

**Support AM393 in the Effort Sharing Regulation vote  
ENVI Committee 16.05.22**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q. What is AM393 about?**

**A.** It requires MS to adopt a national whole economy target for achieving climate neutrality and set out in their refreshed national Long-Term Strategies (due 2023) their pathways for achieving it.

**Q. Why is AM393 so important?**

**A.** AM 393 creates a unique lever for driving ambition across the Fit for 55 package because:

1. If MS are clear about their long-term objective, this will drive mid-term (2030) ambition.
2. Taking a whole economy approach will prevent trade-offs between sectors.
3. Accelerating the EU's energy transition will require national action across the economy. Now more than ever, MS need to be clear about what they need to do about all emissions removals and reductions. Robust national Long-Term Strategies will strengthen NECPS.
4. Long-term climate neutrality targets will foster resilient national ownership of the EU's Green Deal objective and stop backsliding across the package. We are now living in an era of turbulence and need every available lever to render national decision making resilient to external shocks. [13 EU countries](#) have already recognised the important role national long-term targets play in stabilising political leadership. The [EEA's 2021 emissions trend analysis](#) confirms the link between the adoption of long-term climate targets and a national track record for meeting and exceeding ESR targets. (Note: DE and IRL 2050 targets are new)
5. Confidence in MS convergence on the EU's climate neutrality target will give more ambitious EU countries the political cover to do more.

**Q. Does AM393 belong in the ESR?**

**A.** Yes. The ESR and AM393 both relate to national climate targets. But AM393 will not interfere with the scope of ESR targets. AM393 would amend the EU Governance Regulation, which is already whole economy in scope and contains the EU's rules on national Long-Term Strategies.

**Q. Does the ENVI Committee have power to adopt AM393?**

**A.** Yes. The European Parliament legal service has confirmed the ENVI Committee's competence to propose amendments to the Governance Regulation (without ITRE Committee) and the legality of using the ESR to revise the Governance Regulation. The ENVI Committee used [Article 13](#) of the EU Climate Law to amend the Governance Regulation so there is a precedent.

**Q. Would AM393 breach the subsidiarity principle?**

**A.** No. AM393 recognises the need for 'national ownership' of this decision and requires MS to set the target at national level. The EU would not be empowered to 'tell' MS how to achieve their national climate neutrality target. AM393 would require MS to set out in their refreshed national Long-Term Strategies their proposed pathways for achieving climate neutrality at national level.

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**Q. If MS set their own climate neutrality target would this lead to a lack of ambition?**

**A.** There is no sign of this so far. None of the 13 EU countries who have set a national climate neutrality target have set it for after 2050. And several have adopted very ambitious targets. In any event, AM393 would empower the EU Commission to report to co-legislators on any shortfall in ambition so the EU would be alerted to convergence risks.

**Q. Is AM393 consistent with other ESR amendments proposing post 2030 ESR targets?**

**A.** Yes, it is. We need both. Robust national responsibility is crucial. The ESR should be revised to create a predictable mechanism for setting post 2030 ESR targets. We also need MS to be clear about their long-term objective and to plan now to achieve it.

**Q. Is there the basis for a majority to support AM393?**

**A.** Yes. The Greens, EPP and Renew all recognise the need for these targets. In the Social Climate Fund Regulation, the EPP proposes AM82 and Renew proposes AM691 both of which would make MS access to the fund conditional on having these targets.

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