

# The EU, Climate Change & Politics

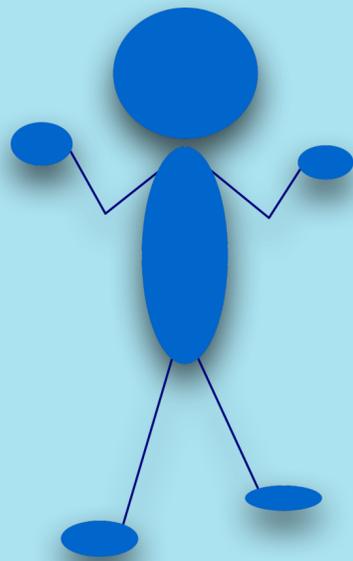


For a Greener  
Europe



Voices Of the World

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- What is the EU?
    - A unique economic and political partnership between \_\_ member states.
  - How many member states are in the EU?



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- What are some of the EU values, goals and objectives?
  - Promote peace, its values and the well-being of its citizens
  - Offer freedom, security and justice without internal borders, while also taking appropriate measures at its external borders to regulate asylum and immigration and prevent and combat crime
  - Establish an internal market
  - Protect and improve the quality of the environment
  - Promote scientific and technological progress
  - Combat social exclusion and discrimination
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- Climate change and its impact. What is climate change?
  - How does climate change affect the environment, society and the economy?

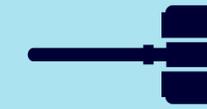




- Long term shifts in weather and temperature patterns. Human activities have been main cause of climate change, especially in burning fossil fuels.
- Greenhouse gases cause climate change: trap sun's heat and cause high temperatures.
- CO2 emissions from clearing lands and forests, using gasoline for cars and coal to heat buildings.
- Landfills for garbage are major source of methane emissions.



# EU Legislation



1. EU's commitment to combat climate change: The EU has committed to achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, which means that the amount of greenhouse gases emitted by the EU will be equal to the amount removed from the atmosphere. The EU has also set an interim target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030, compared to 1990 levels.
  2. EU's climate targets for 2030 and 2050: The EU's 2030 climate target is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% compared to 1990 levels. The EU's long-term climate strategy aims for the EU to reach net-zero emissions by 2050.
  3. The Paris Agreement and the EU's role in it: The Paris Agreement is an international agreement on climate change, signed in 2015. The EU played a leading role in the negotiations and was one of the first parties to ratify the agreement. The EU's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40% by 2030, compared to 1990 levels.
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4. EU's Green Deal: The European Green Deal is a plan to make the EU's economy more sustainable and climate-neutral. It includes a wide range of measures and initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase the use of renewable energy, promote energy efficiency, and protect the environment and biodiversity. Was approved in 2020 and aims to reach climate neutral by 2050.



