

COP25 climate change conference in Madrid

The COP25 climate change conference will be held in Madrid, Spain, from 2 to 13 December 2019, under the presidency of the Chilean government. It will focus on completing the rules for the implementation of the Paris Agreement and address a range of other issues. In advance of COP25, the European Parliament has tabled questions to the European Commission and the Council. The Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety has tabled a motion for a resolution on COP25, to be voted during the November II plenary session.

Background

The 25th Conference of the Parties ([COP25](#)) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) will address the outstanding issues on the rulebook for the implementation of the [Paris Agreement](#) that were left unresolved by [COP24](#), notably rules on Article 6 that would allow countries to meet, in part, domestic mitigation targets through market mechanisms such as carbon markets.

Other points on the programme include loss and damage, international climate finance, capacity-building, matters relating to least developed countries, and gender issues, as well as a ministerial dialogue on adaptation, a high-level event on forests, and the launch of a platform for science-based ocean solutions.

Although Chile holds the presidency of the COP25 conference, it will be held in Madrid, Spain. The Chilean government decided on 30 October not to host the COP25 in Santiago, Chile after violent social unrest in the Latin American country. Chile was selected as the host of COP25 in November 2018, after the Bolsonaro government withdrew Brazil's offer to host the conference.

Studies such as the 2019 UN [emissions gap report](#) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [special report on global warming of 1.5°C](#) indicate that countries' commitments must be strengthened to limit the impacts of climate change on people and ecosystems and meet the targets of the Paris Agreement. In the past legislative term, the European Union revised its climate and energy policies, in line with its international commitments under the Paris Agreement. Ahead of COP24, the Commission adopted the [clean planet strategy](#) for long-term EU greenhouse gas emissions reductions. Commission President-elect Ursula von der Leyen intends to propose a [European Green Deal](#) for a socially just transition to a carbon-neutral economy. The [Council conclusions](#) of 9 October 2019 set out the EU negotiating mandate for COP25.

European Parliament position

Two oral questions are scheduled for debate at the November plenary session. They ask what action the Council and Commission, respectively, are taking to ensure the successful completion of the work on the Paris Agreement work programme and the rulebook for Article 6; to increase the ambition of the nationally determined contributions of parties to align them with the overall Paris target; scale up climate finance mobilisation towards the joint goal of US\$100 billion annually by 2020; and ensuring annual financial flows are consistent with the long-term ambition of the Paris Agreement. On 6 November 2019, the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) adopted a [motion for a resolution](#) supporting a 55 % reduction of EU emission by 2030 and a new interim target for 2040, and calling on the European Council to support net-zero EU greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 at the latest and notify that target to the UNFCCC as soon as possible. Parliament is due to debate and vote on the motion during its November II session.

Oral questions: [O-000029/2019](#) and [O-000030/2019](#). Motion for a resolution: [2019/2712\(RSP\)](#). Committee responsible: ENVI.

