



RIGHT TO REPAIR

Our priorities for the trilogues on new repair rules

The [Right to Repair Europe](#) coalition represents over 140 organisations from 23 European countries. It represents environmental NGOs and repair actors such as community repair groups, social economy actors, spare parts distributors, self-repairers, repair and refurbishing businesses, and any citizen who would like to advocate for their right to repair. This is a rapidly growing movement with the objective to make repair affordable, accessible and mainstream. Browse member organisations by country [here](#).

To empower consumers to choose repair we need to bring down barriers such as the high cost of repair and the difficulty to access professionals, which remain market blockers. This is why we are urging negotiators to keep the following six crucial provisions, which were introduced by the European Parliament:

1. Deliver right to repair for all products

Europeans are rapidly embracing the circular economy. The [data collected in thousands of repair cafés](#) proves that EU citizens want to repair a broad range of products. The new repair rules (Art5) should at least cover the products listed in Annex II and bicycles (as proposed by the EU Parliament).

We call on negotiators to maintain ambition on the broad product scope of the ban of anti-repair practices, as in the **Parliament's version of Art9.a (new)**:

“6. Member States shall ban practices that impede consumers to exert their right to repair, including but not limited to:

(...) (b) prohibiting any contractual, hardware or software technique that could prevent or limit repair and prohibit the refusal to repair a good that has been previously repaired by an independent repairer, non-professional repairer or end-user.”

2. Broad and affordable access to repair information and all spare parts

Broad and affordable access to spare parts is essential to ensure repair options for consumers and to enable the development of a European repair economy. We therefore call on negotiators to **keep the Parliament's version of Art5.3**:

“producers shall ensure that independent repairers, **remanufacturers, refurbishers and end-users** have access to **all** spare parts and **all** repair-related information and tools, **including diagnosis tools, at a reasonable and non-discriminatory cost for a period corresponding to at least the expected lifespan of the product.**”

3. Transparency on pricing of original spare parts

To increase transparency and ensure compliance with [reasonable prices for spare parts](#), it is essential that manufacturers' publish binding prices of parts on their websites, as proposed in the **Parliament's version of Art5.3 a (new)**:

“3a. Producers shall make available on their websites all information related to

repair, such as repair prices and prices of spare parts for the goods listed in Annex II.”

4. Support the use of compatible parts and ban anti-repair techniques enacted by manufacturers

To give affordable repair options to consumers, it is crucial to allow the use of compatible consumables, spare parts and accessories that are not necessarily provided solely by the original manufacturer.

For this to be effective it is also essential to ban any hardware or software technique by which manufacturers limit or make impossible the independent repair or refurbishment of a product, or limit the product’s functionality after repair outside of their authorised networks;

We therefore urge the negotiators to adopt the **Parliament’s version of Art5.3 b (new)**: “3b. Producers shall not impede the repair by any contractual, hardware or software technique. Producers shall not impede the use of original or second-hand spare parts, compatible spare parts and spare parts issued from 3D-printing, by independent repairers when those spare parts are in conformity with requirements under national or Union law.”

5. Empower Member States to introduce repair funds and vouchers

The high cost of repairs is still a key barrier between a product being theoretically repairable and actually repaired. The current system implicitly incentivises product replacement over repair, by not factoring all externalities associated with the throwaway economy. Financial incentives for repair can help mitigate this barrier. [Success stories of Austria, Germany and France](#) show how these schemes empower and support consumers, dynamise the local circular economy and save huge amounts of emissions and resources.

We therefore support the **Parliament’s reference to the schemes in Art9 a (new)**: “2. The measures referred to in paragraph 1 may, for example, take the form of repair vouchers, national repair funds or other actions and incentives.”

6. Priority to repair within the legal guarantee framework

To resolve cases of non-conformity of products during the legal guarantee framework the priority should be given to repair instead of replacement. We therefore support the EU Commission’s proposal:

In **Article 13(2) of Directive (EU) 2019/771** the following **sentence** is added: “**In** derogation from the first **sentence of this paragraph**, where the costs for replacement are equal to or greater than the costs for repair, the seller shall repair the goods in order to bring those goods in conformity.”