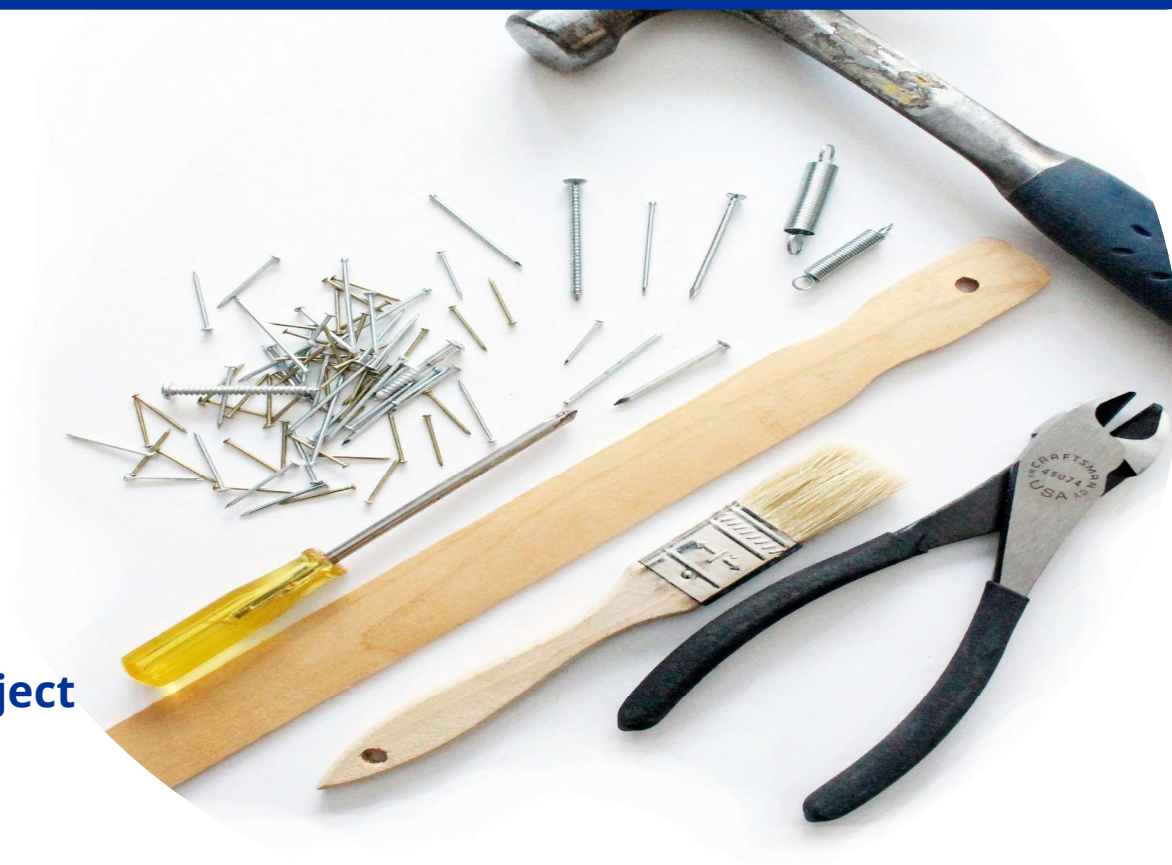


Innovative Sustainable Economy

Making repair the easy choice

