



European Sustainable Energy Seminar

17-19 August, 2026

Venue: Nordic Folkecenter for Renewable Energy, Ydby, Denmark



European Climate and Energy Transition, Energy Futures, the Role of Hydrogen and Other New Developments

Veerle Dossche, CAN-Europe



Presentation is part of Proceedings: https://inforse.org/europe/seminar_2026_INFORSE-Europe_Denmark.htm



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EU climate and energy transition, energy futures, the role of hydrogen and other new developments

17 August 2026

Veerle Dossche, CAN-Europe

Trends greenhouse gas emissions EU

Reducing net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030, compared to 1990 levels.

Figure 1: EU GHG net emissions (2018-2024)

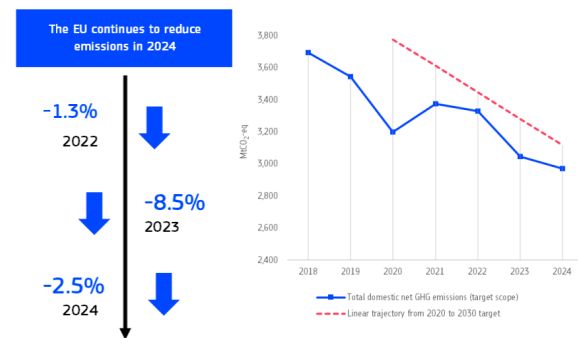


Figure 2: Change in the EU greenhouse gas emissions in 2024 by sector

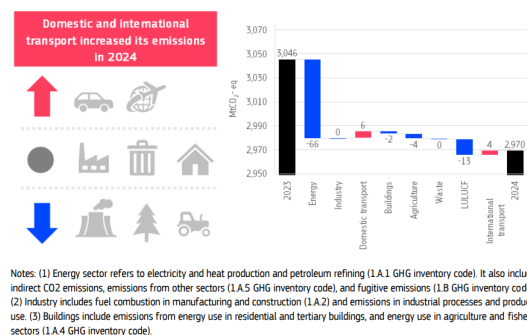
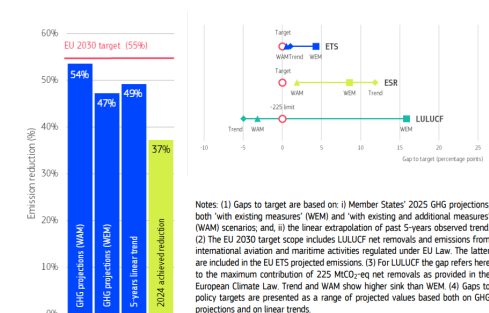


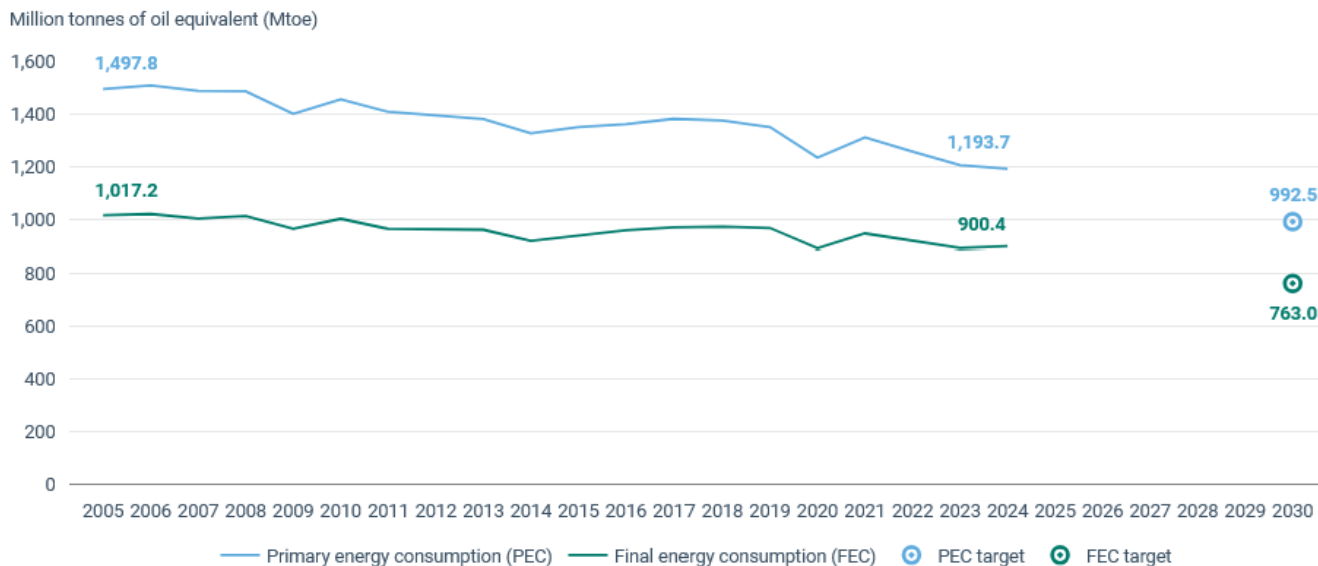
Figure 6: Projected emissions reduction in 1990-2030 and gap to target under the main policies



