



European Commission

European Green Deal Policies for improving air quality



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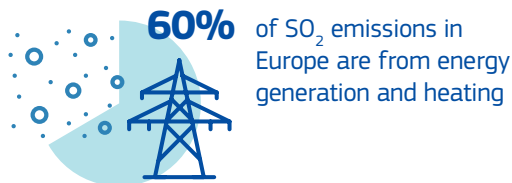
26 October 2022
#EUGreenDeal

The zero pollution ambition in the European Green Deal aims for an environment free from harmful pollution by 2050. Meeting this ambition requires updating and strengthening rules to tackle air pollution from buildings, energy, transport, agriculture and industry. Several Green Deal policies in these sectors support better air quality.

ENERGY



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Phasing out fossil fuels and **investing in renewables** will contribute to reducing pollutants such as sulphur dioxide (SO₂), particulate matter (PM 2.5), and nitrogen dioxides (NO₂), which can cause respiratory diseases.



EU initiatives contributing

Fit for 55 package of proposals:



- Phasing out fossil fuels and stepping up renewables

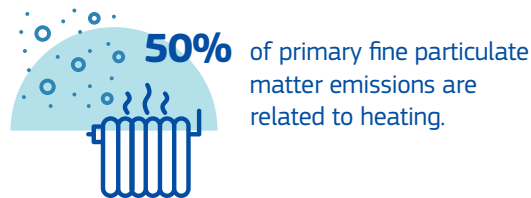
RePowerEU:

- Speeding up deployment of renewables

HEATING



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Residential heating emissions can be reduced by:

- **Insulating** buildings
- Installing efficient and low emission **eco-design boilers**
- Using waste heat from industry and **clean energy sources** for district heating
- Using geothermal, solar, wind or hydro power, heat pumps and biogas



EU initiatives contributing



- **Renovation wave:** doubling annual energy renovation rates in the next 10 years

- New **European Bauhaus**
- Revising the **Energy Performance of Buildings Directive**

TRANSPORT



>40%

of **nitrogen oxide** emissions across Europe come from road traffic, particularly in urban areas and along busy streets. Diesel cars are among its main sources.

Traffic emissions can be reduced by:

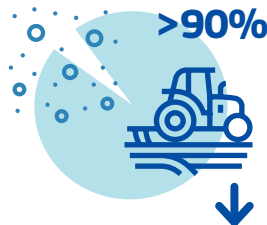
- Traffic **planning and management**
- Switching to **clean public transport**, walking and biking
- Management of parking spaces, **speed limits and low-emission zones**



EU initiatives contributing

- **Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy**: aim to reduce transport emissions by 90% by 2050
- Revised Regulation setting **CO₂ emission standards for passenger cars** and light commercial vehicles – aiming for zero-emission mobility as of 2035
- Forthcoming rules for **stricter emission standards for all petrol and diesel cars**, vans, lorries and buses.

AGRICULTURE



>90%

of **ammonia** emissions to air in the EU come from agriculture: 75% from manure and 20% from inorganic fertiliser.



leads to **eutrophication and acidification of ecosystems**, and to **harmful particulate matter**

Agricultural emissions can be reduced by:

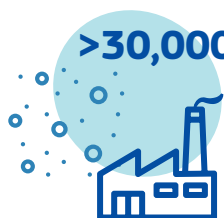
- **Improved livestock feeding strategies**
- **Closed manure storage**
- **More precise application** of manure and fertilisers



EU initiatives contributing

- **Common Agricultural Policy**
- Aligning agriculture with the EU's clean air policies and the zero pollution ambition
- **Farm to Fork Strategy**
- Reducing air pollutants from agriculture
- **Proposed new rules on industrial emissions**
- Supporting large EU livestock farms in reducing emissions

INDUSTRY



>30,000

industrial installations in the EU account for:

- **50%** of total emissions to air of sulphur oxides and other harmful substances
- **30%** of nitrogen oxides and fine particulate matter air emissions.

Industrial emissions can be reduced by:

- making the switch to **clean energy sources**
- using technology to **destroy pollutants at the source**
- opting for **non-toxic materials to produce goods**



EU initiatives contributing

- **Industrial Emissions Directive**
- **Preventing and controlling pollution** from large-scale industrial activities and power plants
- Proposed **new rules** will guide large European industry to the **zero pollution** ambition by 2050