



Plenary sitting

B9-0044/2020/REV

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statement by the Commission

pursuant to Rule 132(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on the European Green Deal
(2019/2956(RSP))

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on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

B9-0044/2020

**European Parliament resolution on the European Green Deal
(2019/2956(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol thereto,
- having regard to the Agreement adopted at the 21st Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP21) in Paris on 12 December 2015 (the Paris Agreement),
- having regard to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD),
- having regard to the latest and most comprehensive scientific evidence on the damaging effects of climate change provided in the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) entitled ‘Global Warming of 1.5°C’, its fifth assessment report (AR5) and the synthesis report thereon, its Special Report on Climate Change and Land, and its Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate,
- having regard to the European Environment Agency publication entitled ‘The European environment – state and outlook 2020, Knowledge for transition to a sustainable Europe’ (SOER 2020),
- having regard to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and to the Commission Reflection Paper of 30 January 2019 entitled ‘Towards A Sustainable Europe by 2030’(COM(2019)0022),
- having regard to the Commission communication of 23 July 2019 entitled ‘Stepping up EU Action to Protect and Restore the World’s Forests’ (COM(2019)0352) and the Commission communication of 20 September 2013 entitled ‘a new EU Forest Strategy: for forests and the forest-based sector’(COM(2013)0659),
- having regard to the massive threat of loss of biodiversity described in the Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services of 31 May 2019,
- having regard to the 25th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP25), held in Madrid, Spain, from 2 to 13 December 2019,
- having regard to the 26th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC to be held in December 2020 and the fact that all Parties to the UNFCCC need to increase their nationally determined contributions in line with the objectives of the Paris Agreement,
- having regard to the 15th Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15), to be held in Kunming, China, in October 2020, when Parties need to decide on the post-2020 global framework to halt biodiversity loss,
- having regard to its resolution of 14 March 2019 on climate change – a European

strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate-neutral economy in accordance with the Paris Agreement¹,

- having regard to its resolution of 28 November 2019 on the climate and environment emergency²,
 - having regard to its resolution of 28 November 2019 on the 2019 UN Climate Change Conference in Madrid, Spain (COP25)³,
 - having regard to Article 153 of the TFEU on the social protection of workers,
 - having regard to Article 9 of the TFEU, which requires the EU to promote a high level of employment, guarantee adequate social protection, fight against social exclusion and ensure a high level of education, training and protection of human health,
 - having regard to the proposal for a regulation on the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+),
 - having regard to the conventions and recommendations of the International Labour Organisation (ILO),
 - having regard to its resolution of 14 September 2016 on social dumping in the European Union⁴,
 - having regard to the revised European Social Charter of the Council of Europe,
 - having regard to the Boston University study of 2019 entitled ‘Pentagon Fuel Use, Climate Change, and the Costs of War’,
 - having regard to the 2019 Human Development Report by the United Nations Development Programme,
 - having regard to Rule 132(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas immediate and ambitious action is crucial to limiting global warming to 1.5° C, so as to avoid massive biodiversity loss, the degradation of ecosystems, resource scarcity, pollution and increased health risks; whereas the effects of the climate crisis are already being felt all around the world and continue to worsen at an alarming rate;
- B. whereas the 2019 Human Development Report by the United Nations Development Programme finds that disparities in human development remain widespread, and new generations of inequalities are emerging; whereas these increasing social and economic inequalities need to be addressed as a matter of urgency and also in sync with all climate action measures;
- C. whereas the climate and environmental crises necessitate action that breaks away from

¹ Texts adopted, P8_TA(2019)0217.

² Texts adopted, P9_TA(2019)0078.

³ Texts adopted, P9_TA(2019)0079.