Trend EU Energy Efficiency

Reducing EU final energy consumption by 11.7% by 2030, compared to 2020 projections for 2030.

Figure 1. Primary and final energy consumption in the European Union

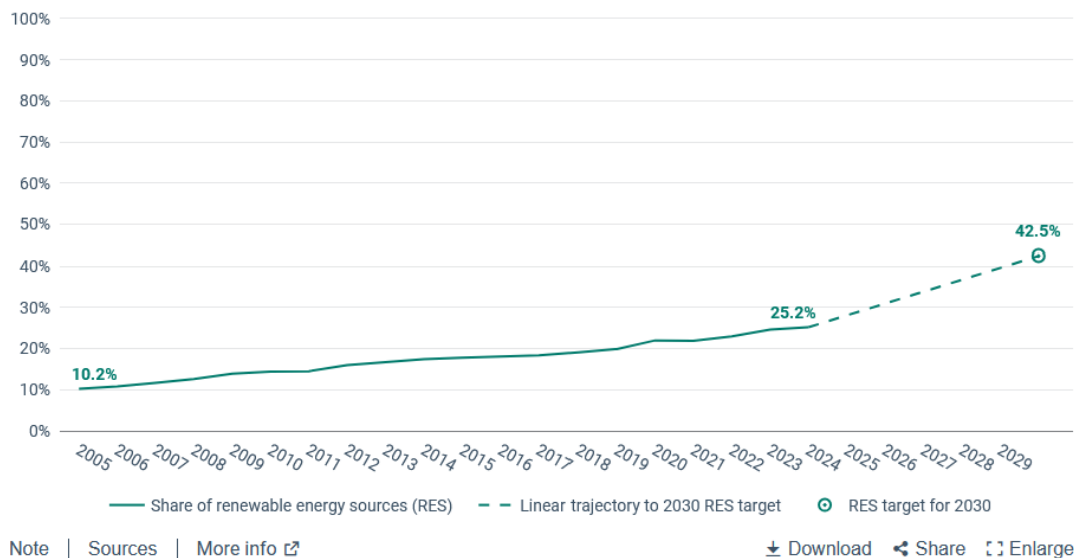


<https://www.eea.europa.eu/en/analysis/indicators/primary-and-final-energy-consumption>

