

HEAL Climate & Health Advocacy Virtual Exchange Meeting



Climate & Health Advocacy Call

July 10, 2025

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Political Context

Sharing Round

Policy Development

- 2040 revision – European Climate Law (ECL)
- European Climate Adaptation Plan (ECAP)
- Post-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)
- National Energy & Climate Plans (NECPs)

DK Presidency priorities & key dates

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Sharing
Round



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Policy Update



ECL 2040 revision – what changes

Targets for 2030, 2040 and 2050

Link: [available here](#)

2050: Art. 2(1) remains unchanged:

- „Union-wide greenhouse gas emissions and removals regulated in Union law shall be balanced **within the Union** at the latest by 2050 [...]."

2030: Art. 4(1) remains unchanged:

- "In order to reach the climate-neutrality objective set out in Article 2(1), the binding Union 2030 climate target shall be a **domestic reduction** of net greenhouse gas emissions (emissions after deduction of removals) by at least 55% [...]."

2040: New Art.4(3)

- "In order to reach the climate-neutrality objective set out in Article 2(1), the binding Union 2040 climate target shall be a reduction of net greenhouse gas emissions (emissions after **deduction** of removals) by 90% [...]."

ECL 2040 revision – 'flexibilities'

- 2040 target includes 'enabling policies'

- From 2036, 3% of **international carbon credits** – "verifiable", "certifiable" "additional".
- Integrate domestic permanent carbon removals into **EU ETS** to compensate hard-to-abate sectors.
- Cross-sector **flexibility** between 2030 and 2040, compensating hard-to-abate sectors with emission reduction overachieving in other sectors.

Exceptions for hard-to-abate sectors will increase domestic pollution, leading to additional premature deaths and costs of inaction.*

*Source: [May 2024 COM ECL impact assessment](#)

- **Risking higher air pollution deaths...**
 - above the projected drop from 466,000 (2015) to 196,000 (2040)—and **reducing potential health cost savings** from €1,700 billion to €670 billion.
- **...and higher cost of inaction**
 - Between 2031-2050, they could amount to **EUR 2.4 trillion** in the EU, compared to the costs associated to 1.5°C pathway.

2040 revision – What to expect

- Negotiations with Parliament and MS (**Trilogue** process)
 - Amendment of European Climate Law
 - Patriots won the right to lead on the file
 - NDC 2035 in September (?)
- Series of **impact assessments** resulting in 2040 policy package
 - "The Commission shall ensure that the following elements are appropriately reflected in the legislative proposals"
 - "The social, economic and environmental impacts"
 - "The costs of inaction and the benefits of action over mid-term to long-term"
- **Legislative proposals** will determine level of ambition:
 - Separate targets
 - Quantity of international credits 2036-2049
 - ETS reform
 - ...

European Climate Adaptation Plan

- 1) Proposal for a smart legal framework for climate resilience
 - Climate/temperature reference scenarios
 - Risk ownership at local, regional & national levels

2) Deploying **resilience by design** across sectors

3) Tools and
citizens/businesses
empowerment

4) Competitiveness
and opportunities

5) Finance and
insurance

Supporting, enabling and empowering layer



ECAP – What to expect

Publication of ECAP expected in 2026

- July 2025 start of Impact Assessment process
 - **July 15*** – Call for Evidence published (open for 4 weeks)
 - **October/November 2025** – Open Public Consultation (12 weeks)
 - **2026**: further consultations with citizens and stakeholders
 - **4Q/2026**: adoption of the package
 - Further consultations to be scheduled, including with Parliament

Climate spending on adaptation in post-2027 MFF

- Preparedness by design + resilience by design as cross-cutting principles in the post-2027 MFF:
 - **Preparedness**: reactive approach to short-term post-crisis management
 - **Resilience**: long-term measures to improve adaptive capacities

European Commission

- **June 11:** meeting with Budget Commission Serafin's cabinet w/Green NGOs
 - No decision on climate and biodiversity spending
 - Showed a narrow view on zero pollution, mainly decarbonisation
 - Climate spending will be in line with 2035 and 2030 climate targets
 - Included in both Competitiveness Fund and National and Regional Partnership Plans
 - Own Resources (EU tax & joint debt) being considered

Member States

- FR and DK supportive to climate spending and fossil fuel phase out; DE unclear; DK presidency will kickstart policy debate on MFF

Member States need to hear the urgency of greater investments in environment and health, and climate adaptation

NECPs & SCPs – the latest from MS

- **National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs)**

- 28 May 2025: Commission published EU-wide assessment of final updated NECPs
- Only some final plans sufficiently integrate preparedness and resilience to climate impacts.
- Most plans lack clear timelines and concrete phase-out measures.
- On Just transition, plans lack details of the social and employment impacts, particularly for vulnerable households, workers, and regions; + lack data for preparing their Social Climate Plans
- Poland missed deadline to submit its NECP

- **Social Climate Plans (SCPs)**

- Linked to Social Climate Fund (2026–2032) targeting vulnerable groups, with direct income support and investments in clean energy, heating/cooling, and sustainable mobility, with up to €65B from ETS revenues, reaching €86.7B with national co-financing.
- 26 out of 27 MS missed 30 June deadline to send their SCPs, except Sweden

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What's next



Opportunities under DK Presidency

- Past advocacy efforts

- Polish Presidency repeatedly tried to undermine 2040 climate ambition, together with France, reportedly.
- Meanwhile, HEAL has been vocal on the urgency of keeping climate ambition high and step up climate resilience to protect people's lives through:
 - Letters to Environment and Climate Ministers (June 17)
 - Letter to Heads of States (June 26/27)
 - Press Release on 2040 proposal (July 2)
 - Private outreach to National permanent representatives

- DK Presidency Programme environment priorities [July 1 – December 31]

- Will “prioritise negotiations” on revising the European Climate Law to set a binding emissions reduction goal for 2040.
- Will discuss “the EU’s environmental policy towards 2030”.

2025/26 – Key Climate Dates Updated



2025/26	
June 17	ENVI Council (informal discussion on 2040 target)
June 26-27	EUCO (informal discussion on 2040 target)
July 2	Commission published 2040 target proposal
July 10-11	Informal envi meeting set to discuss EU climate policy beyond 2030
July 15	Commission open call for evidence on ECAP (4 weeks)
July 16	Commission publishes EU long-term budget position
Summer Break	
Sept 4-5	Green Transition Minister meets ENVI Committee
Sept 18	Environment Council
Oct 21	Environment Council
Oct/Nov	Commission opens public consultation on ECAP (12 weeks)
Dec 16	Environment Council
2026	Commission's ECL policy package
4Q 2026	Commission's ECAP policy package



Thank you

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