



Support Amendment 393 in the ESR

On Tuesday 17 May, MEPs in the Environment Committee will vote on amendments to the Effort Sharing Regulation (ESR).

The undersigned civil society organisations call on MEPs to support Amendment 393 in the ESR vote and demand that all EU countries set the date by which they will achieve climate neutrality.

Amendment 393 inserts into the Governance Regulation (2018/1999) a duty for each Member State to set out by 30 June 2023 the date by which they have decided that they will reach climate neutrality. The European Commission will assess whether these climate neutrality commitments – included in national long-term strategies – are in line with the EU’s targets and climate neutrality objective, or whether there is a gap.

Requiring that EU countries set their own whole of economy climate neutrality date is crucial for the implementation of ESR targets as it will enable all EU countries to develop the long-term visibility and certainty about what needs to happen across all economic sectors – beyond shorter term 2030 targets and flexibilities allowed across ESR and non-ESR sectors. **It will ensure the right balance in the Fit for 55 package between robust national accountability and market based solutions such as carbon pricing**, and will significantly contribute to ensuring the continuation of binding national emission targets beyond 2030.

The Environment Committee of the European Parliament is legally competent to amend the climate-related aspects of the Governance Regulation through the ESR. In fact, it has done this already in 2020 through the European Climate Law.

Voting in favour of Amendment 393 will:

- **Ensure that the EU and its Member States actually achieve climate neutrality**, as they committed to do under Article 2 of the European Climate Law.
- **Cement EU countries’ commitment to the European Green Deal**, and show that the EU can address jointly the energy, security and climate crises.
- **Provide long-term economic certainty for investors in all EU countries**, by enabling Member States to plan and identify, well ahead, the most cost-effective decarbonisation pathway for their economy.
- **Facilitate Member States’ convergence over climate action and targets**, while safeguarding national prerogatives to determine their own pace and pathways.
- **Prevent a two-speed Europe** in a context where **13 EU countries** have already adopted - or are about to adopt - national whole economy climate neutrality targets but others have yet to do so.

ANNEX - Amendment 393 (Margrete Auken, Pär Holmgren)

Article 1a

Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 is amended as follows :

The following article is inserted:

‘Article 14a

1. With a view to ensuring the collective achievement of the Union’s climate-neutrality objective as set out in Article 2 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 (‘European Climate Law’) and clarifying the long-term contribution that each Member State shall make to achieving this objective, Member States which have not yet done so shall, by 30 June 2023, set out the date by which their national greenhouse gas emissions and removals regulated under Union law shall be balanced.

2. Member States’ climate neutrality targets shall be set out in their long-term strategy under Article 15 of this Regulation. Member States are encouraged to engage in prior consultation with the Commission to identify a national climate neutrality target which is sufficient to ensure the collective achievement of the Union’s climate neutrality objective.

3. The Commission shall assess whether the national long-term strategies under Article 15 and the national climate-neutrality targets contained therein are sufficient to collectively achieve the Union climate and energy targets and in particular those set out in Article 2(1) and Article 4 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1119, and shall publish by 1 January 2025 an evaluation of any remaining gap, including of a gap between aggregated national climate neutrality targets and the Union’s climate-neutrality objective. ’