



RIGHT TO REPAIR

PRESS RELEASE

On the adopted Directive on common rules promoting the repair of goods

Brussels, April 2024

The [Right to Repair Europe](#) coalition represents over 140 organisations from 24 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.

EU campaigning pays off with promising new repair rules, but we need many more products to be covered

After years of intense campaigning by right to repair advocates, EU lawmakers have finally agreed upon new repair rules.⁽¹⁾ The [Right to Repair Europe](#) coalition, celebrates that the new law will pave the way for better access to affordable repairs for selected products. We applaud the rules on **reasonable prices** for original parts as well as the **ban of software practices which prevent independent repair** and the use of **compatible and reused spare parts**. This is a step in the right direction for affordable repair.

However, we must note that with the adoption of the law, a major chance is being missed to create a truly fair repair market in Europe and to ensure affordable repair solutions for the majority of products on the European market. We regret that the **scope of products covered remains very narrow** and that many **loopholes** were introduced. We call for a swift implementation of these rules, including Commission guidelines on a clear **definition of “reasonable” prices** for spare parts, a solid execution of the ban on anti-repair practices and the introduction of **national financial incentives** for repair by EU Member States.

We urge the next EU Commission (post-EU elections in June 2024) to **continue working on legal acts setting repairability requirements**⁽²⁾ for additional product categories to swiftly expand the scope of the products covered by these new repair rules.

You can find [here](#) a more detailed analysis of the legal text.

Cristina Ganapini, Right to Repair Europe coordinator said: “Despite the limited scope, this right to repair directive is a step in the right direction. This progress shows that campaigning for a real circular economy pays off: we will keep pushing the EU Commission to include a wider range of products. We will also closely monitor the enforcement of the ban on anti-repair practices and continue to speak out on the implications of its loopholes.”

Katrin Meyer, Runder Tisch Reparatur coordinator said:

“The ball is now in the Member States' court: it is up to them to turn the toned down European right to repair into a truly ambitious framework for the promotion of repair infrastructure and options for their citizens. In addition to a legally sound implementation of the European requirements, they are now obliged to introduce at least one national support measure. The repair bonus has already proven to be a successful incentive system in some European countries, such as France and Austria, to make repairs more affordable and accessible. Other member states should follow their example and introduce corresponding systems, ideally financed through Extended Producer Responsibility fees.”

Thomas Opsomer, Repair Policy Engineer at iFixit, said:

“This Directive is a good start but its scope is actually quite limited. An opportunity was missed for measures applying to all electric and electronic products. Given that the newly voted rules do not, nor will in the foreseeable future, apply to the vast majority of short-lived products flooding the EU market, it would be very optimistic to expect that they would even make a dent in the use of resources and the production of e-waste. We will keep pushing for horizontal measures enacting a true right to repair.”

Ugo Vallauri, Co-Director, The Restart Project said:

“Price is a decisive factor between a product being theoretically repairable and actually repaired. This directive regrettably fails to define what a “reasonable” cost for repair is, and it only recommends - rather than demanding - that EU member states set financial incentives for repair. The Right to Repair movement will have to increase pressure for the adoption of repair vouchers

and financial measures in support of community repair initiatives in each country.”

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Notes

(1) [legal text of the directive](#)

(2) EU lawmakers also agreed on a new EU Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR). This framework regulation will enable the EU Commission to set minimum repairability requirements for further product categories. Our coalition managed to put energy-related products, ICT products and other electronics as part of their next priorities.