⁴ OJ C 204, 13.6.2018, p. 111.

the obsession with economic growth, which is the root cause of both crises, and whereas the ‘European Green Deal’ needs to be the beginning of the end of this destructive dogma;

- D. whereas big oil and gas alone have spent EUR 250 million lobbying in the EU since 2010; whereas the global climate strike brings together hundreds of millions of people across the planet demanding an end to the reign of these fossil interests;
 - E. whereas we now have the opportunity to come up with an ambitious, holistic and all-encompassing investment and transformation plan that relies on democracy, regulation and public control; whereas we cannot afford to leave it up to market forces to solve the problems that they have created and, therefore, the term ‘Green Deal’ is not sufficient to indicate the evolution required according to the leading science;
 - F. whereas we only have one more chance to solve these environmental and social crises; whereas we can only face these common challenges effectively if we approach all these crises in combination; whereas this Commission is the last to be able to put forward proposals to solve these crises and it cannot afford to fail in this task;
 - G. whereas the ‘Green Deal’ must lead to a radical, systematic and global revolution of our modes of production, consumption and distribution, improving lives while decarbonising our societies; whereas it must be fair and be of benefit to everyone; whereas these crises prove the need to work together for another Europe, one which prioritises the planet and people over profit;
1. Recalls that the climate and biodiversity crises and growing social and economic inequalities are the most important challenges facing humanity and that the European Green Deal represents an opportunity to tackle them together and effectively; underlines that a fundamental policy change, timely international cooperation, solidarity, and commitments to high ambition are the only way to keep global warming below 1.5 °C and tackle inequality; believes that the European Green Deal must be transformative and lead to a radical, systematic and global revolution of our modes of production, consumption and distribution;
 2. Acknowledges the Commission’s proposal for a Green Deal; stresses the need for the European Green Deal to support the objective of sustainable development, to protect and enhance the EU’s ecosystems, to ensure their conservation, and to protect the health and well-being of people from environment-related risks and impacts; underlines that the European Green Deal is not just an enhanced climate policy, but represents an investment plan that should fully transform the economy and society and position it firmly on an ecological pathway that upholds social rights and improves life for all on this planet; stresses that the SDGs should serve as the overarching framework for policymaking and implementation;
 3. Believes that solidarity must be central to the European Green Deal and that it must be an outward-looking deal; underlines that the European Green Deal must be about social justice and must tackle social and economic inequalities and global warming together; stresses the importance of respecting and strengthening social dialogue at all levels and in all sectors, in particular with trade unions, in order to ensure a just transition; reiterates in that regard the Union’s obligation to recognise and promote the role of

social partners; believes that the European Green Deal must be anchored in the principles of climate justice and informed by, and fully compatible with, the leading science;

4. Rejects the use of buzzwords and slogans to mask low ambition and ineffective and perverse market-driven climate action, which ultimately favours big business and the fossil fuel industry; interprets the European Green Deal as an opportunity to break with the neoliberal framework and for the EU to finally acknowledge its climate debt and historical responsibility to do more; believes that incremental action at a time of climate emergency is woefully insufficient and that the European Green Deal must be a radical and transformative programme that leads to rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes to our economy and society; rejects market integration as a way of levelling the playing field according to big companies' interests, and calls for a strong public sector in strategic areas such as energy and industry, one that is able to meet the environmental aims and reduce social and territorial inequalities at the same time;
5. Highlights that the one-sided focus on economic growth has led to a climate and biodiversity emergency; notes that problems cannot be solved with the same mind-set that caused them; deplores the fact that the Commission is framing the European Green Deal as a new growth strategy; stresses the need to implement economic models that take the planetary boundaries, social needs and human rights into account instead of a blind preoccupation with economic growth;
6. Insists on a comprehensive and meaningful gender perspective in all policy areas and in particular in climate and social policies, given that women and people of marginalised genders are impacted hardest by austerity, social exclusion and climate change; affirms that the European Green Deal must have a gender perspective in order to be effective and succeed in its aims; calls for the EU and its Member States to fully implement the new Gender Action Plan as agreed at COP25;
7. Believes that capitalism is not green, nor can it be greened; considers that the dominant socio-economic system is intrinsically unsustainable and that capitalist accumulation is completely at odds with the physical limits of the planet, disrupting the balances on which all life depends; deplores the instrumentalisation of people's environmental concerns for the purpose of proceeding with capitalist accumulation, widening it to new fields of accumulation and creating new forms of private appropriation of nature (so-called 'natural capital') to make business out of genuine environmental concerns without really solving the problems underlying these concerns; states that the fight against climate change is inseparable from the fight against social and economic inequalities and for peace;

