



**Declaration of Polish-Franco-German civil society ahead of the 24 and 25 May EU Summit and the publication of the Commission's Fit for 55 package:
"Getting fit for At least 55% - together for an ambitious EU climate framework"**

The upcoming revision of the EU's climate and energy policy framework presented under the Fit for 55 package can be a turning point for European climate and energy policy. It will determine the speed and quality of the transition towards the EU's goal of climate neutrality. What is more, the Fit for 55 package is essential - though not sufficient - for delivering the needed green recovery from the Covid-19 crisis, whilst supporting a just transition. The package offers a unique chance for innovation and the modernisation of our economies.

Many NGOs and other stakeholders have asked the EU to adopt a 2030 climate target that is more ambitious than minus net 55%. This follows also the logic of the ruling of the German Federal Constitutional Court on 29 April 2021, urging lawmakers to respect inter-generational justice by not postponing necessary emission reductions. To honour this decision and the Paris Agreement, it is crucial that the Fit for 55 package enables emission cuts beyond 55%.

As environmental NGOs from Poland, France and Germany, three member states that make up 40% of the EU's population and are in the top 5 of the EU's biggest CO2 emitters, and in light of the upcoming special meeting of the European Council on 24/25 May, **we urge the European Commission, the Portuguese Presidency and our three governments to:**

- **support Commission services in drafting an ambitious Fit for 55 package that gives meaning to the "at least" prefix before the EU climate target.** The agreed target is not yet in line with the 1.5° limit of the Paris Agreement. The Fit for 55 package should therefore deliver on a greenhouse gas reduction **beyond -55%**, by a decision that LULUCF sinks to deliver additional net reductions (if ecosystem conditions under climate stress allow).
- **ensure that all member states significantly increase the speed of decarbonisation in all sectors.** The ambition of the sectoral regulatory frameworks for transport, buildings, agriculture and industry should be strengthened significantly. Every member state must enter the phase of deep decarbonisation now, to avoid new dividing lines in the EU and the postponement of efforts. Especially in member states like Poland, this principle is relevant for quality and stable jobs,

health benefits, better air quality and the modernisation of the economy. Strengthening solidarity between member states is crucial to make this happen.

- make the **social justice and the “no person and no place is left behind”** principle of the European Green Deal a major focus of the Fit for 55 package.
- adopt **at an early stage higher national CAR/ESR targets that are at least in line with the new EU target and the EU’s carbon neutrality goal for 2050**. Updated national targets and the principle of subsidiarity and national ownership are crucial for a successful climate policy mix in the long-term.

In addition to supporting the above, we urge the European Commission to:

- fully use the right of legislative initiative to **present an ambitious climate policy framework**. The package needs to make sure that all EU-states and sectors of the economy deliver on the target. It shall enable emission cuts **beyond the “at least -55%” with additional enhancements of carbon removals**.
- do everything possible to swiftly move on with the Fit for 55 package and **bring key aspects into action in 2023 the very latest**. For implementing the updated EU 2030 climate target in a successful way, every month counts.

Ahead of the important COP26 in Glasgow, an ambitious Fit for 55 package would support efforts on raising national climate targets in other countries. Only a truly ambitious Fit for 55 package can deliver on the goal of becoming the first climate-neutral continent.

Supporters:

Alofa Tuvalu (France) | Bund für Umwelt- und Naturschutz (Germany) | Deutsche Umwelthilfe (Germany) | Deutscher Naturschutzring (Germany) | E3G (Germany) | EKO-UNIA (Poland) | Fundacja Instytut Zielonej Przyszłości (Poland) | Germanwatch (Germany) | Institut for Sustainable Development (Poland) | Instytut Spraw Obywatelskich (Poland) | Klima-Allianz Deutschland (Germany) | Polish Green Network (Poland) | Polish Ecological Club Mazovian Branch (Poland) | Reseau Action Climate France (France) | WWF Deutschland (Germany) | WWF France (France) | WWF Poland (Poland) | Zielony Instytut (Poland)