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Environment and farming, EP perspective

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European Green Deal

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- ▶ Climate change and environmental degradation - an existential threat to Europe and the world.
- ▶ European Green Deal should transform the EU into a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy.
- ▶ Climate neutrality by 2050.
- ▶ Economic growth decoupled from resource use.
- ▶ No person and no place left behind.
- ▶ 3 billion trees to be planted in the EU by 2030.
- ▶ At least 55% less greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.



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Fit for 55

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- ▶ Part of the European Green Deal.
- ▶ Package of proposals aims at providing a coherent and balanced framework for reaching the EU's climate objectives.
- ▶ Ensures a just and socially fair transition.
- ▶ Maintains and strengthens innovation and competitiveness of EU industry while ensuring a level playing field to third country economic operators.
- ▶ Strengthens the EU's position as leading the way in the global fight against climate change.



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LULUCF

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- ▶ Adopted in 2018, LULUCF regulation requires each member state to ensure that emissions in the land use, land use change and forestry sector are compensated by equivalent amount of removals.
- ▶ LULUCF rules address the carbon footprint of the conversion, use and management of grassland, agricultural land and forests.
- ▶ The land use and forestry sector in the EU absorbs more carbon than it releases into the atmosphere.
- ▶ EU forests absorb the nearly 10% of total EU greenhouse gas emissions each year.



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- ▶ After negotiations between Parliament and Council:
- ▶ 2030 target for net greenhouse gas removals set at 310 million tonnes CO2 equivalent, which is around 15% more than today.
- ▶ Member States will have to follow a linear trajectory.
- ▶ Current rules will apply from 2021 to 2025. Countries will have flexibility.
- ▶ Monitoring, reporting and verification of emissions and removals will be improved by using more geographical data and remote sensing.
- ▶ Countries will take corrective action if progress towards their target is not sufficient. 108% of the GHG above their 2026-2029 budget will be added to their 2030 target.

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- ▶ Tackling climate change is a huge priority and also our legal obligation.
- ▶ We must also provide sufficient support for farmers and forest owners to promote change. Focus more on incentives, than on prohibition or punishment.
- ▶ Agriculture and forestry are part of the solution to modern climate and environmental problems, but not the scapegoat.
- ▶ Economic activity is and must remain an integral part of our environment. Forests are not just a carbon sink or an absolute reserve - they are an important renewable resource, part of the economy, a source of income.
- ▶ Facilitate a fair transition to more sustainable forms of farming and forest management.
- ▶ Forests must not lose their economic function, and any adaptation by farmers must be gradual and effective.
- ▶ Demanding a reduction in emissions, we must work together to support efficient agriculture, small and medium-sized farmers, sustainable forestry and the strict application of import and trade standards.

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Upcoming legislation

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- ▶ Nature restoration law - restoring wetlands, rivers, forests, grasslands, marine ecosystems, and the species they host.
- ▶ Sustainable use of plant protection products - 50 % reduction in the overall use of and risk from chemical plant protection products, and a 50% reduction in the use of more hazardous ones by 2030.
- ▶ Industrial emissions directive - high level of protection of human health and the environment taken as a whole by reducing harmful industrial emissions across the EU.



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Thank you!

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