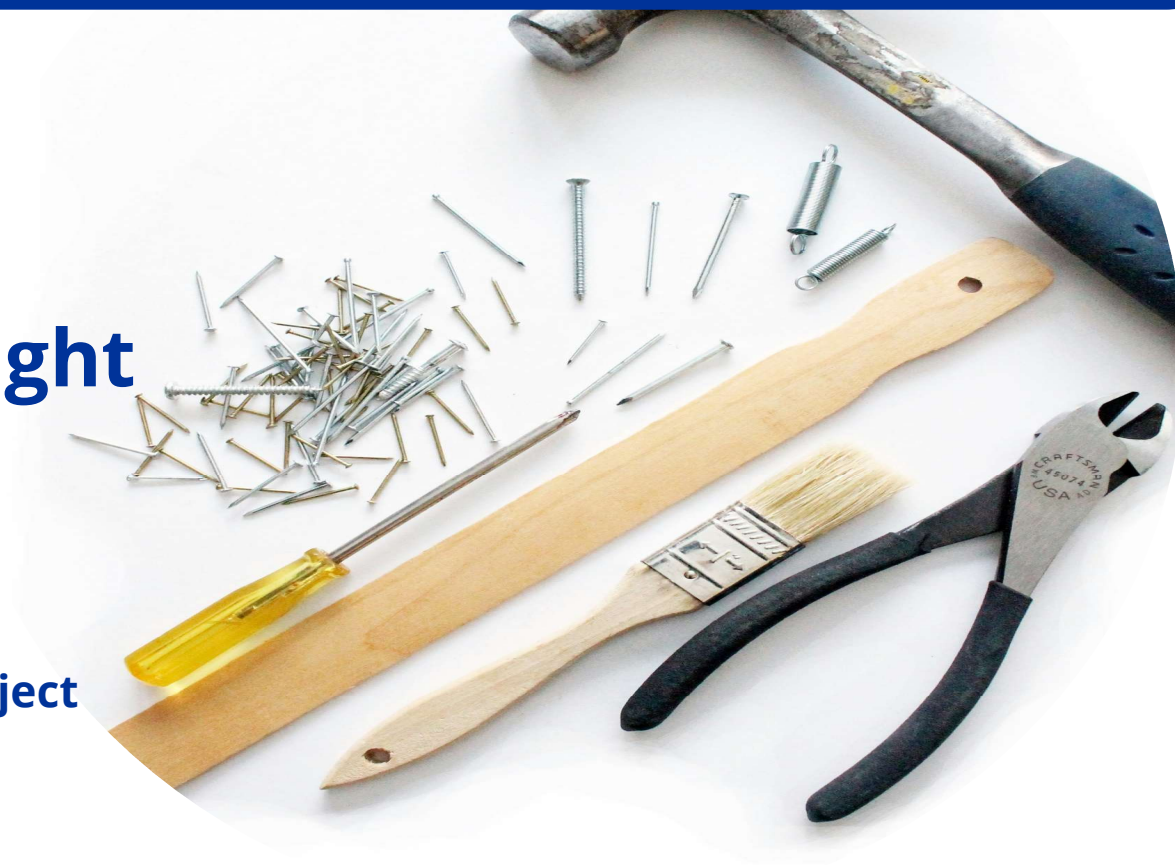
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Making repair the easy choice