Trend EU Renewable Energy target

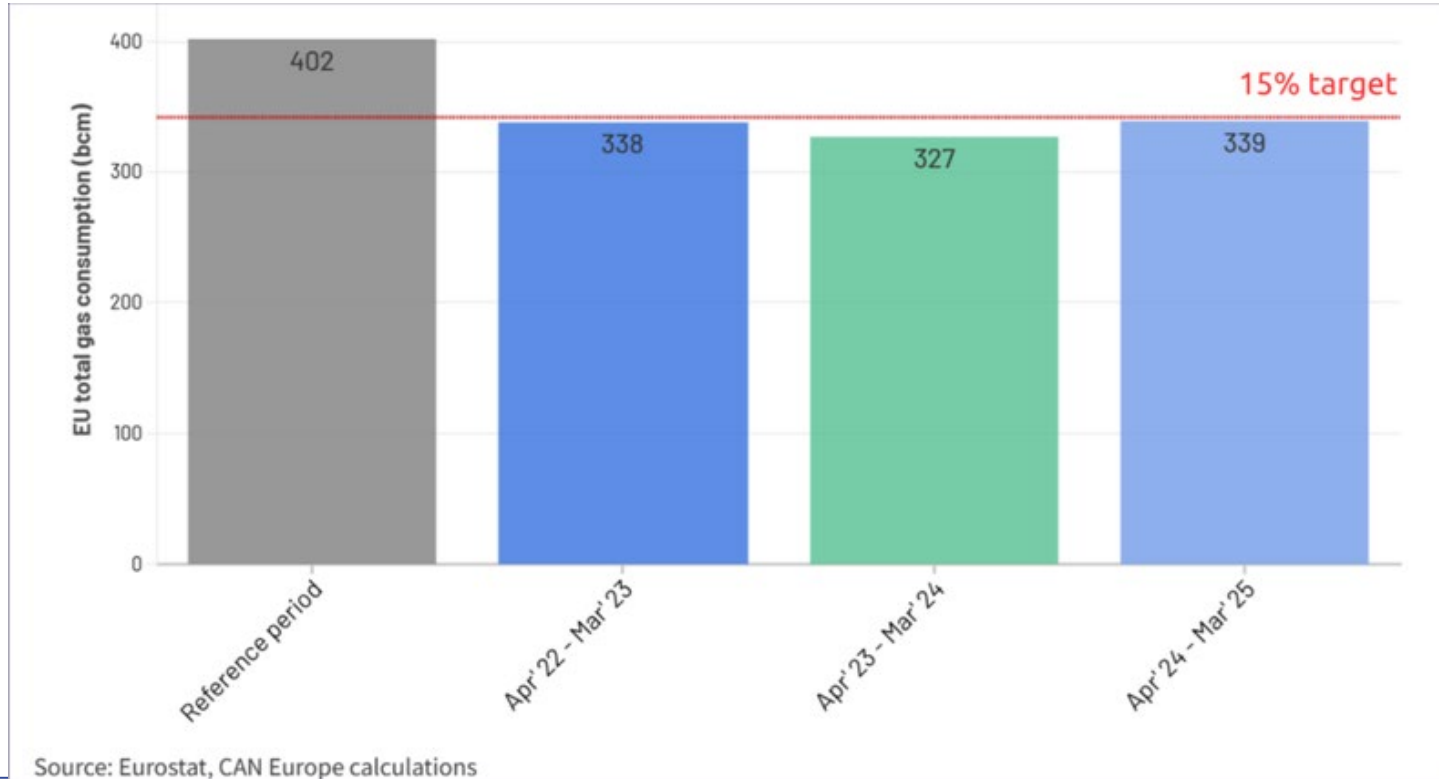
EU's binding renewable target for 2030: min of 42.5% share of renewables in the energy mix, with the aspiration to reach 45%.

