

Educational Sheet **1**

The right to repair:
what it is



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77% of EU consumers would prefer to repair their goods rather than purchase new ones, but often forego repairs due to high costs

(source: Eurobarometro 2020)

Each year, **35 million tonnes of waste** accumulate in the European Union, including a vast number of potentially repairable items that end up in landfills. This excessive waste generation threatens progress toward a circular and sustainable economy.



To counteract this, the **right to repair** directive ensures that consumers can repair their goods easily and affordably rather than having to replace them.



The regulation has been approved by the European Parliament, and the 27 EU member states must transpose the directive into their national legislation by **31 July 2026**.

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MAIN POINTS OF THE RIGHT TO REPAIR:

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Repair obligation:

1. Manufacturers will be required to provide timely and affordable repair services while informing consumers of their rights. Additionally, legal warranties will be extended by one year.

Repairable products:

The law applies to products such as household appliances and electronic devices, though the category may be expanded. Consumers will also have the option to borrow devices or choose refurbished products.

Information on repair services:

Information on repair services: Consumers will receive a standardised European form to compare repair services, and an online platform will be developed to help locate local repair shops.

Promoting affordable repairs:

Each Member State will be required to implement strategies to make repair services more accessible.

Revitalising the repair market:

Manufacturers must ensure the availability of spare parts and tools at reasonable prices, and must not obstruct repairs, even those performed independently.



Recycling policies in the EU vary from country to country. In 2021, Austria had the highest average e-waste collection among nations, reaching **15.46 kg per inhabitant**.