Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(c) the cumulation of effects with other existing and/or approved projects, when identified according to Annex IV to Directive 2011/92/EU, are taken into account, as well as any existing environmental problems relating to areas of particular environmental importance likely to be affected or the use of natural resources;

Amendment 88

Proposal for a regulation
Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(d) the occasional killing, disturbance, destruction of or damage to the nests or eggs does not deteriorate the populations level of the bird species concerned, as referred

	to in Article 2 of Directive 2009/147/EC at national level and, where the available data allow, at Union level, or the conservation status of the species concerned, as defined in Article 1, point (i), of Directive 92/43/EEC, at the level of the biogeographical region concerned within the Member State, and, where the available data allows, at Union level.

Amendment 89

Proposal for a regulation
Article 8 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
2. When assessing whether those mitigation measures are appropriate and proportionate to comply with Article 5 of the Birds Directive and Article 12(1) of the Habitats Directive, the competent authority shall take into account whether they ensure that significant adverse impacts on the ***population*** of the species concerned ***is*** avoided, despite the possible existence of negative impacts on individual specimens of those species. Member States shall ensure that those measures are applied and their effectiveness is monitored and that, in the light of the information gathered, further measures are taken as required to ensure that there are no significant adverse impacts on the ***population*** of the species concerned.	2. When assessing whether those mitigation measures are appropriate and proportionate to comply with Article 5 of the Birds Directive and Article 12(1) of the Habitats Directive, the competent authority shall take into account whether they ensure that significant adverse impacts on the ***populations*** of the species concerned ***are*** avoided ***and the populations level or conservation status of the species concerned does not deteriorate at the levels referred to in paragraph 1, point (d)***, despite the possible existence of negative impacts on individual specimens of those species. Member States shall ensure that those measures are applied and their effectiveness is monitored and that, in the light of the information gathered, further measures are taken as required to ensure that there are no significant adverse impacts on the ***populations*** of the species

concerned ***and that the populations level or conservation status of the species concerned does not deteriorate at the levels referred to in paragraph 1, point (d)***.

Amendment 62
Proposal for a regulation
Article 9 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
1. Where a plan, programme or project falling within the scope of this Regulation requires decisions to be taken in two or more Member States, the relevant national competent authorities shall take all necessary steps for efficient and effective cooperation and communication among themselves. Member States shall ***endeavour to*** provide for joint procedure and ***unique*** point of contact with regard to the assessment of the environmental effects of the plan, programme or project. Upon request from the Member States concerned by a plan, programme or project, the Commission shall act as a facilitator to support cooperation between concerned national competent authorities and facilitate agreement on joint procedure.	1. Where a plan, programme or project falling within the scope of this Regulation requires decisions to be taken in two or more Member States, the relevant national competent authorities shall take all necessary steps for efficient and effective cooperation and communication among themselves ***from the earliest stages of the environmental assessment procedure, at the latest before the determination of the scope referred to in Article 7***. Member States shall provide for ***a*** joint procedure and ***single*** point of contact with regard to the assessment of the environmental effects of the plan, programme or project. Upon request from the Member States concerned by a plan, programme or project, the Commission shall act as a facilitator to support cooperation between concerned national competent authorities and facilitate agreement on joint procedure. ***In such a case, the deadlines set in accordance with Article 7 shall apply.***

Amendment 63
Proposal for a regulation
Article 10 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
1. From [OP: please insert the date = six months after the date of entry into force of this Regulation], developers shall be allowed to submit any information related to the environmental assessments and screening procedures in electronic form.	1. From [OP: please insert the date = six months after the date of entry into force of this Regulation], developers shall be allowed to submit any information related to the environmental assessments and screening procedures in electronic form***, in accordance with the requirements to be set out by the Commission***.

Amendment 64
Proposal for a regulation
Article 10 – paragraph 2 – point b a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(ba) the technical requirements for electronic submissions referred to in paragraph 1;

Amendment 65
Proposal for a regulation
Article 10 – paragraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	2a. Member States shall ensure interoperability of data used and shared by national authorities, between authorities of different Member States and between national authorities and developers through standardised application programming interfaces (APIs) in accordance with Directive 2007/2/EC, where

applicable.

Amendment 66
Proposal for a regulation
Article 10 – paragraph 2 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	2b. The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 15a to supplement this Regulation by laying down the technical, confidentiality and data protection requirements for the interoperability of data collected and shared pursuant to Article 10(3), including with regard to the technical characteristics and tools available to national authorities, authorities of different Member States and developers while using and sharing data resulting from environmental assessments and screening procedures.

Amendment 67
Proposal for a regulation
Article 10 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
3. From [OP: please insert the date = twelve months after the date of entry into force of this Regulation], Member States shall ensure that reports and data resulting from environmental assessments and screening procedures, related decisions and monitoring of environmental effects and procedures are made and remain publicly available in a digital format through a central online portal, in a manner that is	3. From [OP: please insert the date = twelve months after the date of entry into force of this Regulation], Member States shall ensure that reports and data resulting from environmental assessments and screening procedures, related decisions and monitoring of environmental effects and procedures are made and remain publicly available in a digital format through a central online portal, in a manner that is

compatible with the preservation of business secrets and Union or national data protection requirements. That portal shall be based on a digital geographic information system and shall include ***all*** available data on species observations and other environmental and geological data.

compatible with the preservation of business secrets and Union or national data protection requirements. That portal shall be based on a digital geographic information system and shall include ***relevant*** available data on species observations and other environmental and geological data.

