

Ursula Von der Leyen, President of the European Commission
Teresa Ribera, Executive Vice-President for a Clean, Just and Competitive Transition
Jessika Roswall, Commissioner for Environment, Water Resilience and a Competitive Circular Economy

Brussels, 7 October 2025

Re: Implementation of the EUDR must remain on track

Dear President Von der Leyen,
Dear Executive Vice-President Ribera,
Dear Commissioner Roswall,

We are writing to you regarding the announcement that the European Union's Deforestation Regulation ('EUDR') may once again be postponed, allegedly due to problems surrounding the IT system for the Due Diligence Statements.

Having heard the explanations put forward by Commissioner Roswall and the Director-General of DG Environment, Eric Mamer, last week in a meeting to which the ENVI Chair and coordinators were invited, we are writing to you now to **stress our opposition to any re-opening of the law to further delay entry into application of the EUDR.**

The Commission has had over two years to make the system operational. Due to a Commission delay in adopting EUDR guidelines, the entry into application was delayed by one year already, giving a whole extra year, if needed, for finalisation of the IT system.

Now only three months before the entry into application, the Environment Commissioner announces a possible further one year delay to the EUDR. The apparent level of mismanagement and the lack of anticipation of the system's technical specifications is highly concerning.

Technical solutions must be found to a technical problem: firstly, we urge the Commission to dedicate whatever human and financial resources are required to ensure that the system is fully operational by the end of this year. Secondly, the Commission should prepare contingency measures to ensure that companies, competent authorities and other stakeholders can fulfil their obligations should technical difficulties persist. Thirdly, the Commission should explore the use of updated guidelines to address the issues, in the same way it did in April with the last guidelines: for instance updated guidelines that clarify the liability to sanctions in case of problems with the IT system, the frequency of DDS submissions; or updated guidelines for companies on how to operate their own IT system in a way that does not lead the TRACES system to crash.

We insist that the Commission finds ways to do this without re-opening the law for a further delay.

Now is not the time to create legal uncertainty with talk of a delay when EU companies have already committed substantial resources and have invested in achieving compliance with the EUDR. Furthermore, the EU's international partners are preparing to abide by the EUDR. What is at stake is the credibility of the EU internationally as well as the trust citizens and economic operators put in our political decisions.

We collectively remain committed to the success of the EUDR. We urge the Commission to explore every option allowing its entry into application as planned on 30th of December 2025.

Yours sincerely,

Tiemo Wölken, S&D ENVI Coordinator
Delara Burkhardt, S&D EUDR shadow
Pascal Canfin, Renew ENVI Coordinator and EUDR shadow
Sara Matthieu, Greens/EFA Group ENVI Coordinator
Marie Toussaint, Greens/EFA Group EUDR shadow
Jonas Sjöstedt, The Left ENVI Coordinator and EUDR shadow
Anna Cavazzini, Rapporteur for the EUDR IMCO opinion
Lynn Boylan, Standing Rapporteur of the INTA monitoring group on the EUDR and CBAM