

**Priority question for written answer P-003822/2026/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: COP31: feasibility of European ambitions in the face of unequal efforts by major emitters

Ahead of COP31, the draft EU position¹ urges ‘all Parties, particularly major emitters’ to act with the highest possible ambition, and calls for an acceleration of clean energy, electrification, energy efficiency and carbon pricing.

However, a briefing by the Committee on the Environment, Climate and Food Safety (ENVI)² notes the lack of a binding roadmap on fossil fuels, the blockage in Bonn and disagreements on financing. The US, China, Russia and India, which account for around 57% of global emissions, were absent from the Santa Marta process, a voluntary initiative launched in April 2026 on phasing out fossil fuels. The UN Environment Programme now considers that exceedance of 1.5°C in the near term is unavoidable³.

1. Based on what assumptions does the Commission consider the priorities advocated by the EU at COP31 to be feasible: clean energy, electrification, energy efficiency and carbon pricing?
2. Given the existing binding obligations already imposed on the EU, does the Commission mainly expect additional efforts to come from major emitters outside the EU? How can comparable commitments be obtained from them?
3. Has the Commission assessed the risks of deindustrialisation, carbon leakage and loss of competitiveness if our competitors do not make equivalent efforts?

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¹ Council of the European Union, Document No 12727/26, revised draft Council conclusions on ‘Preparations for the 31st Conference of the Parties (COP31) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)’, 3 September 2026.

² Summary of the ENVI Committee’s introductory note on COP31 and criticisms, pp. 1-3.

³ United Nations Environment Programme, ‘Limiting Overshoot – Navigating exceedance of 1.5°C and pathways towards return’, 2 September 2026.