



Five points to make the Paris Agreement reality

1. Early EU ratification of the Paris Agreement

China and the US have announced they intend to ratify the Paris Agreement in the coming months, probably before the end of the year. In Paris, the EU was part of the “High Ambition Coalition” pushing for an ambitious deal. To avoid being side-lined, the EU must ensure that Member States collectively and individually ratify the Paris Agreement without delay.

2. Rein in shipping and aviation emissions

To achieve the goal of well below 2°C and pursue a 1.5°C goal, all sectors of the economy will need to contribute to emission reductions. The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) has promised to deliver by October this year a global market-based mechanism to tackle international aviation from 2021. The EU must ensure the ICAO scheme is in line with the Paris Agreement goals. In the absence of equal action under the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) the EU ETS should be extended to cover ships travelling to and from EU ports.

3. 2020 targets reality check

The EU is on track to over-shoot its greenhouse gas reduction target for 2020 by a large margin. According to EEA official figures, in 2015 the EU had already decreased its greenhouse gas emissions to 23% below 1990 levels. The EU targets should be adjusted to reality and to the promise to up the commitment to 30% when there is an international agreement and comparable climate action.

4. Final call to fix the EU Emissions Trading System

The Commission's current proposal for the 2030 review of the ETS is not even on a path to the lower end of the 80-95% emissions reduction target for 2050. The proposal also fails to tackle the oversupply resulting from the overachievement of the 2020 target. The legislators need to fix the policy by

- permanently removing 2 billion allowances from the market
- limiting any carry-over of Kyoto Protocol period over-achievement post 2020
- auctioning all allowances
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5. Stop fossil subsidies

Public support to fossil fuels amounts to about €300bn a year, including state aid, subsidies, tax and other measures. This must stop. The same resources could be spent on creating sustainable jobs in a climate-resilient, resource-efficient economy through investment in energy efficiency and renewable energies.