Increasing the EU's climate ambition for 2030 and 2050

8. Stresses that the EU, bearing in mind the principle of common but differentiated responsibility, must lead by example and submit a revised nationally determined contribution (NDC) of at least 70 % well before COP26 in Glasgow, giving enough time for the other Parties to react to this signal of ambition with their own revised targets; stresses that ambitious decarbonisation targets should not be seen as a burden on the economy, but will in fact set the stage for ambitious decarbonisation policies to be

pursued across sectors;

9. Deplores the fact that the EU has consistently supported targets that are not compliant with the 1.5 °C Paris Agreement goal, and that Member States have been holding back their ambition in the Council; deplores the fact that the current policies of the EU will only reduce greenhouse gases by an estimated 60 % by 2050; notes in particular that the Renewable Energy Directive and the Energy Efficiency Directive, which have targets of 32 % and 32.5 % by 2030 respectively, are far from what is necessary to keep global warming below 1.5 °C and do not reflect the necessary ambition;
10. Notes with concern the negative role that lobbying from the fossil fuel industry and others has played and is playing in EU policy-making and points to the lack of transparency in the Council in particular;
11. Rejects the notion of monetising nature and trading the right to pollute; demands a normative approach for regulating greenhouse gas emissions; calls for a greenhouse gas emissions reduction policy based on a specific UN-defined, monitored regulation;
12. Believes it to be imperative that the Commission act without delay as regards the implementation of the European Green Deal, and that it avoid carrying out further assessments where the science is clear; considers such attempts to be delay tactics that slow down the transition; reiterates that Parliament has declared a climate and environmental emergency and that the EU must act accordingly by setting and implementing ambitious targets for decarbonisation, which should be achieved by 2040 at the latest;
13. Notes with concern the pathways of the EU's long-term strategy for decarbonisation and the over-reliance on technological solutions, most of which are not yet developed at scale; insists that the EU's energy transformation must be based on a transition to a fully renewable-based energy system by 2050 at the latest;
14. Considers the proposed two-step approach within the European Green Deal communication in relation to revising the EU's NDC to be an invitation to the fossil fuel industry for more targeted lobbying and considers this approach to be a mixed signal to the rest of the Parties to the Paris Agreement as regards where the EU stands on the question of its 2030 ambition; stresses that overstating the difficulties in decarbonising between 50 % and 55 % does not constitute leadership on the global stage and instead creates the space for more justifications of low-ambition NDCs;
15. Remains critical of the concept of climate neutrality as proposed by the Commission, which excludes greenhouse gas emissions from transnational sectors, such as emissions from aviation and shipping and throughout the value chains of multinational companies, while promoting offsetting measures and the use of phony carbon markets, which monetises pollution and natural goods; considers the emphasis on 'climate neutrality' to be a distraction from the need to phase out fossil fuels and regulate for sustainability; firmly believes that attention must be brought to deep decarbonisation in an accountable and just way which necessitates a leap towards renewable energies and envisioning a future without fossil fuels; warns about the danger of relying on future large-scale carbon capture and storage technologies in order to achieve carbon neutrality when there is currently no proof that such technologies may be designed and deployed at a

significant scale; warns about the danger of relying on natural carbon sinks such as oceans, forests, and soil, the complex functioning and dynamics of which are not yet fully understood;

16. Calls on the Commission to bring forward an ambitious Climate Law that enshrines into law accountable targets and takes into account indirect emissions;
17. Looks forward to the new and more ambitious EU strategy on adaptation to climate change and expects it to encourage a balance in mitigation and adaptation funding, as well as a renewed focus on adaptation;

