

European Commission  
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BELGIUM

**Re: Ten requests for the upcoming Commission proposals on the energy and climate framework**

Dear President Juncker,  
Dear Vice-Presidents,  
Dear Commissioners,

The Paris Agreement marks an historic turning point in action to combat climate change. The next years are crucial in implementing the Agreement and putting the world on track to 'well below 2 degrees' while pursuing efforts to stay below 1,5 degrees.

2016 will prove a crucial year, and all countries will need to show why and how Paris made a difference to them to keep the momentum for global action on climate change alive. The US and Canada have recently [announced](#) that they will increase climate action and develop mid-century, low greenhouse gas emission development strategies this year and will encourage other G20 countries to follow suit. China and the US [committed](#) to ratify the Paris Agreement this year to facilitate an early enter into force and send a strong signal to business, investors and citizens that governments will step up efforts to tackle climate change. A global race towards designing zero emission societies has started and the EU shouldn't risk being left behind.

Now all eyes are on the EU to show how to ensure that our policies and targets will be in line with the Paris Agreement – which is not yet the case. Even in the absence of a scientific assessment on 1,5 degrees, it is clear that the current [trajectory](#) of a 80% reduction by 2050 is not enough for 'well below 2 degrees', let alone 1,5 degree. We would therefore call on the Commission to start modelling what other emissions reduction trajectories would look like and in particular what a 95% emission reduction by 2050 means for the different sectors and policy instruments.

The purpose of the Paris Agreement commits all countries to reduce the risks of and increase the ability to adapt to impacts of global warming, as well as to make all finance flows consistent with a low greenhouse gas emissions pathway. This requires a wholesale reform of European climate and energy policy as well as an alignment of wider European policy with theses goal: from trade to infrastructure, from finance to development, from regional cooperation to international diplomacy, and beyond.

Europe has the capacity to be a global leader in building the smarter, cleaner, safer and more resilient society, which delivers on the transformational goals of the Paris Agreement in a cost-effective, just, and social way. In return, a robust climate and energy framework for the decades to come will drive the necessary innovation; attracting investments

through technologies and infrastructure. Europe has the opportunity to be force behind driving this transition if it steps up its own decarbonisation efforts.

The subscribing Members of the European parliament would like to call on the European Commission to take the following ten key asks into account when formulating the upcoming proposals:

1. Ensure that the EU will be able **increase its domestic climate targets** every five years in line with the dynamic 'ratchet' ambition mechanism introduced in the Paris Agreement, starting with the global stocktake in 2018 that should inform the inscription of an upgraded EU's NDC by 2020. All relevant legislative proposals shall allow for increasing ambition between the global UNFCCC stocktakes and the inscription or upgrade of NDCs.
2. Ensure that the **Effort-Sharing Proposal** drives the maximum domestic emission reductions and accelerate the transition in the non-trading sectors by setting the lowest possible starting year for each Member State, limiting flexibilities towards the ETS and outlining a decarbonisation pathway towards 2050. The Commission shall further ensure that **LULUCF** will be treated as a separate pillar to enhance carbon sinks in the EU.
3. Ensure that the EU be able to **ratify the Paris Agreement this year** when it enters into force to provide confidence to international partners as well as to European citizens and stakeholders that a swift implementation of the Agreement is under way.
4. Ensure that the **proposal on governance** call on Member States to develop strategic national long-term decarbonisation pathways which deliver a cost-effective and just transition.
5. Ensure the **revised Energy Efficiency Directive** sets a binding target to increase energy efficiency by 40% in 2030 as repeatedly called for by the European Parliament and guarantees that Europe effectively plans for, finances and delivers the 'Energy Efficiency First' principle.
6. Ensure the **revised Renewable Energy Directive** will set an ambitious and legally binding renewable energy target and that climate-harming bioenergy cannot be counted towards the greenhouse gas and renewable energy targets.
7. Ensure the upcoming **revision of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive** should mandate the deep renovation of the European building stock linked to trigger points in the life cycle of a building, such as works on the building shell or its technical installations, so that the energy demand of the building stock will be reduced in line with the Paris agreement.
8. Ensure that the **decarbonisation of the transport sector** proceeds through strong Co2 standards for cars, vans and trucks and gives a clear perspective on the role of electricity in the transport sector.
9. Ensure the upcoming **communication for research, innovation and competitiveness of the Energy Union** (the 5th Dimension) develops a clear energy-related industrial strategy focused on innovation.
10. Ensure the **Market Design Initiative** will provide investment security in the low-carbon transition, substitute old, inflexible baseload with demand-side market participation and further enhance the implementation of the Internal Energy Market aligned with the decarbonisation agenda.

We are looking forward to continue our productive cooperation on the upcoming legislative files.

Best regards,

MEP's of the Environment and Industry, Research and Energy Committee's

Seb Dance MEP, S&D  
Sirpa Pitakeinen MEP, EPP  
Margrete Auken MEP, Greens  
Carlos Zorrinho MEP, S&D  
Catherine Bearder MEP, ALDE  
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