

## **Re: Europe cannot build security or competitiveness on imported fossil fuel dependence**

Dear Member of the European Council,

We, the undersigned, call on European leaders to make this Europe's final fossil fuel crisis.

Europe cannot secure its economy, strengthen its industrial base, or protect citizens from future shocks while remaining structurally dependent on fossil fuels and exposed to global price volatility. Ahead of the European Council on 18-19 June, we urge EU leaders to match the scale of this challenge with a new level of political ambition and mobilisation.

Europe faces a clear choice: build a stronger economy powered by domestic clean energy, electrification and efficiency, or remain exposed to fossil fuel dependence that undermines industrial competitiveness and economic security. Releasing Europe from the hold of fossil fuel dependence could lead to €50bn in gas import savings by 2030<sup>1</sup> and an overall energy system savings of €1.6 trillion by 2050.<sup>2</sup>

Europe is well-equipped to chart this path. Since 2022, renewable power generation has expanded rapidly, electrification is accelerating across transport and heating, and energy efficiency measures are reducing costs for households and businesses alike. European fossil demand is declining: by 2030, demand for oil is expected to fall by a quarter and gas by half, compared to 2019 levels.<sup>3</sup>

At a time of intensifying global competition, access to affordable, predictable and domestically produced clean energy will be a defining factor in industrial strength and investment attractiveness. Europe's long-term prosperity depends on reducing exposure to fossil fuel volatility while scaling investment in renewable energy, electrification, grids, flexibility and industrial innovation.

Europeans support this direction. Recent European Pulse and Eurobarometer surveys show overwhelming backing for greater European energy independence, stronger investment in domestic clean energy and coordinated action to reduce exposure to imported fossil fuels.

We welcome the direction set out in AccelerateEU and recent efforts to reduce dependence on Russian fossil fuel imports, however Europe must now move beyond emergency response measures and establish a long-term strategy to strengthen economic security through structural fossil fuel independence.

To move from ambition to delivery, we call on EU institutions and national governments to:

- **Launch a European electrification and industrial modernisation effort** by accelerating efficient, renewables-based electrification across households, transport and industry. This effort must reinforce Europe's industrial base, protect and promote quality jobs while supporting workers and regions through a fair, affordable and inclusive transformation.

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<sup>1</sup> Solar Power Europe, 2026, [Solar+: An EU pathway to achieve renewable targets, price affordability, and energy security](#)

<sup>2</sup> WindEurope, 2025, [A renewables-based energy system will save Europe €1.6 trillion](#)

<sup>3</sup> European Commission 2040 Impact Assessment. E3G, 2024, [Future of EU oil and gas suppliers in a low-carbon world: risks of an unmanaged transition](#)

- **Provide long-term regulatory certainty for Europe’s clean energy transformation** through a clear and ambitious policy framework for renewables, efficiency, grid modernisation and clean flexibility to provide investment predictability, supported by coordinated planning and long-term national strategies.
- **Establish a European framework for fossil fuel independence and economic security** building on the success of REPowerEU and the phased prohibition of Russian energy imports. The European Council should endorse a long-term framework to progressively reduce Europe’s structural dependence on fossil fuels, supported by measurable indicators and enablers.
- **Mobilise public and private investment at unprecedented scale** through a European financing strategy that makes renewable energy, electrification, and energy efficiency the most competitive and accessible choice across the economy, while strengthening Europe’s economic security and industrial resilience. Public investment and incentives should be tied to social conditionalities to ensure the strategy creates quality jobs and delivers value across Europe.

The decisions taken now will shape Europe’s economic strength, industrial leadership and security for decades to come. Europe has the technologies, the public support, industrial knowhow, and the policy tools to lead this transformation. What is needed now is the political resolve to deliver it.

Yours sincerely,





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