

Statement by Energy Intensive Industries on the motion for a resolution of the European Parliament on the 2018 UN Climate Change Conference in Katowice, Poland (COP24)

The long term strategy to be published by the European Commission in November before the COP 24 in Katowice, represents the next big step for a comprehensive assessment of the energy transition challenges, options as well as the related costs and enabling conditions. This strategy must be based on sound analysis and full understanding of implications for all sectors including industries.

Europe's Energy Intensive Industries (EII) have embraced the need to transition to a low-carbon economy and have played a constructive role by developing solutions for their sectors while also assisting and enabling other parts of the economy through their products and services. A [report](#) recently released by the Institute for European Studies (IES) - Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) provides a detailed technology assessment of more than 80 low-CO₂ technology options across all EIIs.

Energy intensive industries are of strategic importance to current European value chains and at the forefront to provide the needed low-carbon solutions. EIIs themselves reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 36% between 1990 and 2015 and contributed significantly to the EU's overall emission reductions in same period (-24% in 2015 ref. 1990), which the strategy will also recognise.

As indicated in the report, the transition of EIIs towards a carbon neutral Europe needs to take into account their exposure to fierce international competition as well as their long investment cycles. The discussion in industry is now focusing on how to attract the investments needed to Europe and how to overcome costs differences between Europe and global markets when implementing new measures.

Achieving additional emission reduction potentials from EIIs requires several key framework conditions in order to mobilise these necessary investments:

- Supplies of significantly higher amounts of reliable and competitively priced low carbon energy (e.g. low CO₂ electricity) and the necessary investments in infrastructure, due to process changes and electrification;
- An ambitious RD&I programme that provides adequate support for accelerating industrial scale demonstration and market uptake of such technologies;
- Coherence between climate, energy, industrial, trade and environmental policies to support EIIs in the transition to a low-carbon economy.

The European Union has a role to play in steering leadership on climate change, by catalysing investments in low-carbon solutions. In this respect, stability and predictability of the regulatory framework is a key prerequisite. It is therefore of utmost importance to swiftly put in place the necessary measures to implement the agreed 2030 energy and climate targets.

The upcoming "EU Strategy for long-term EU greenhouse gas emissions reductions" will assess the EU ambition levels, the related implications and enabling conditions while taking into account the international context of the latest IPCC 1.5 degree report and the upcoming COP 24. At the same time, more efforts and concrete actions, including the finalisation of the Paris Rulebook, are needed at international level.

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