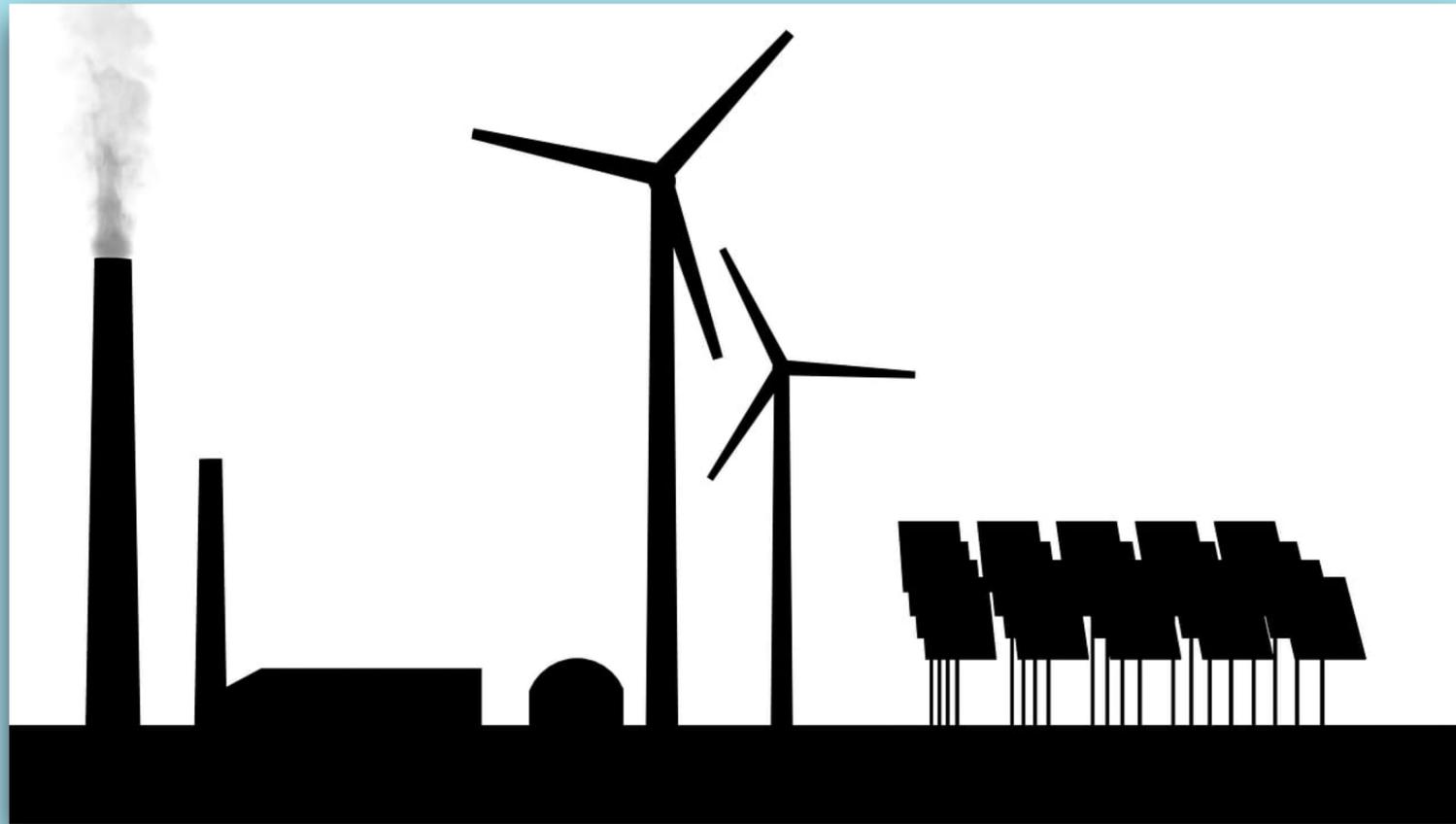
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5. EU's policies to address climate change: The EU has implemented a range of policies to address climate change, including the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS), renewable energy and energy efficiency policies, transport policies and initiatives, and policies to promote a circular economy and sustainable food systems.

6. The EU Emissions Trading System (ETS): The EU ETS is a cap-and-trade system that puts a price on greenhouse gas emissions from power plants, factories, and other industries. It aims to reduce emissions by setting a cap on the total amount of greenhouse gases that can be emitted by covered entities, and allowing them to buy and sell emission allowances.

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7. Renewable energy and energy efficiency policies: The EU has set targets for renewable energy and energy efficiency, and has implemented policies to promote their use. These policies include targets for renewable energy in the EU's energy mix, financial support for renewable energy projects, and regulations to improve the energy efficiency of buildings and products.
  8. Transport policies and initiatives: The EU has implemented a range of policies and initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport, including regulations on vehicle emissions, support for the deployment of electric vehicles, and the promotion of sustainable urban mobility.
  9. Circular economy and sustainable food systems: The EU is working to promote a circular economy, where resources are used more efficiently and waste is minimized. It has also implemented policies to promote sustainable food systems, including regulations on food waste and support for sustainable agriculture.
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10. EU's international cooperation on climate change: The EU is committed to working with other countries and regions to address climate change. It participates in international climate negotiations, provides development cooperation and climate finance to developing countries, and has established partnerships with other countries and regions to promote climate action.

11. EU's role in international climate negotiations: The EU is a key player in international climate negotiations, and has played a leading role in the development of the Paris Agreement and other international climate agreements.





- Under number 9: The EU has established a comprehensive framework of legislation to manage fisheries and aquaculture activities in its waters and beyond. Here are some of the key elements of the EU legislation related to fishing:
  - ➔ **Common Fisheries Policy (CFP):** The CFP is the overarching framework that governs fisheries management in the EU. It was first introduced in 1983 and has since undergone several reforms. The latest reform, adopted in 2013, aims to make EU fisheries more sustainable and to align them with the objectives of the EU's marine environmental policies.

