

AT A GLANCE: FOUR THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE AGREEMENT ON THE RENEWABLE ENERGY DIRECTIVE – AGREEMENT ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY WAS REACHED – EU INSTITUTIONS AGREE ON ENERGY UNION GOVERNANCE REGULATION - ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS DISCUSS PROPOSAL ON CO2 EMISSIONS FOR CARS AND VANS – COMMISSION HOPES TO RELEASE COMMUNICATION ON ENERGY PRIORITIES BY THE END OF 2018

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Glossary

REGULATION: EU legislative act that is binding in its entirety and is to be applied in its entirety across the EU by all EU Member States.

DIRECTIVE: EU legislative act that sets out a goal that all EU Member States must achieve. However, it is up to the EU Member States to adopt their own laws on how to achieve the EU goals enshrined in the Directive.

EU: European Union

S&D: Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists & Democrats in the European Parliament

TRILOGUES: Informal negotiations between the European Parliament, Commission and Council of the EU to reach an agreement on a specific legislative proposal. Agreement then needs to be formally adopted by the Parliament and Council.

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IEEE members are kindly invited to attend and tune in on the next Policy Webinar on EU policy-making in September. Date and time will be communicated closer to the date.

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RENEWABLE ENERGY

Four things to know about the agreement on the Renewable Energy Directive



[CCO 1.0](#)

On 14 June, negotiators from the European Commission, European Parliament and Council reached a political **agreement** following the trilogue negotiations on the revision of Renewable Energy Directive.

A couple of elements in the new Directive are worth mentioning:

First, the new 2030 target of 32% is below the 35% originally sought by Members of the European Parliament, but a review clause in 2023 allowing for the revision of the target 'in case of substantial cost reductions'.

Second, the agreement includes a 14% renewable energy target for transport the EU's first binding 3.5% target on advanced biofuels by 2030.

Third, the text includes criteria on what bioenergy can count towards the EU's renewable energy target and receive subsidies.

Lastly, unlike the previous 2020 target, Member States will now have EU-wide, legally binding targets for 2030.

The European Parliament and the Council must now formally adopt the Directive, following which Member States will have two years to transpose the Directive into national law.

Source: ENDS Europe

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Agreement on energy efficiency was reached**CC0.1.0**

After months of trilogue negotiations, representatives from the European Commission, European Parliament and Council reached a political **agreement** on the Energy Efficiency Directive.

According to the text, negotiators agreed to a non-binding energy efficiency target for 2030 of 32.5%, which is halfway between the Council's original position of 30% and European Parliament's 35%, including an upwards revision clause by 2023. In addition, the text introduces clear rights for consumers to receive more frequent information on their consumption, thus allowing them to better control energy bills. Commissioner for Climate Action, Miguel Arias Cañete, said the new target would reduce dependence on imported fossil fuel, help tackle energy poverty, and improve air quality.

Member States in the Council and the European Parliament must now formally adopt the text, following which Member States will have 18 months to transpose it into national legislation.

Source: ENDS Europe

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ENERGY GOVERNANCE

EU Institutions agree on Energy Union Governance Regulation

Following the interinstitutional negotiations, on 20 June representatives of the EU Commission, European Parliament and Council, reached a political **agreement** on the Energy Union Governance Regulation.

The Regulation aims at ensuring that the objectives of the Energy Union are achieved, especially with regards to Member States' compliance with the targets set out in other legislative texts, including the Energy Efficiency Directive and the Renewable Energy Directive. According to the agreed text, Member States will have to submit a 'national energy and climate plan', in which they describe their national objectives, targets and contributions to be reached. In addition, Member States will have to track and trace the implementation of the national plans, including on their share of renewable energy. If they fail to comply, the Commission will oblige Member States to adopt additional measures to meet the objectives.

EU Member States and the European Parliament must now formally approve the agreement. Once finalized, the Regulation will be published in the Official Journal.

Source: [Interel](#)

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CO2 EMISSIONS FROM TRANSPORT

Environment Ministers discuss proposal on CO2 emissions for cars and vans

While Members of the European Parliament’s Environment Committee tabled and discussed amendments to the draft report on CO2 emissions standards from cars and vans, published last month by MEP Miriam Dalli (S&D, Malta), Environment ministers met in the Council on 25 June to have preliminary, high-level talks on the Commission proposal.



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During the meeting, ministers outlined their vision on the Commission proposal, providing an initial understanding of the positions Member States are likely to take during negotiations. Discussions showed the existence of two distinct groups of countries within the EU Council, depending on their level of ambition and commitment to reduce CO2 emissions from road transport. Despite a leaked document on the Ministry of Environment’s position on the dossier, Germany participated in the debate with no fixed position on the proposal, most probably due to the absence of an agreement within the government.

While the Commissioner for Climate Action, Miguel Arias Cañete, called Member States to reach a common position by October’s Environment Council, the European Parliament’s Environment Committee will vote its report on 10 September.

Source: Interrel

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Commission hopes to release Communication on energy priorities by the end of 2018

While the current European Commission has entered its last year of activity, and with European elections coming up on 23-26 May 2019, Commissioner for Climate Action, Miguel Arias Cañete, suggested that the EU hopes to release a Communication on the future of energy priorities by the end of 2018.

The Communication was already announced by the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, in the State of the Union address and his [letter of intent](#) in September 2017.

Although not a binding legislative document, the Communication will provide an overview of the EU priorities on energy and climate policy as well as on the future of the Euratom Treaty, including specific policy and legislative actions to be taken.

Source: [Interel](#)

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