Figure 1. Progress towards renewable energy source targets for EU-27

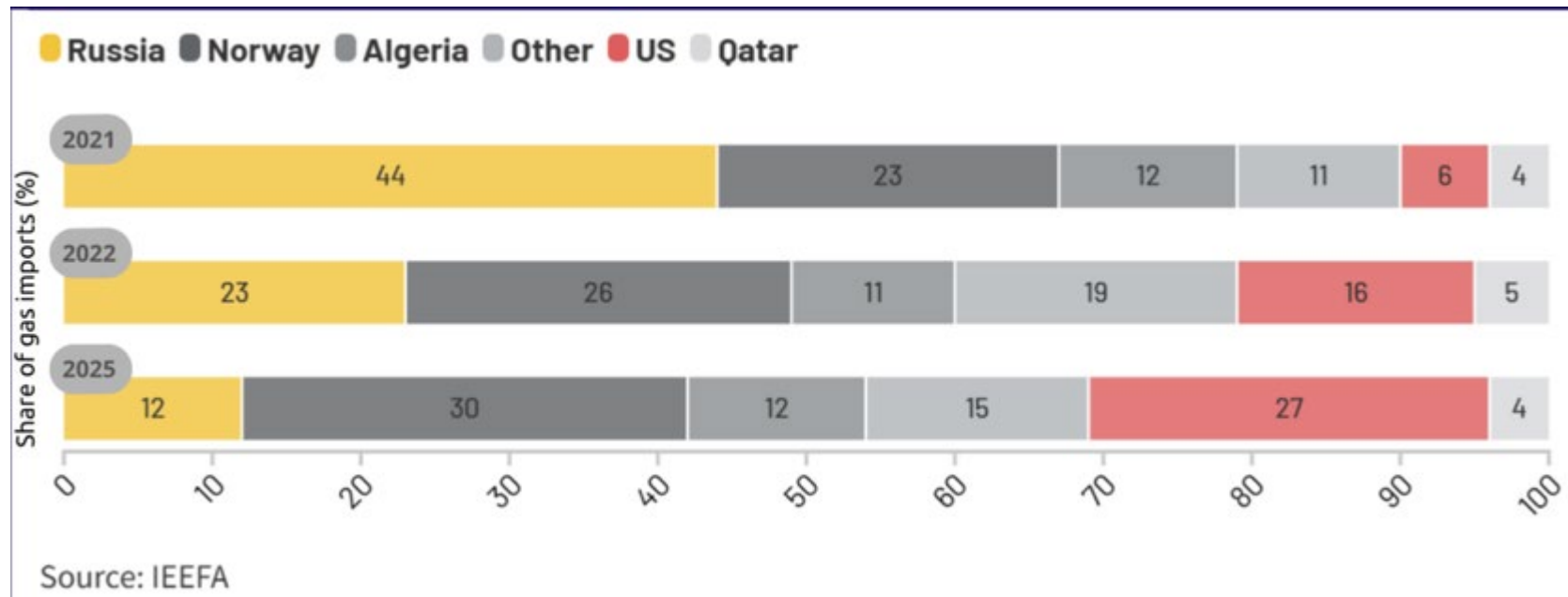


<https://www.eea.europa.eu/en/analysis/indicators/share-of-energy-consumption-from>

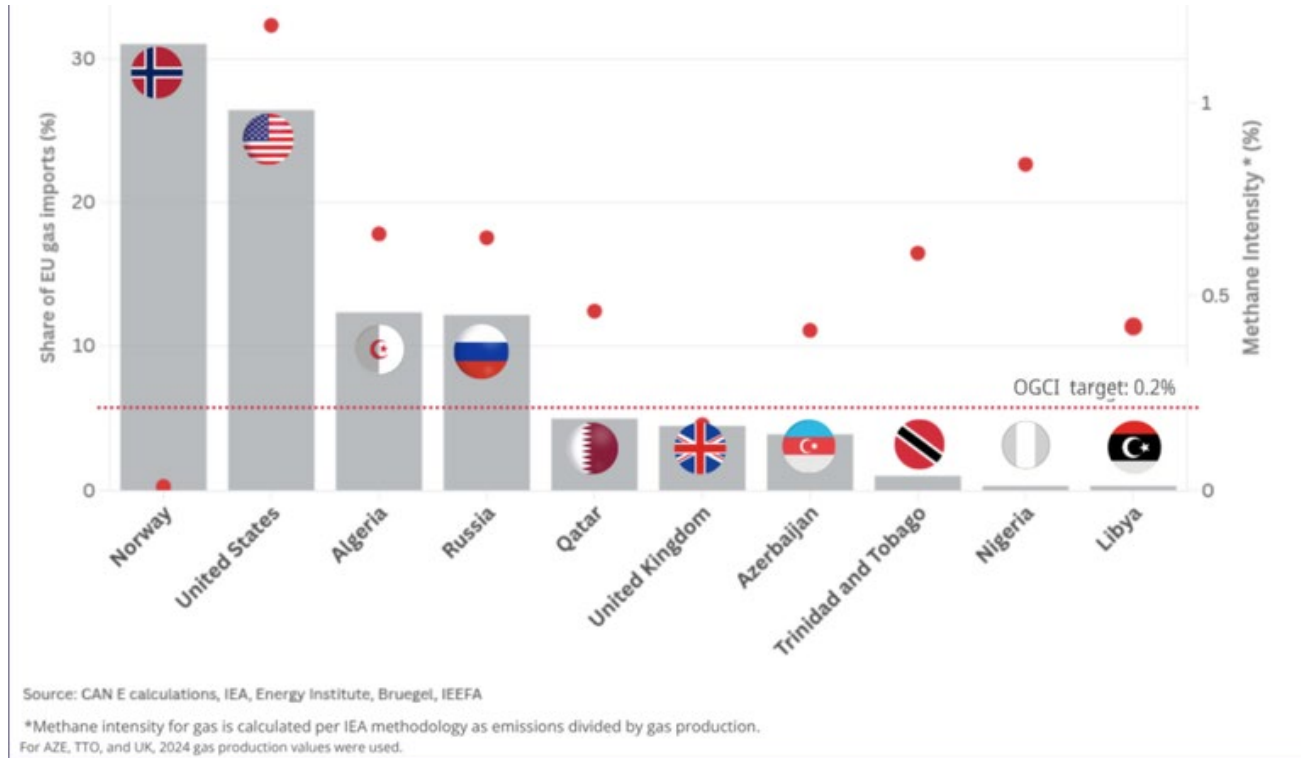
EU achieved voluntary target of 15 % gas reduction of the last 4 years