Supplying renewable, affordable and secure energy

18. Reiterates that energy policy is about people and must first and foremost aim for equitable access to energy by guaranteeing the right to energy; considers energy poverty to be deeply entwined with the climate crisis and underlines the potential of the European Green Deal to tackle inequality and the climate crisis in terms of social policy that leads the ecological transition; recalls the right to a home and stresses how the European Green Deal can guarantee this right, eliminate energy poverty and achieve decarbonisation at the same time with adequate ambitions and well-funded policies;
19. Denounces the privatisation of energy sectors, which leads to higher prices and increases energy poverty; underlines that energy is a public good and that access to renewable and affordable energy is a basic right; insists that the energy systems brought into public ownership and management be democratised and decentralised and that community-level energy projects be expanded in order to better direct them towards environmental and social objectives; is deeply concerned about the alarming number of households in or affected by energy poverty in the EU, and reiterates that equal access to sustainable and affordable energy is a fundamental right and that disconnection from electricity and/or heat supply should therefore be banned; believes, moreover, that energy efficient measures in buildings can improve the housing situation and can help to alleviate energy poverty; stresses, however, that the costs of renovation should not be borne by tenants;
20. Deplores the use of ‘technological neutrality’ as a euphemism to hide the real focus on capital-intensive technologies, which ensures the hegemony of big energy business in the European Green Deal scenario; denounces the number of fossil fuels projects on the fourth list of Projects of Common Interest, which deepens the lock-in into the fossil fuel economy;
21. Calls on the Commission to increase the renovation rate for public buildings and to extend the scope of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive; calls for the Commission to propose increased targets under the Renewable Energy Directive and the Energy Efficiency Directive; believes that the ‘renovation wave’ initiative should include concrete actions and measures aimed at supporting the renovation of buildings, both public and private, into nearly-zero energy buildings by 2050; asks the Commission and the Member States to consider increasing the renovation rate for public buildings and to provide adequate public financing while creating fair job opportunities;

22. Expresses concern that the Commission and some Member States are promoting nuclear as a solution to the climate crisis in spite of the unsolved issue of nuclear waste management and the security and safety challenges it poses;
23. Expresses concern at the Commission's interest in 'decarbonising gas' and the use of justifications of energy security and affordability for customers to place gas within the EU's decarbonisation strategy; asks the Commission to present the revision of the TEN-E Regulation without further delay in order to ensure that the next, fifth, list of PCIs will follow new criteria compliant with Paris Agreement;

Mobilising industry for a clean and circular economy

24. Underlines the urgent need to ensure that the true meaning of circular economy principles is fully implemented in all legislation and processes, as statistics on material flows and waste generation show that the circular economy is still in its infancy, while a truly circular economy can minimise waste and resource extraction, improve resource efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and contribute to conserving biodiversity; believes that investments, additional legislation and monitoring of progress are essential;
25. Stresses the need to promote local consumption and production based on the principles of refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle and repair, to stop planned obsolescence business strategies where products are designed to have a short life span and need to be replaced, and to adapt consumption to the limits of the planet; believes that the right to repair and continued support for IT services are imperative to achieve sustainable consumption; calls for these rights to be enshrined in EU law;
26. Calls on the Commission to present proposals to put an end to the waste trade, which is particularly harmful for vulnerable people and the environment in third countries, and to support capacity-building to deal with our own waste within the EU;
27. Calls for all the EU institutions, Member States and local authorities to ensure that all their public procurement, including digital technologies, respects high environmental and human rights standards; calls on the Commission to investigate whether existing European and national public procurement law and practices are aligned with the environmental and human rights obligations of the EU and its Member States; calls on the Commission to amend the EU directives on public procurement to ensure that large public buyers design, publish and enforce due diligence plans to ensure that the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises and the ILO Core Conventions are respected throughout their supply chains; calls for the EU institutions to lead by example by following the guidance on socially responsible public procurement and existing best practices among public buyers in their own procurement;
28. Stresses that biodegradable plastics and bio-based plastics run contrary to the principles of a circular economy and that focus must be brought to reducing plastics and creating a closed loop plastics economy; calls on the Commission to promote and legislate for a fully circular plastics economy which excludes biodegradable and bio-based plastics; believes that no company should have the right to pollute; calls on the Commission to implement stronger measures on single use plastics, including more extended producer

responsibility schemes; recalls that ensuring the supply of raw materials or energy resources should not be a source of geopolitical struggles, environmental damage in lagging regions, or any form of neo-colonialism;