Amendment 68
Proposal for a regulation
Article 10 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
4. From [OP: please insert the date = twenty-four months after the date of entry into force of this Regulation], Member States shall ensure that environmental assessment and screening procedures are fully digitalized and enable the re-use of data and documents held by public authorities at national level as well as the sharing of such data between Member States, developers and the public***, in a seamless manner***. Where appropriate, such procedures shall be interoperable with European Digital Identity Wallets and European Business Wallets. From that date, Member States shall also take the necessary measures to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of their environmental assessment and screening procedures, including through the use of automated systems. These automated systems shall be aligned with relevant Union policies, respect data protection and privacy laws, and adhere to principles of transparency and accountability, including human	4. From [OP: please insert the date = twenty-four months after the date of entry into force of this Regulation], Member States shall ensure that environmental assessment and screening procedures are fully digitalized and enable the re-use of data and documents held by public authorities at national level as well as the sharing of such data between Member States, developers and the public. Where appropriate, such procedures shall be interoperable with European Digital Identity Wallets and European Business Wallets. From that date, Member States shall also take the necessary measures to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of their environmental assessment and screening procedures, including through the use of automated systems. These automated systems shall be aligned with relevant Union policies, respect data protection and privacy laws, and adhere to principles of transparency and accountability, including human

decisional control.	decisional control.

Amendment 69
Proposal for a regulation
Article 11

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 11	***Deleted***
Administrative costs of environmental assessments	
Member States shall endeavour to waive administrative charges and fees associated with environmental assessments for developers falling within the definition of small mid-cap enterprises under Recommendation (EU) 2025/1099 or within the definition of small and medium-sized enterprises under Recommendation 361/2003/EC.	

Amendment 70
Proposal for a regulation
Article 12 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Member States shall ensure that the environmental single point of contact and all competent authorities responsible for any step in the screening and environmental assessments procedures, including all procedural steps, have a sufficient number of qualified staff and sufficient financial, technical and technological resources necessary, including, where appropriate, for up-skilling and re-skilling of staff, for the effective performance of their	Member States shall ensure that the environmental single point of contact and all competent authorities responsible for any step in the screening and environmental assessments procedures, including all procedural steps, have a sufficient ***capacity and an adequate*** number of qualified staff and sufficient financial ***autonomy***, ***as well as adequate*** technical and technological resources necessary, including, where

tasks under this Regulation and under the Directives referred to in Article 1.	appropriate, for up-skilling and re-skilling of staff, for the effective performance of their tasks under this Regulation and under the Directives referred to in Article 1.

Amendment 71
Proposal for a regulation
Article 12 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	1a. For the purposes of paragraph 1, Member States shall ensure that the competent authorities responsible for environmental assessments have a level of staffing adequate to the actual caseload. To that end, by … [twelve months from the date of entry into force of this Regulation], Member States shall carry out an assessment of the staffing needs of the competent authorities, taking into account the average annual number of screening and environmental assessment procedures initiated over the preceding three years, the average complexity of the projects assessed, and the deadlines laid down in Article 7. The results of that assessment shall be communicated to the Commission and made publicly available.

Amendment 72
Proposal for a regulation
Article 12 – paragraph 1 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*

	1b. The Commission shall monitor the organisational adequacy of the competent authorities of Member States and shall publish every five years a report on the state of implementation of this Article, accompanied by specific recommendations for Member States presenting structural deficiencies in the staffing or resources of their competent authorities.

Amendment 73
Proposal for a regulation
Article 12 – paragraph 1 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	1c. At the request of individual Member States, the Commission shall promote joint training for the environmental single point of contact and competent authorities involved in screening and environmental assessment procedures.

Amendment 74
Proposal for a regulation
Article 14 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
The ***provisions set out in the Annex shall apply where existing sectorial Union legislation defines*** strategic sectors or categories ***of strategic projects and*** aims to speed up permitting, provided that those projects contribute to ***resilience and*** decarbonisation ***or*** resource efficiency.	The ***toolbox for*** strategic sectors or categories aims to speed up permitting ***and shall apply where sectorial Union legislation, listed in Annex Ia, establishes strategic projects***, provided that those projects contribute to decarbonisation***,*** resource efficiency ***or defence***.

Amendment 75
Proposal for a regulation
Article 14 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
The Commission is empowered to adopt an implementing act identifying strategic projects for the construction and renovation of residential affordable or social buildings, as well as the necessary infrastructure that directly serves those buildings. The provisions set out in the Annex shall apply to those projects.	***Deleted***

Amendment 76
Proposal for a regulation
Article 14 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
2. The provisions set out in ***the Annex*** shall also apply to strategic sectors or categories ***of projects defined in future*** Union legislation which refers to this ***Regulation***, provided that those projects contribute to ***resilience and*** decarbonisation ***or*** resource efficiency.	2. The provisions set out in ***this Article*** shall also apply to ***projects in*** strategic sectors or categories ***in*** Union legislation which refers to this ***Article***, provided that those projects contribute to decarbonisation***,*** resource efficiency ***or defence***.