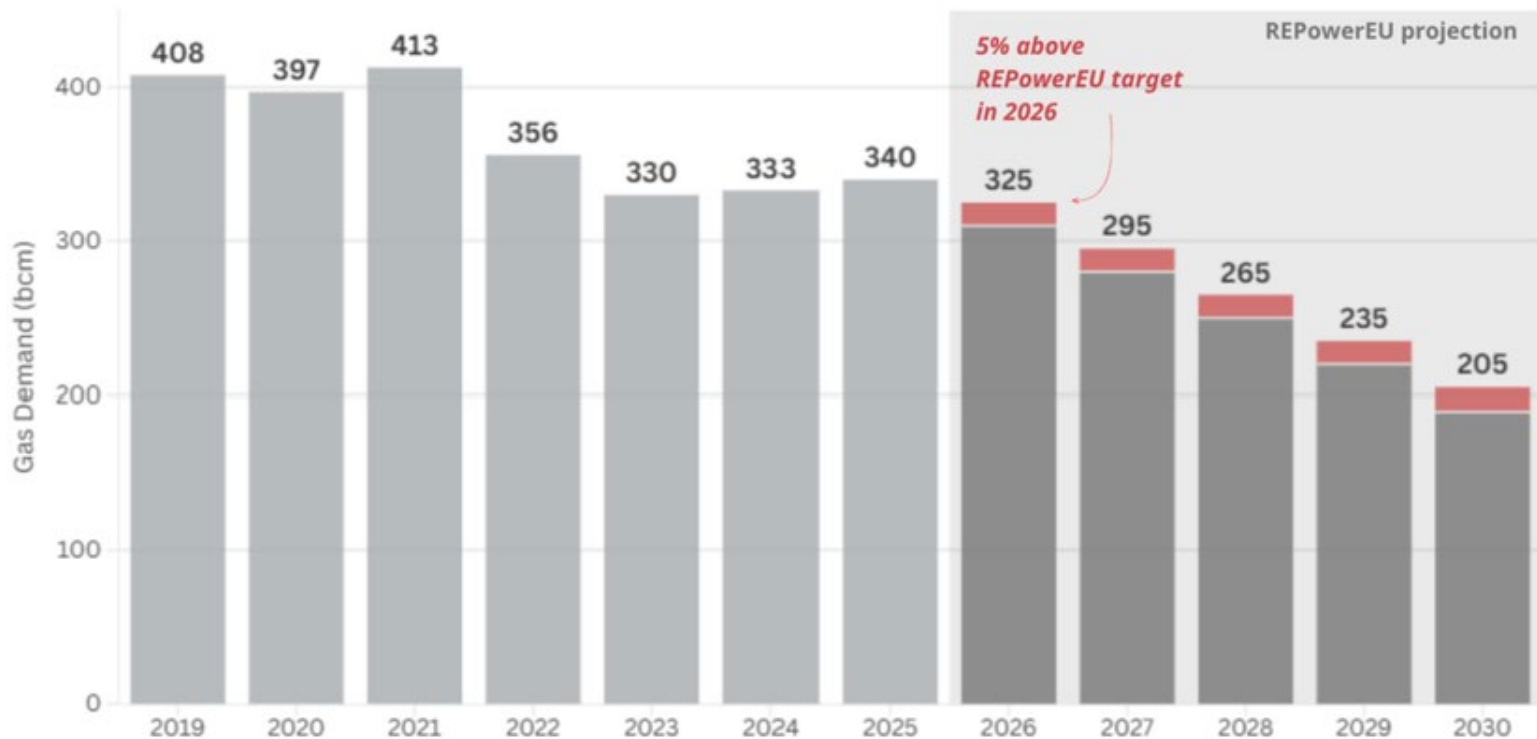
Replacing one gas source with another risks energy security



Increased US LNG dependency could lock the EU into a high-methane-intensity source



15 bcm leaves EU halfway to REPowerEU 30 bcm target



— Source: Eurostat, ACER, CAN E calculations

Post 2030 climate and energy framework

- 90 % net emission reduction target for 2040, with possible inclusion of up to 5 % international credits

CAN Europe: EU needs to achieve domestic net zero emissions by 2040 at the latest

- Post 2030 RE and EE framework: EC proposal by end of 2026

CAN Europe: The post 2030 energy framework should maintain binding and ambitious EU RE and EE targets. The RED should not include provisions that allow exemptions based on low-carbon fuels or non-renewable energies. We do not support any clean energy target.