29. Calls on the Commission to present a truly transformative new Circular Economy Action Plan that contains solid measures which strengthen extended producer responsibility and regulate product design for sustainability; underlines the need to extend the Ecodesign and Energy Labelling Regulations to include all main product categories; stresses the need to accompany the deployment of digital technologies with regulatory measures that will contribute to the social and environmental sustainability of ICT value chains, and to ensure that action on digitalisation is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of climate, energy and environment policies;
30. Acknowledges that industrial and labour policies need structural changes resulting from the deep decarbonisation of European industries, in particular energy intensive sectors; stresses also that these policies must ensure job creation, improved working conditions and rights, and increased salaries, and stresses that guarantees are needed on retaining the amount of industrial jobs; stresses in that regard the importance of respecting and strengthening social dialogue at all levels and in all sectors. in particular with trade unions; stresses that public investment is essential in order to reverse the unequal development imposed by market logic, thus ensuring quality jobs and strong cohesion policies within the European Union;
31. Calls on the Commission to come forward with an EU Industrial Strategy that puts EU industries on a path to deep decarbonisation with a regulatory approach, in particular for energy intensive industries, as a matter of urgency; calls for sufficient investment in training and education of the workforce to adapt to these changes, thus ensuring that no one and no region is left behind; underlines that a truly circular economy will create additional quality jobs in recycling, maintenance, repair, reuse and re-manufacturing;
32. Calls on the Commission to change its State aid rules in order to ensure that renewable energy, rail transport and the refurbishment of buildings, for example, can benefit from State aid; deplores the fact that current State aid rules favour coal power and nuclear power (as reflected by the decision on Hinkley Point C, Paks II and capacity mechanisms for coal power plants);

Accelerating the shift to sustainable and smart mobility

33. Looks forward to the Commission's strategy for sustainable and smart mobility in 2020 and expects it to radically change transport systems across Europe by increasing the modal shift of freight multimodality to rail and inland waterways and promoting green logistics and the reduction of freight volumes;
34. Underlines that keeping and retaining public ownership of public transport is the most efficient way of guiding and achieving the effective decarbonisation of the transport sector, and ensuring the public's right to mobility; demands the reversal of ongoing or already completed liberalisation in the transport sectors, which generally lead to the degradation of the infrastructure, the equipment and the services provided; underlines how workers' rights are undermined by privatisation of public services, such as

transport;

35. Appeals to the Member States to implement free public transport systems, integrating single and multimodal ticketing into the various transport systems, as well as public vehicle sharing systems, ensuring universal accessibility while creating disincentives on private car use;
36. Emphasises how sustainable urban development reduces the need for individual transport by creating quality jobs within local communities and avoiding the phenomenon of commuter communities; stresses that greener cities and decarbonised public transport are essential elements for smart sustainable mobility in urban areas; urges cities and municipalities to prioritise cycling and walking infrastructure over roads, as well as investing in the deployment of adequate networks for alternative fuels infrastructure; calls on the Commission and the Member States to promote urban and rural mobility plans that are in the public interest and that integrate all new modes of transport in order to increase the quality of services for citizens and to reduce environmental costs for cities; calls on the Commission, Member States and stakeholders to promote local production;
37. Stresses the need for effective and inclusive public transport, covering urban, peri-urban and rural areas, which should be accessible to persons with reduced mobility; emphasises the need for a speedy, affordable and reliable train network between all major European cities so as to reduce or avoid the need to take intra-European flights; calls on the Commission and the Member States to drastically increase their efforts and investments to achieve this goal while phasing out any existing incentive that runs counter to this objective; points to the importance of funding transport infrastructure projects to help achieve climate goals, and to the importance of cross-border cooperation among Member States; believes, as regards EU funding for transport, that fitness for the purpose of achieving climate goals should be one of the eligibility criteria for projects;
38. Rejects the further extension of emissions trading systems to other sectors such as shipping, and insists on the need for regulatory approaches for decarbonisation in all sectors; calls for ambitious CO₂, SO_x, particulate matter and NO_x reduction targets for maritime transport, including the maximum reduction of transport pollution in the goals of its international trade policy;
39. Calls on the Commission to be ambitious in seeking to reduce aviation emissions and to immediately propose to stop all free allocations to airlines under the EU emissions trading system (ETS), and to demand that the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) be fully aligned with existing EU legislation and scheduled emissions reduction commitments;
40. Deplores the fact that massive subsidies are granted to the biggest polluting industries such as aviation through the tax exemption for kerosene, subsidies on fossil fuels and lack of harmonisation concerning an EU-wide ticket tax; stresses that such subsidies do not guarantee a level playing field with a more sustainable mode of transport operating in the same circumstances; stresses that the Commission and the Member States both have the responsibility of applying the polluter pays principle to aviation; notes that the