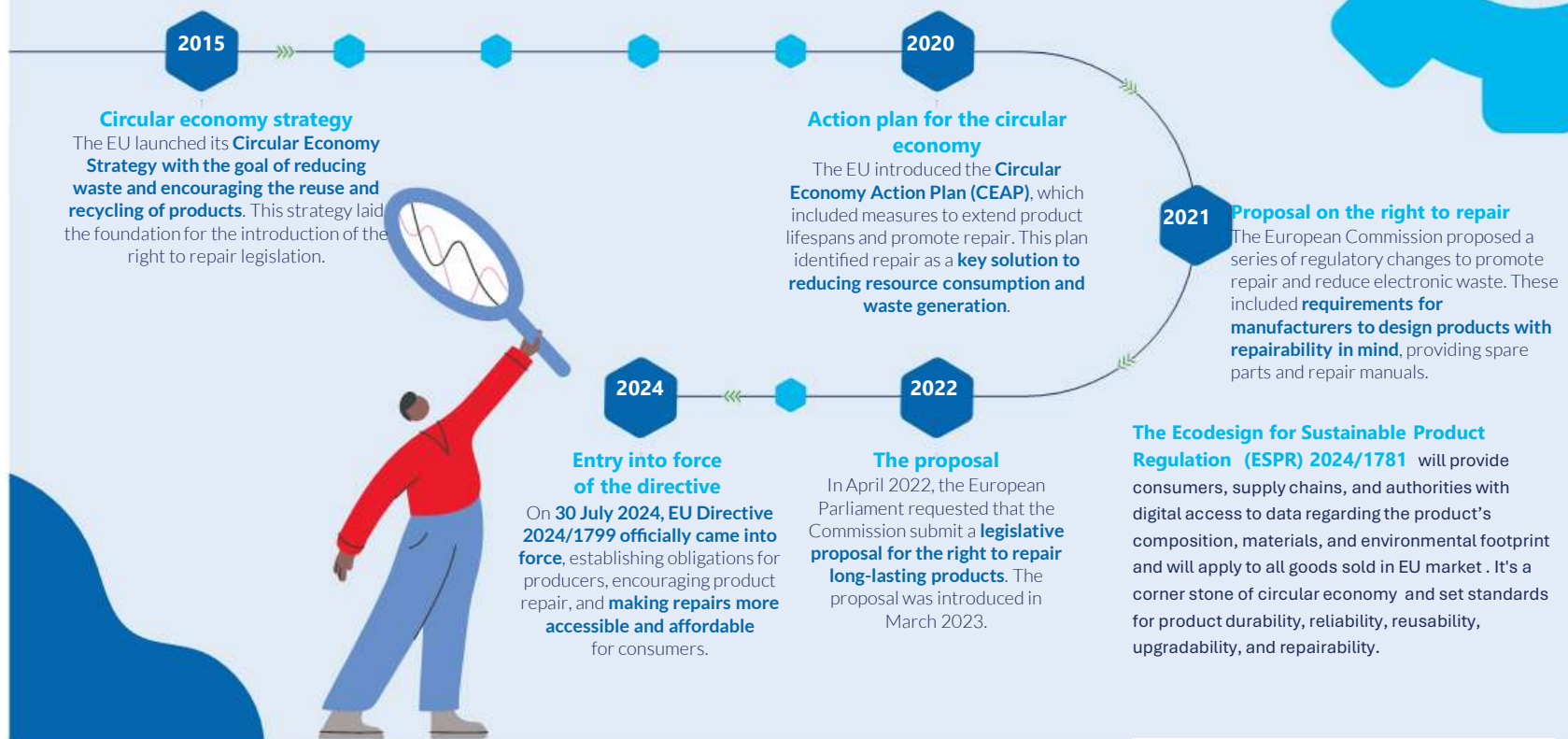
2. The stages of the right to repair standard

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The stages of the right to repair

The "Right to Repair" directive is part of a broader effort to develop European legislation aimed at promoting sustainability, reducing waste, and fostering a circular economy.



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To understand the importance of the right to repair, it is useful to look at how this legislation has evolved at the European level: it is the result of a **legal and cultural process** that has developed over many years.

In fact, repair was already recognized by **Directive 1999/44/EC** as one of the main remedies available to consumers in cases of non-compliant products. However, it was only in 2002, with **Directive 2002/96/EC** on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment — the **WEEE Directive** — that repair became linked to the entire life cycle of products.

From that moment on, manufacturers became responsible for designing products in ways that would facilitate repair, reuse, dismantling and recycling.

Still, the real legal foundation for introducing an actual obligation of repairability was consolidated only with **Directive 2009/125/EC** on the **ecodesign** of energy-related products.

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This directive made it possible to adopt the **Ecodesign Regulations** introduced in 2019, which defined — for each product category — the design requirements intended to improve repairability, the list of spare parts that manufacturers must provide, and the repair information that should be made available.

Fifteen years later, the **new Ecodesign Regulation 2024/1781** strengthens and expands the scope of the original directive, making those principles directly applicable across EU Member States.

The new regulation also introduces additional aspects such as durability, reusability, upgradability and the availability of information throughout the entire life cycle of products.

The decisive step came on July 30th, 2024, with the entry into force of the **European Right to Repair Directive 2024/1799**.

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This directive shifts the focus directly onto consumers, addressing the obstacles that often discourage people from choosing repair instead of buying new products.

This directive introduces several important new measures. For example:

- manufacturers must offer **repairs at reasonable prices**
- they must provide **spare parts and repair tools**
- and they cannot prevent **independent repair services**.

Citizen will also have access to a **standard European repair form**, making it easier to compare prices and repair conditions.

In addition, a **European online platform** will help citizens find local repair services more easily.

EU Member States will have to implement the directive into national law by July 2026.

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For now, the right to repair mainly applies to **common products** such as:

- washing machines
- Refrigerators
- dishwashers
- vacuum cleaners
- electronic displays
- smartphones and cordless phones
- tablets
- local space heaters

But the goal is to progressively extend these rules to many more categories of products.

This transformation is not just about laws, but about changing the way products are designed, used and valued throughout their entire life cycle.

The stages of the right to repair standard



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