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Answer given by Mr Hoekstra
on behalf of the European Commission
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For more than a decade the EU has worked side-by-side with the United States (US) to design and implement the Paris Agreement, the crucial multilateral agreement in the fight against global warming. The Commission therefore regrets the announcement of the President of the US to once again withdraw the US from the Paris Agreement. The Commission will stay the course on the Green Deal as the EU's growth strategy. The Commission will deploy its climate diplomacy to ensure that other major polluters also show ambition in reducing greenhouse gas emissions when presenting their Nationally Determined Contributions ahead of COP 30 in Brazil.

The Commission's focus will be on supporting and creating the right conditions for reaching its common goals. This means investing and ensuring access to cheap, sustainable and secure energy supplies and raw materials, including through the Clean Industrial Deal.

The Clean Industrial Deal, announced in the Political Guidelines for 2024-2029, positions decarbonisation as a powerful driver of growth and prosperity for Europeans. Building on the Green Deal Industrial Plan¹, the Net Zero Industrial² and Critical Raw Materials Acts³, it will have a particular focus on energy-intensive industries and the net-zero sector. Some of the measures will aim at lowering energy prices, developing lead markets for EU-made decarbonised products, and leveraging circularity for the availability of raw materials. All of these measures will support the EU economy, foster the green transition and contribute to the prosperity of EU citizens by creating new jobs.

¹ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/green-deal-industrial-plan_en

² https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/green-deal-industrial-plan/net-zero-industry-act_en

³ https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/sectors/raw-materials/areas-specific-interest/critical-raw-materials/critical-raw-materials-act_en