phasing out of operating aid for unprofitable coal plants has been accepted by Member States in the past, but that operating aid for unprofitable airports persists; calls for the polluter pays principle to also be applied to luxury transport modes such as SUVs and luxury boats and calls for a ban on private jets;

41. Points out that the development of connected and automated cars has largely been driven by technology; calls, therefore, for the social impact and compatibility of such technology with human and environmental values and aims to be investigated; considers that the deployment of new transport services such as ride-sharing and ‘mobility as a service’ (Maas), complete with road charging systems, should not be slowed down by legislative obstacles as they are preferable to private motoring;
42. Points out the importance of guiding a modal shift in mobility, by encouraging people to adopt sustainable habits with economic incentives, raising awareness of the environmental impacts of individual modes of transport and coordinating and developing low-carbon transport services such as public transport; stresses that the electric car, by itself, will not solve the environmental problems caused by transport without a paradigm shift that challenges the prevalence of individual transport; stresses the need to share the costs of this transition in a fair way, ensuring that mobility does not become a luxury for the most vulnerable people, and counterbalancing this with other means such as a reduction in taxation; underlines, moreover, that the mobility needs of remote and insular regions have to be taken into account, in particular so as to avoid a negative impact on the already severe demographic and living conditions of such regions;

From ‘Farm to Fork’: designing a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system

43. Notes with concern that agriculture, fisheries and food production are still the biggest driver of terrestrial and marine biodiversity loss; points out that intensification and the abandonment of low-intensity biodiversity-rich farming systems are among the main agriculture-related pressures contributing to this negative trend; stresses that eutrophication, caused by nitrogen leaching from livestock farms and the use of synthetic fertilisers, is another major factor behind this biodiversity loss; believes that the loss of pollinators, including bees, is of particular concern from a food security point of view as pollinator-dependent crops play an important role in our diets; also believes that agrobiodiversity is one of the big challenges of our time, as, according to the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), we have lost 75 % of the genetic diversity of plants since the 1900s, with today’s human diet being based primarily on 12 plant species and 14 animal species;
44. Regrets how EU agricultural policy has evolved to treat food as a commodity; strongly believes that food is a basic human right; underlines that a radical transformation of the entire food system is needed to halt biodiversity loss and climate change, to promote healthy, nutritious and sustainable plant-rich diets and to ensure food security and sovereignty around the globe;
45. Believes that chemical pesticides, artificial fertilisers, genetic engineering in all its forms, industrial factory farming and overfishing, massive imports of protein and fuel crops and the ongoing globalisation in the food chain are threatening the future of the

planet and of food production and should not be subsidised in any way and instead should be stopped as soon as possible; notes that this globalisation of the food supply chain has not benefited primary producers, a sector that is characterised by below-cost production, low returns and exposure to unfair trading practices due to its fragmented nature; reminds the Commission of Parliament's call for it to propose legislation with a binding commitment at EU level on reducing the use of pesticides with binding national contributions; calls for the EU's international trade deals to be revised with a view to reaching those objectives, and for new free trade agreements, in particular the EU-MERCOSUR agreement, to be reviewed;

