



# LIGHTING INDUSTRY'S PRIORITIES FOR THE 2024 – 2029 EU TERM



In 2024 European elections will take place and a new political agenda will be set for the upcoming policy and legislative term. This is why LightingEurope is publishing a Political Manifesto containing our recommendations for future decision-makers.

## About LightingEurope

**LightingEurope is the voice of the lighting industry, based in Brussels and representing 32 companies and national associations.**

LightingEurope members account for over 1,000 European companies, a majority of which are small or medium-sized, that manufacture luminaires, lamps and related components. They represent a total European workforce of over 100,000 people and an annual turnover exceeding 20 billion euro.



**32 Members**



**1,000+ Companies**



**100,000+ People employed**



**€21B Annual turnover**



## Ensure a better enforcement of existing rules

Many EU product-related requirements apply to lighting products and their use. The EU Single Market can only thrive if the regulations are easily understandable for manufacturers and enforceable for Market Surveillance Authorities. Effective and efficient enforcement of EU requirements is essential to maintain the competitiveness of the internal market and ensure the overall credibility and impact of EU rules.

### We call for:

- The full enforcement of existing rules.
- Further cooperation and alignment between MSAs. The set up of an EU agency for enforcement should be considered.
- To set up the conditions allowing more cooperation under Article 9 of the Market Surveillance legislation.

## Define sound rules

We believe that a thorough and high-quality impact assessment, as well as consultation with stakeholders, are crucial when introducing new legislative proposals. The cumulative impacts and costs of new legislative initiatives and existing rules on EU companies and their competitiveness should be one of the guiding principles.

If new rules are deemed necessary, they should be: evidence-based, simple, easy to understand and to be applied, not difficult to be enforced, explaining how economic actors can demonstrate compliance when placing a product on the EU market.

### We call for:

- New rules that are evidence-based, simple, easy to understand, to be applied and enforced; based on socio-economic and environmental impact assessments and attached to specific targets on market surveillance.

## Address product compliance online

There is an increasing number of non-compliant and dangerous products sold on the EU market, especially online. This threatens consumers' safety, distorts competition in the EU market and undermines the credibility of EU rules.

In our latest [Online Mystery Shopper Exercise](#), we found that 71% of the products recommended by the online platforms' algorithms did not present all the information requirements required by European legislation. Upon physical inspection, only 5% of the products received were compliant. We must allocate liability for all forms of product compliance online to an economic operator within the EU jurisdiction.

### We call for:

- The revision of the Digital Services Act, as the current version of the text fails to address the issue of the liability for product compliance when there is no economic operator in the EU.



## **Make buildings and cities energy efficient & people-centric**

The switch to LED, combined with the use of sensors and controls has made modernised lighting a key contributor to energy savings in buildings and cities, thereby assisting in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. With the technologies already available and ready to install, there is no better time to invest. In addition to energy savings, better lighting also leads to a better environment for people in buildings and cities. Poor lighting and bad indoor environmental quality can negatively impact our homes, schools, and offices, and be detrimental to our well-being. On the other hand, good quality lighting can generate a wider set of benefits for both cities and EU citizens, such as reduced crime rates, improved citizen perception of safety, and improved traffic safety for all road users.

Furthermore, light at night makes an important contribution to safety, the nighttime economy and urban beautification. However, if (outdoor) lighting is poorly done, it can have unwanted side effects referred to as “light pollution”, usually indicating an excess of light in areas or directions where (or when) this is perceived as superfluous or disturbing. The European lighting industry believes that nowadays the technologies, guidelines and experience are all in place to provide great lighting meeting all functional and aesthetic requirements, while eliminating or minimizing any unwanted side effects.

### **We call for:**

- All EU legislation addressing the built environment or renovation of the building stock to:
  - include requirements ensuring a high indoor environmental quality, including better lighting.
  - mandate automatic lighting control systems which imitate the dynamics, intensity and colour of natural light over the day in non-residential buildings.
- The revision of the Workplaces Directive to ensure a safe and comfortable workplace environment.
- The introduction of an EU legislative approach to address light at night to support the implementation of quality outdoor lighting and address any potential light pollution effects.
- The introduction of energy efficient, smart and connected streetlights in the objectives of the future ERDF (European Regional Development Fund) and Cohesion Fund.

