

(English version)

Question for written answer E-002879/25
to the Commission
Daniel Buda (PPE)
(15 July 2025)

Subject: Climate target for 2040

The Commission proposes a 90% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions as part of the pathway to climate neutrality by 2050. This measure supports clean industry, investment and energy security, and will be debated by Parliament and the Council.

1. In view of the proposed climate goal of reducing net greenhouse gas emissions by 90% by 2040, how does the Commission intend to ensure an equitable transition for Member States with less decarbonised economies so that they are not disadvantaged in the process of implementing the new measures, and so that their industrial competitiveness is not significantly affected?
2. How will the Commission provide sufficient funds to ensure a fair transition to the 2040 climate goal so that no one and no region is left behind?

Submitted: 15.7.2025

Answer given by Mr Hoekstra on behalf of the European Commission
(29 August 2025)

The Commission's proposed amendment to the European Climate Law provides a 90% net emission reduction target for 2040 and the basis for an ambitious and pragmatic approach to the transition to a climate neutral European Union in 2050.

These proposals and their underlying impact assessments will take into account (among others) fairness and solidarity between and within Member States and efforts reflecting cost-efficiency and solidarity, technological neutrality, cost-effectiveness, economic efficiency, and economic security, strengthening EU competitiveness, ensuring a just transition, and enhancing environmental sustainability.

These factors will help realise a balanced post-2030 climate policy framework between Member States for both their national climate action and their industrial competitiveness.

In designing the post-2030 climate policy framework, the Commission will also look at investment needs and opportunities. Public funds need to be used smartly to leverage private investments as the bulk of the investments to reach the Union's climate targets will need to come from private sources.

The Commission proposal for a new Multiannual Financial Framework for 2028-2034 ⁽¹⁾ will help boost investments to reach the 2040 target, and provide support for innovative companies and maintain Europe's leading role in cleantech sectors.

A fair and just transition will remain a priority and is now encompassed in the specific objectives of the proposed Regulation establishing the European Fund for economic, social, and territorial cohesion, agriculture, and rural fisheries and maritime, prosperity and security for the period 2028-2034.

⁽¹⁾ Publications on the new Multiannual Financial Framework 2028-2034: https://commission.europa.eu/publications/multiannual-financial-framework_en.