46. Underlines that voluntary and market based mechanisms will not be enough to ensure a just transition to a sustainable food system; recognises the need for ambitious and legally binding mechanisms and targets; deplores the fact that the current and proposed common agricultural and fishery policies are lacking in every way to deal with the environmental and social challenges in agriculture, fisheries and food production; notes that the start of the revised common agricultural policy is likely to be delayed to the beginning of 2022; calls on the Commission to work with the Member States and stakeholders to ensure that from the outset the national strategic plans for agriculture fully reflect the ambition of the European Green Deal and the Farm to Fork Strategy; is of the opinion that when flexibility increases, a strong and robust accountability, governance and monitoring system needs to be put in place, as well as stringent transparency rules on the drafting of the plans at national level in order to achieve the objectives; stresses that the Commission must ensure that these strategic plans are assessed against robust climate and environmental criteria; underlines that these plans should lead to the use of sustainable practices, such as organic farming, agro-ecology, agro-forestry and stricter animal welfare standards;
47. Calls on the Commission to propose a holistic and ambitious Farm to Fork Strategy to truly transform the European food, fishery and agricultural sectors; stresses that this strategy should take the planetary boundaries and human and animal health and welfare as its starting points and should be based on the concept of agro-ecology and sustainability;
48. Underlines the need to promote short food supply chains and local food systems, the advantages of which include fairer prices for farmers, access to fresh and seasonal produce for consumers, a reduced environmental impact and greater social cohesion at local level; considers that this goal demands a fundamental shift in the common agricultural policy to counteract and reverse the trend of increased liberalisation and to reinforce production and market regulation instruments;
49. Stresses that the Farm to Fork Strategy should include binding and ambitious reduction targets for agricultural greenhouse gas emissions and land degradation and for the use of chemical pesticides, artificial fertilisers and antibiotics, including the rapid phasing out of synthetic pesticides and micro-plastic use in fertilisers, and that it should also include binding expansion targets for organic production; emphasises that the strategy should promote agroforestry, should introduce additional legislation and enforcement to protect the welfare of all animals used in the food chain and to ensure that animal sentience is taken into consideration in all relevant policies, and should contain a plan to end the massive imports of deforestation-related commodities such as soy, palm oil and maize

and a commitment to stop the import and cultivation of all GMOs in the EU; considers the patenting of seeds and essential biological processes to be unacceptable;

50. Underlines the need for a social and just transition in agriculture; stresses that EU agricultural and international trade policies must be reoriented away from the current industrialised model based on exports to third countries, which leave primary producers exposed to geopolitical events beyond their control, to one where food sovereignty, incorporating high-quality food, fair producer returns, environmental protection and high animal welfare standards, with a special focus on workers in the food chain, are the primary goals;

Preserving and restoring ecosystems and biodiversity

51. Stresses that biodiversity and nature should not be merely considered as ‘natural capital’ to be used, but should instead be recognised as a common heritage for the whole of humankind, and calls for a different approach to nature in the European Green Deal; strongly believes that nature has an intrinsic value in and of itself that needs to be respected, and rejects any attempt to monetise nature or quantify it in relation to a use value;
52. Deeply regrets that Europe continues to lose biodiversity at an alarming rate, as well as its failure to achieve any of the previous targets set to halt biodiversity loss; calls for significant conservation efforts to reverse current trends and relieve pressure on the natural world; calls, as a matter of urgency, for full implementation of a range of policy measures required to deliver improvements, which should be based on legally binding targets for the EU and its Member States, including sectoral policies;
53. Welcomes the Commission’s initiative to present a Biodiversity Strategy by March 2020; reiterates its position expressed in its resolution of 2 February 2016 on the mid-term review of the EU’s Biodiversity Strategy that habitat destruction is the most important factor driving biodiversity loss and is a particular priority when it comes to addressing this loss, i.e. through reducing degradation and fragmentation;
54. Shares the opinion that the drivers of climate change and biodiversity loss are global and are not confined to national borders; supports therefore the Commission’s proposal for a global target to protect biodiversity to be set at the UN Biodiversity Conference in October 2020;
55. Emphasises that voluntary measures and market-based mechanisms such as labelling and ‘Round Tables’ are woefully insufficient to stop deforestation related to imported products such as palm oil and soy; calls for legally binding targets and regulatory measures to halt deforestation associated with products imported into the EU;
56. Believes that biodiversity-rich areas of urban green infrastructure help to address air pollution, noise, climate change impacts, heat waves, floods and public health problems; acknowledges that the Commission will make proposals to green European cities and increase biodiversity in urban spaces, and calls for urgency and ambition in these proposals; welcomes all the initiatives supporting urban farming;
57. Highlights that forests are a key reservoir of biodiversity; underlines that forest areas are