## **Promote durability of products**

As part of the European Green Deal's objectives, decoupling economic growth from resource use is essential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and biodiversity loss. Resource extraction and processing, in fact, account for half of total greenhouse gas emissions and more than 90% of biodiversity loss.

In this respect, long-lasting products are the most resource- and energy-efficient option. We believe that providing information on the lifetime of the key components of luminaires (light source and control gear) will help consumers make informed decisions and encourage manufacturers to produce more long-lasting products.



### **We call for:**

- The introduction of information requirements on the lifetime of the key components of luminaires (light source and control gear) in the framework of the upcoming Lighting Regulation review.

## **Deal with Substances of Concern in a pragmatic and proportioned way**

Human health and the environment need to be protected against unacceptable risks from hazardous substances. At the same time, we have to bear in mind that chemicals are key components of electrical and electronic equipment that are used in every-day life, several of which being important for the green and digital transition (e.g. very energy efficient smart lighting systems – see energy savings potential above). As such, a careful, pragmatic and proportionate approach to substance restriction is essential to avoid unintended consequences for the EU's green transition and the competitiveness of industry.

### **We call for:**

- A sector-differentiated approach that is based on the detailed socio-economic impact and application-specific risk assessments regarding upcoming EU chemicals policy and legislation.

## **Provide tools for a strong EU industry**

Reducing administrative burden is crucial to allow European businesses – especially SMEs – to consolidate, grow and fairly compete at global scale. In particular, all efforts to harmonize and, wherever possible, reduce reporting obligations are welcome.

Europe has the potential to play a central role in innovation at global level. The EU innovation agenda should be based on promoting technological openness and focusing on wished outcomes rather than overly-detailed regulation.

Widening skills gaps, also in the lighting sector, are becoming an increasing challenge affecting all types of professionals, from technicians to experts in regulation and standards. EU Institutions should work closely with Member States and stakeholders to anticipate skills and labour needs and to promote the transfer of knowledge to the new generations.

Standards are essential to reduce trade barriers and for companies to consolidate their presence both in the Single Market and on the global market and full harmonization is something to strive for.

### **We call for:**

- Less red tape and support to SMEs.
- An EU Innovation agenda based on technology openness and innovative leadership.
- Standards and their harmonization.
- Skills development & transfer among generations.



## Did You know?

- For 2030, 6.4 bln lamps are expected to be installed in the EU27 residential sector (32 lamps per household), consuming 27 TWh/a electricity. This is 75% less than in 2005, while the number of installed lamps per household increased by 62%. Over 96% of these lamps is expected to be LED.<sup>1</sup>
- Lighting accounts for around 20% of the total cost-effective electrical energy savings potential in non-residential buildings: with LED-based lighting systems, an additional 29 TWh/y can be saved by 2030 (up to 56 TWh/y in 2050).<sup>2</sup>
- Street lighting can account for 30-50% of the total electricity consumption of a municipality. Switching to LED can lead to more than 50% reduction in energy consumption. Adding lighting controls to the luminaires can save an additional 20% or more.<sup>3</sup>
- Having the right light at the right place and at the right time and for the different activities one carries out in day supports the well-being and performance of humans by combining the visual, biological and emotional benefits of light. For example, it can help students achieve up to 14% higher scores.<sup>4</sup>



1. European Commission, Directorate-General for Energy, [Ecodesign impact accounting annual report 2021 – Overview and status report](#), Publications Office of the European Union, 2022

2. VITO et al (commissioned by the European Commission), [Preparatory study on lighting systems 'Lot 37'](#), 2016

3. European Commission, Directorate-General for Energy, [Preparatory study for the Ecodesign and Energy Labelling Working Plan 2022-2024](#), 2022

4. Eco Design Consultants, [Healthy Buildings](#), 2016



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THE VOICE OF THE LIGHTING INDUSTRY

## LightingEurope Members

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[www.lightingeurope.org](http://www.lightingeurope.org)



+32 (0) 2 426 23 27



Rue Belliard 205 - 1040, Brussels (BE)



[contact@lightingeurope.com](mailto:contact@lightingeurope.com)