Joint letter demanding clean energy target (July 2026)

**JOINT LETTER FROM THE MINISTERS OF BELGIUM, BULGARIA, CROATIA, CZECH REPUBLIC,
ESTONIA, FINLAND, FRANCE, HUNGARY, ITALY, NETHERLANDS, POLAND, ROMANIA,
SLOVENIA, SLOVAKIA, SWEDEN**

Dear Executive Vice-President Ribera, dear Commissioner Jørgensen,

In view of the upcoming post-2030 framework, **we are therefore calling for an overarching flexible energy framework with a clean energy target, that supports the achievement of cost-effective decarbonisation pathways through various energy vectors, making full use of nuclear energy, renewable energy and other low-carbon technologies to achieve this objective. While**

Electrification

Electrification has stagnated across the EU

In 2024 the EU's electrification rate stood at 22.8%

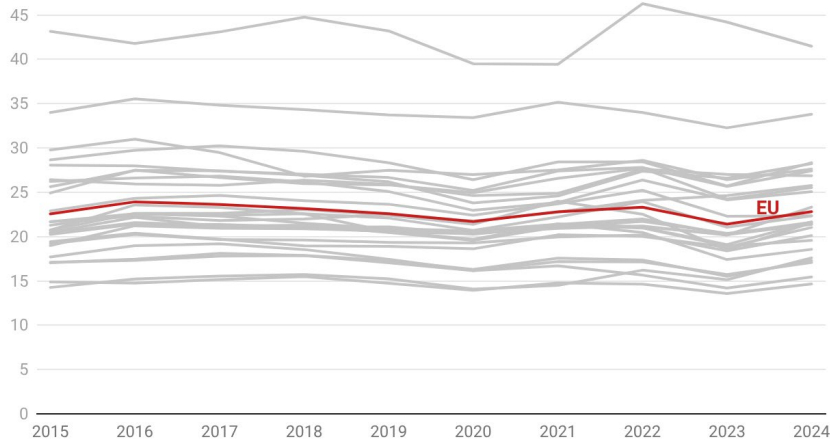


Chart: CAN Europe • Source: Eurostat • Created with Datawrapper

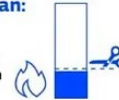
An indicative
electrification
target of

46%
by 2040

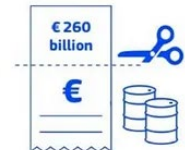
to be assessed **as part of the**
post-2030 Energy Union
package

Will mean:

Cut gas
imports by
more than
70%



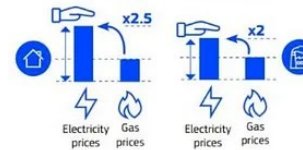
Cut crude
oil imports
by **40%**



Lowering the EU's fossil fuel
import bill by **€260 billion**
per year by 2040

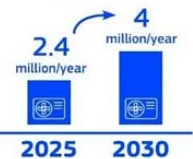
Achievements by 2030

Make sure **electricity prices** stay less than
2.5 times gas prices for households, and less
than 2 times gas prices for industry



400,000
zero-emission trucks
by 2030

Heat pump
installation rate



European Commission (2026). A plan to make Europe the first electro-continent. Factsheet.

A genuine fossil gas exit strategy

The EU should develop a roadmap to phase out LNG import dependency, with [particular focus on reducing reliance on US LNG by 2032](#). The legal commitment to end Russian fossil gas imports by 2027 should serve as a blueprint for a broader strategy that avoids replacing one fossil gas dependency with another.

The EU must maintain ambitious implementation of the [EU Methane Regulation](#). Reducing methane emissions is not only a climate imperative; it is also an energy security measure. A

Hydrogen

- Which targets should we focus on?
- Criteria defining renewable hydrogen will be weakened (autumn 2026)
- Hydrogen strategy (dating from 2020) will be updated - likely more emphasize on low carbon hydrogen and imports
- Hydrogen targets in post-2030 renewable energy framework

THANK YOU!

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