Amendment 77
Proposal for a regulation
Article 14 – paragraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	2a. For projects referred to in Annex Ia to this Regulation and where Union legislation refers to this provision pursuant to Article 14(2) of this Regulation, with regard to the environmental assessments and the

obligations referred to in Article 4(7) of Directive 2000/60/EC, Article 9(1), point (a), of Directive 2009/147/EC, Articles 6(4) and 16(1) of Directive 92/43/EEC, certain projects developed for strategic sectors or categories shall be considered to be of public interest and may be considered to have an overriding public interest and to serve the interests of public health and safety in individual cases and provided that all the conditions set out in those Directives are fulfilled.

When assessing the fulfilment of the conditions referred to in this paragraph, the strategic nature of the project, shall be given specific consideration. In such a case, Member States may restrict, in duly justified and specific circumstances, the application of this paragraph to certain parts of their territory, to certain types of technology or to projects with certain technical characteristics.

Amendment 78
Proposal for a regulation
Article 14 – paragraph 2 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	2b. For projects referred to in Annex Ia and where Union legislation refers to this provision pursuant to Article 14(2), all dispute resolution procedures, litigation, appeals and judicial remedies related to projects within strategic sectors or categories before any national courts, tribunals

or panels, including with regard to mediation or arbitration, where they exist in national law, shall be treated as most expeditious if and to the extent to which national law provides for such expedited procedures and provided that the usually applicable rights of defence of individuals or of local communities are respected.

Amendment 79
Proposal for a regulation
Article 15 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	Article 15a
	Exercise of the delegation
	1. The power to adopt delegated acts referred to in Article 10 (2b) shall be conferred on the Commission for a period of five years from … [the date of entry into force of this Regulation]. The delegation of power shall be tacitly extended for further periods of an identical duration, unless the European Parliament or the Council opposes such extension not later than three months before the end of each period.
	2. The delegation of power referred to in Article 10 (2b) may be revoked at any time by the European Parliament or by the Council. A decision to revoke shall put an end to the delegation of the power specified in that decision. It shall take effect the day following the publication of the decision in the Official

	Journal of the European Union or at a later date specified therein. It shall not affect the validity of any delegated acts already in force.
	3. Before adopting a delegated act, the Commission shall consult experts designated by each Member State in accordance with the principles laid down in the Interinstitutional Agreement of 13 April 2016 on Better Law-Making.
	4. As soon as it adopts a delegated act, the Commission shall notify it simultaneously to the European Parliament and to the Council.
	5. A delegated act adopted pursuant to Article 10 (2b) shall enter into force only if no objection has been expressed either by the European Parliament or by the Council within a period of [two months] of notification of that act to the European Parliament and the Council or if, before the expiry of that period, the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission that they will not object. That period shall be extended by [two months] at the initiative of the European Parliament or of the Council.

Amendment 103

Proposal for a regulation
Article 15 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	Article 15b

	Review of the Birds and Habitats Directives
	Within 12 months of the entry into force of this Regulation, the Commission shall, building on its stress test, submit to the European Parliament and the Council a comprehensive review of Directives 92/43/EEC and 2009/147/EC as regards their effects on plans and projects covered by this Regulation. The review shall identify legislative changes to improve legal certainty and proportionality, reduce unnecessary administrative burdens and delays, and facilitate timely permitting. It shall assess, in particular, the scope for extending the population-level, mitigation-based approach reflected in Article 8 of this Regulation to other species-protection provisions. The review shall be accompanied by a legislative proposal to revise both Directives in light of its findings.

Amendments 80, 102 and 113
Proposal for a regulation
Annex I

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
[…]	***deleted***

Amendment 81
Proposal for a regulation
Annex I a (new)

	Annex Ia
	List of projects in strategic sectors or categories

1. The provisions set out in Article 14 (2a) and (2b) shall apply to the following strategic sectors and categories:

a) strategic net-zero technology manufacturing projects and strategic net-zero projects, as defined in Regulation (EU) 2024/1735;

b) strategic critical raw material projects as defined in Regulation (EU) 2024/1252;

c) projects strengthening the availability and security of supply of critical medicinal products as well as the availability of, and accessibility of, medicinal products of common interest, and amending Regulation (EU) 2024/795 (Critical Medicines Act);

d) Regulation (EU) 2026/XXX on a framework of measures for strengthening the Union's semiconductor ecosystem, repealing Regulation (EU) 2023/1781 (Chips Act 2.0);

e) the following projects which are part of trans-European transport network as defined in Regulation (EU) 2024/1679 [located on the core or extended core network as depicted in Annex I to that Regulation]:

(i) maritime and inland ports and port-related infrastructure, and inland waterways

(iii) railways and railway-related infrastructure, in particular high-speed rail;

f) [IAA]

g) [Biotech]

h) [Circular Economy Act]