

Avosetta 2026 : climate change

(1) Political situation

Regulation 2021/1119 provides for a binding target of 55 % reduction of GHG emissions by 2030, compared to 1990, and of 100 % by 2050, compared to 1990.

The targets are binding on the EU, but not on Member States.

(2) Overall climate policy targets

In 2024, the following targets for GHG emission reductions were reached (compared to 1990):

BE -21% BG -57% Cz -50% Dk -49% DE -44% EST -64% IRL -1% GR -32% SP 0%
FR -35% Cr -34% It -36% Cy +62% LAT -14% LIT - 67% Lux -33% HU - 46% MA +154%
NL -28% Aut +16% PL -32% PO -12% SI -22% Sk -57% FIN +6% SW +51%
EU 27 -36% (Commission SWD (2025) 347, p.32).

The European Environment Agency (Annual EU GHG inventory 1990-2023 and inventory document 2025, EEA Report 12/2025, p.VII, table ES 3 and p.56) gives the following figures:

BE -31,4% BG -55,0% Cz -47,0% Dk -51,0% DE -42,5% EST -63,2% IRL -3,3 GR -33,3%
SP -12,6% FR -35,3% Cr -21,1% IT -36,2% Cy -50,9% LAT +7,1% LIT -70,7% Lux -44,5%
HU -47,1% MA -14,1% NL 35,6% Aut +5,7% PL - 25,7% PO - 19,1% RO -75,1%
SI -27,1% Sk -56,1% FIN +7,5% SW +11,6% EU27 --37,3%.

The data differ by one year (2024 for EU Commission, 2023 for EEA). However, this can hardly explain the differences, f.ex. as regards MA, SW, Cy, LAT etc

(3) Emission Trading System II ((Building and transport)

Too early to assess

(4) Double regulation?

(5) Effort sharing.

Basis is Regulation 2018/842, as amended by Regulation 2023/857, which provides for a 40% EU emission reduction until 2030, compared to 2005; it fixed the compulsory reduction objectives for the Member States

Member State	Reduction Obligation %	Reduction reached 2024	Deficit 2030 unless.	Member State	Reduction obligation %	Reduction reached 2024	Deficit 2030, unless.
Belgium	-47	-1	-25	Luxembourg		+6	-17
Bulgaria	-10	-5	+26	Hungary	-18,7	+2	-3
Czechia	-26	0	+2	Malta	-19	-30	-61
Denmark	-50	-1	+1	Netherlands	-48	+6	-4
Germany	-50	-1	-14	Austria	-48	0	-16
Estonia	-24	-4	-6	Poland	-17,7	-3	-3
Ireland	-42	-8	-33	Portugal	-28,7	+1	+1
Greece	-16,7	+8	+21	Romania	-12,7	-24	-4

Spain	-27,7	-1	-2	Slovenia	-27	+1	-17
France	-47,5	-1	-18	Slovakia	-22,7	+10	-8
Croatia	-16,7	-15	-8	Finland	-50	0	-5
Italy	-43,7	-1	-13	Sweden	-50	-5	-5
Cyprus	-32	-19	-28	EU27			-8
Latvia	-17	+3	-2				
Lithuania	-21	-3	-3				

Source: Reg. 2018/842 and SWD (2025) 347, Table 25, p.113.

(6) Renewable energy

Basis is Directive 2018/2001, as amended by Directive 2024/2413. In 2018, it was decided that EU renewable energy should have a share of energy of 20 percent by 2020. For the individual Member States a binding percentage was fixed. In 2022, the Commission declared (COM(2022) 639) that the EU had reached, in 2020, a share of 22,1% in renewable energy, and that all Member States, except France, had complied with their obligation to reach the fixed percentage; the precise data were not published. The EU share for 2030 was fixed at 42,5%, but no share for the individual Member States was fixed. A more recent information on the Member States' actual share – for 2024 or 2025 – was not found.

(7) Land use

Basis is Regulation 2018/841, which was later amended by Regulation 2023/839. This latter Regulation fixes for each Member State absolute reduction quantities of CO₂eq emissions until 2030 (annex II), beginning in 2026. The EU emissions (sum of all national reductions) should diminish by 310.000 kt CO₂eq. There is not yet an EU evaluation of the legislation.

(8) Special national strategies, programmes and ideas

(9) Social and regional compensation mechanisms

(10) Adaptation

The Commission developed two EU climate adaptation strategies, COM(2013) 216 (evaluation SWD (2018) 461) and COM (2021)82; in SWD (2021) 25 it suggested a number of EU-wide and/or international measures (Annex 6, p.119).

Climate change is a global issue. In view of this, the development of - 27! – national adaptation strategies which then would have to be coordinated, does not make too much sense. National and EU adaptation strategies should thus be developed together.

See also:

- Commission SWD (2023) 932: Assessment on progress on climate adaptation in the individual Member States according to the EU Climate Law (318p.)
- EU Committee of the Regions, Opinion on “Climate adaptation in cities and regions. Building the European Climate Adaptation Plan”. 11 December 2025
- EU Court of Auditors: Climate adaptation in the EU. Action not keeping up with ambition. Report 15/2024.

(11) New liability/compensation schemes

It is too early to report on EU-wide implementation

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