

To:

European Commission President, Ursula von der Leyen

European Commissioner for Climate, Net Zero, and Clean Growth, Wopke Hoekstra

Subject: Securing ambitious climate action for a just and competitive Europe

Dear President Ursula von der Leyen, Dear Commissioner Wopke Hoekstra,

As Climate Reality Leaders and participants in the Climate Leadership Training in Paris, we write to urge the European Commission to continue demonstrating bold leadership in advancing European and global climate action. The coming months will be decisive in setting the course for Europe's climate trajectory, ensuring the continent's economic resilience, and reinforcing its role as a global climate leader.

We strongly support the European Commission's proposal for a 2040 target and call on you to take the necessary steps to:

- Secure the adoption of the proposed 2040 target as a legally binding policy under the European Climate Law, accompanied by concrete implementation measures to accelerate sectoral decarbonization.
- Submit an ambitious and equitable EU NDC, incorporating a 2035 target of at least 94% net emission reductions and a strengthened 2030 target of at least 76% net reductions, in line with the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C pathway.
- Scale up climate finance for a just energy transition, ensuring that EU investments align with expert recommendations on economic competitiveness, energy security, and geopolitical stability while simultaneously prioritizing clean energy deployment, innovation, and workforce development.
- Reduce Europe's dependency on fossil fuel imports, ensuring that the continent is no longer vulnerable to geopolitical instability and external energy dependencies, particularly in light of recent security challenges.

The EU must seize this moment to advance policies that will not only safeguard the planet but also drive economic prosperity, social stability, and Europe's competitive edge in the global green economy. As defense priorities rise across the continent, it is more critical than ever to decouple from fossil fuel dependencies that expose Europe to external vulnerabilities. We stand ready to support these efforts and urge you to act with the urgency and ambition this moment demands.

Respectfully,