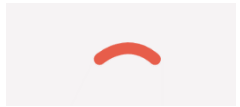

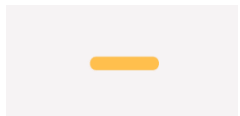

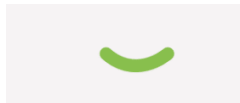


The EU’s newly released proposal to address the climate emergency fails to live up to Green Deal rhetoric. Without higher targets and concrete measures now, Europe has no chance of reaching climate neutrality by 2050.

EEB assessment

| Area of focus | The Commission’s proposal | The EEB’s comment | The EEB’s assessment |
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| <p>Climate and energy targets</p> | <p>The Climate Law sets a net-zero emissions target to be achieved across the EU by 2050.</p> <p>The European Commission also commits to reviewing the EU’s 2030 climate and energy targets, so that short-term goals are in line with the long-term target of climate neutrality. The Commission proposes to “<i>explore options</i>” for a new greenhouse gas emissions reduction target of 50 to 55%.</p> | <p>The EEB welcomes the inclusion of the 2050 climate neutrality target in the EU’s long-term strategy and in the National Energy and Climate Plans; the introduction of a regular review of collective progress and measures every 5 years; and the use of delegated acts. However, it’s unclear how the European Commission plans to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 without increasing current intermediary climate and energy targets set for 2030. The absence of higher EU targets at this stage casts doubts over our governments’ pledge to present stronger climate strategies at the United Nations’ COP26 in November. Failure to come up with a comprehensive and consistent strategy at the global level will in turn undermine efforts to limit the world’s temperature</p> |  |

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| | <p>The current climate and energy targets for the period from 2021 to 2030 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 40% cuts in greenhouse gas emissions (from 1990 levels)• 32% share for renewable energy• 32.5% improvement in energy efficiency• 15% electricity interconnection target | <p>increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius, as agreed in the Paris Agreement.</p> <p>The EEB is particularly concerned about the elements that the Commission is taking into consideration in its Impact Assessment for higher emissions reductions targets, which is due in September 2020. More emphasis is put on short term economic and competitiveness issues, while not enough emphasis is put on scientific evidence and on the untapped potential of existing solutions such as renewable energy and energy efficiency. The timing of the Impact Assessment is also alarming, as it doesn't give the European Parliament and member states enough time to propose stronger targets and legislation in time for the COP26 in November. This risks putting any legislative proposal on stand-by until 2021, undermining the EU's global leadership on climate.</p> <p>A credible Climate Law would have set the following binding targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 65% greenhouse gas emissions reduction• 45% of renewable energy• 40% improvements in energy efficiency• 40% EU spending on climate action• Halt EU funding to fossil fuel infrastructure by 2024• Intermediate targets for greenhouse gas emissions, renewables and energy efficiency | |
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| <p>Grids</p> | <p>The Climate Law fails to outline a plan to end the development of new fossil fuel infrastructure.</p> | <p>The text leaves the door open for the development of new gas pipelines, which will lock Europe into carbon emissions for the decades to come.</p> |  |
| <p>EU governance (Linking short-term to long-term ambition)</p> | <p>The Climate Law fails to propose measures to ensure that the national energy and climate plans (NECPs) contribute effectively to the EU's carbon neutrality goals.</p> | <p>National plans for climate neutrality are necessary, but strategies have so far mostly been below expectations. The Commission must set up a process to ensure that member states outline exactly how they are going to deliver on their short-term targets (2030) and enforce measures to ensure the plans will add up to achieve the final target.</p> |  |
| <p>The decarbonisation of Europe's economic sectors</p> | <p>The Climate Law fails to set specific emissions reduction and climate neutrality targets for each sector of Europe's economy. The text only mentions that climate neutrality <i>"should require a contribution from all economic sectors"</i>.</p> | <p>From agriculture to transport and industry, Europe's economy needs sectoral targets for climate neutrality reflecting the climate impact of each individual sector.</p> <p>By failing to address the need for sectoral targets, the Climate Law risks leading to weak commitments and burden shifting amongst sectors. This is not in line with the vision outlined in the European Green Deal, in which the European Commission promises to set out explicit measures aimed at decarbonizing one the most polluting sectors, including industry and agriculture.</p> <p>For agriculture alone, the European Commission should aim to reduce CO2 and non-CO2 emissions from agriculture by at least 45% by 2030.</p> |  |
| <p>Civil society participation</p> | <p>The Climate Law establishes a multilevel climate and energy dialogue pursuant to national rules,</p> | <p>It's necessary that civil society organisations and the wider public, including the many youth movements</p> |  |

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| | <p>in which local authorities, civil society organisations, business community, investors and other relevant stakeholders and the general public are able actively to engage and discuss the achievement of the Union's climate-neutrality objective</p> | <p>pushing for climate action, engage in the process of decision-making.</p> | |
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