

EN

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Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(17.9.2025)

1. The Commission is aware both of the positive achievements - e.g. on air pollution and climate change mitigation - and of the areas of concern pointed out by the European Environment Agency. The Commission takes those very seriously. It has already discussed the matter with ministers in the Environmental Council and stands ready to do the same with the European Parliament. The Commission's simplification efforts aim to achieve agreed policy objectives in the simplest, most targeted, effective and least burdensome way¹.

2. In addition to measures already agreed but not yet implemented, the Commission is committed to taking additional measures in areas that require further action. It has proposed a net 90% emission reduction target for 2040², sending a strong signal of policy continuity. It has presented a Water Resilience Strategy³ tackling both water quantity and quality and will present a European Plan for Climate Resilience⁴, and a Circular Economy Act⁵.

For the next multiannual financial framework⁶, the Commission proposes a 35% climate and environment spending target, which should mobilise over EUR 700 billion to support ambitious green investments. The 'Do No Significant Harm' and a new 'climate resilience by design' principle applied will ensure that EU funding does not run counter to climate and environmental goals.

3. The Commission is committed to stay the course on the Green Deal⁷ and is proposing simplification⁸ not deregulation. It wants to allow businesses and administrations to deliver on common objectives more flexibly and at lower cost, facilitating effective implementation. The engagement to simplify and reduce administrative burden without lowering the standards was stressed at numerous occasions by the Commission.

¹ COM(2025) 30 final of 29 January 2025.

² https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_1687.

³ https://commission.europa.eu/topics/environment/water-resilience-strategy_en.

⁴ <https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/en/eu-adaptation-policy/european-climate-adaptation-plan>.

⁵ https://environment.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-launches-consultation-upcoming-circular-economy-act-2025-08-01_en.

⁶ https://commission.europa.eu/publications/multiannual-financial-framework_en.

⁷ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en.

⁸ COM(2025) 47 final of the 11 February 2025.