



Европейски парламент Parlamento Europeo Evropský parlament Europa-Parlamentet Europäisches Parlament
Euroopa Parlament Ευρωπαϊκό Κοινοβούλιο European Parliament Parlement européen Parlaimint na hEorpa
Europski parlament Parlamento europeo Eiropas Parlaments Europos Parliamentas Európai Parlament
Parlament Ewropew Europees Parlement Parlament Europejski Parlamento Europeu Parlamentul European
Európsky parlament Evropski parlament Euroopan parlamentti Europaparlamentet

To the attention of

President Ursula VON DER LEYEN,
Executive Vice-President Frans TIMMERMANS,
Commissioner Kadri SIMSON,
Commissioner Thierry BRETON,

Brussels, 10 October 2022

Subject: Let's develop a legal framework for clean hydrogen as coherent as possible!

In light of the serious economic, climate and geopolitical crises that Europe is facing, we, the signatories of this letter, call for the respect of the technology neutrality principle within the policy-making processes to achieve our climate target while securing our energy and political economy. In this respect, low-carbon hydrogen must be fully acknowledged as being part of the solution, supported by a strong European clean hydrogen market.

We welcome the work of the Commission to this regard, notably through the launch of the European Hydrogen Strategy, the revision of the guidelines on State aid for climate, environmental protection and energy for 2022, and the proposed revision of the Directive 2009/73/EC¹, which will set a clear definition of low-carbon hydrogen in the European legal framework.

However, we are deeply concerned about the vision that the Commission has proposed in its REPowerEU Communication of 18 May 2022, which on the one hand does not pay any attention to the potential of low-carbon hydrogen for Europe's decarbonised energy self-sufficiency, and on the other hand does not ensure a full equality of treatment between domestic and imported hydrogen.

Having in mind that Member States are sovereign of their own energy mix, Member States must be able to become self-sufficient with clean hydrogen that is locally produced in a sustainable and cost-effective way. This is in the interest of European energy security and a greater resilience of our supply.

For this reason, we strongly invite the Commission to reconsider the target of 10 million tonnes of renewable hydrogen imports by 2030. This target does not give the right signal to the market: the EU should first focus on developing the necessary capacity of clean hydrogen domestic production, whether it comes from renewable or low-carbon sources, before importing any other additional molecules from reliable international partners.

Furthermore, we ask the Commission to protect the implementation of the Directive (EU) 2018/2001² and the adoption of the long-awaited delegated act on the sustainability criteria for renewable fuel

¹ Directive 2009/73/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 concerning common rules for the internal market in natural gas and repealing Directive 2003/55/EC (Text with EEA relevance)

² Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (recast)

Parlement européen Strasbourg – WIC M02110 – 1, Avenue du Président Robert Schuman – 67070

Strasbourg – Tél. +33 3 88 17 55 77

Parlement européen Bruxelles – WIB 04M073 – 60, Rue Wiertz – B-1047 Bruxelles – Tél. +32 22 84 55 77

Permanence européenne locale – 1, Place d'Armes – 90000 Belfort – Tél. +33 3 84 26 47 39

christophe.grudler@ep.europa.eu

from non-renewable origin (RFNBO). Indeed, the criteria as adopted in the position of the Parliament on 14 September must not be accepted by the Commission, as there are highly problematic for countless reasons in terms of content and procedure.

Dear Commission, let's develop a legal framework for clean hydrogen as coherent as possible!

Yours sincerely,

Christophe Grudler, Renew Europe (France)
Klemen Grošelj, Renew Europe (Slovenia)
Sara Skyttedal, EPP (Sweden)
Franc Bogovič, EPP (Slovenia)
François-Xavier Bellamy, EPP (France)
Marek Paweł Balt, S&D (Poland)
Laurence Farreng, Renew Europe (France)
Bart Groothuis, Renew Europe (The Netherlands)
Alexander Vondra, ECR (Czech Republic)
Dominique Riquet, Renew Europe (France)
Ondřej Knotek, Renew Europe (Czech Republic)
Dan-Ștefan MOTREANU, EPP (Romania)
Christian Ehler, EPP (Germany)
Sylvie Brunet, Renew Europe (France)
Irène Tolleret, Renew Europe (France)
Ulrike Müller, Renew Europe (Germany)
Martina Dlabajová, Renew Europe (Czech Republic)
Ivan Vilibor Sinčić, NI (Croatia)
András Gyürk, NI (Hungary)

Parlement européen Strasbourg – WIC M02110 – 1, Avenue du Président Robert Schuman – 67070

Strasbourg – Tél. +33 3 88 17 55 77

Parlement européen Bruxelles – WIB 04M073 – 60, Rue Wiertz – B-1047 Bruxelles – Tél. +32 22 84 55 77

Permanence européenne locale – 1, Place d'Armes – 90000 Belfort – Tél. +33 3 84 26 47 39

christophe.grudler@ep.europa.eu