crucial for regulating the water cycle, absorbing CO₂ and providing close-to-nature recreation possibilities; welcomes the Commission's new EU Forest Strategy for planting new trees and restoring damaged or depleted forests and its efforts to encourage imports that do not create deforestation abroad in order to minimise the risk to forests around the world; stresses that all afforestation and reforestation efforts should aim to protect and enhance biodiversity as well as carbon storage;

58. Recognises the role of the blue economy in tackling climate change; underlines that the Blue Economy must be truly sustainable as the use of marine resources directly or indirectly depends on the long-term quality and resilience of the oceans; calls for a common strategy to be drawn up with neighbouring countries for preventing and reducing pollution, establishing an emissions control area and strengthening the network of marine protected areas and their interconnection in the Mediterranean Sea; welcomes the common fisheries policy goals aimed at reducing the adverse impacts that fishing can have on ecosystems, especially in sensitive areas, and the Commission's promise to support more connected and well-managed marine protected areas; urges the Member States to fully abide by the scientific recommendations on catch limits and denounces any subsidising of increases in fleet size;
59. Calls for more funding for environment and climate action, through the LIFE programme, accounting for at least 1 % of the entire EU budget in the short term, as well as the common agricultural policy, which should pay farmers for carbon sequestration and ecosystem services, while respecting native species and ecosystems; calls on the Commission to propose a new Soils Framework Directive and to adequately protect soils within the EU; calls on the Commission to bring forward a proposal to enhance Natura 2000 sites to cover at least 30 % of EU land, freshwater and marine areas; stresses the need for a financial instrument to support the management of Natura 2000 areas;
60. Notes that the demand for biomass for energy use is expected to increase in most decarbonisation scenarios; recalls that uses of biomass and increasing food and fodder consumption require increasing agricultural and forestry output, which has unacceptable environmental and climate impacts; is deeply concerned that the import of solid biomass, biofuels and bio-liquids to meet Europe's energy needs is associated with significant impacts on biodiversity; calls on the Commission and the Member States to end the use of biomass, and to avoid yet another harmful lock-in into unsustainable energy sources;

A zero pollution ambition for a toxic-free environment

61. Notes with concern that pollution from synthetic chemicals is a major and growing threat to people and wildlife and that new and legacy chemicals continue to be released into Europe's environment, adding to the total chemical burden on Europe's citizens and ecosystems and leading to high social and economic costs, posing a threat to pregnant women in particular, deforming children in the womb, damaging their developing brain and stunting our intelligence; notes also that these chemicals are linked to fertility impairments and increased incidences of diseases such as cancer while threatening the collapse of Europe's ecosystems;

62. Emphasises the right to a non-toxic environment; welcomes the announcement of a Zero-Pollution Action Plan for air, water and soil, but notes with concern that the Commission has not initiated the non-toxic environment strategy that was already promised in the seventh Environment Action Plan in 2013; notes that this strategy is urgently needed to dramatically reduce Europeans' exposure to endocrine disrupting chemicals and other hazardous substances; calls on the Commission to put forward the promised strategy for a non-toxic environment in 2020 and for it to also include consumer products;
63. Calls on the Commission to prioritise eliminating people's exposure to toxic chemicals and reducing the linked health impacts by 2030, with a clear timeline, indicators and binding targets; underlines the need for legislative proposals to ensure coordination and consistency across the various acts of European legislation on chemicals in the most health protective way in order to eliminate exposure to dangerous substances throughout their life cycle, including endocrine disrupting chemicals, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), micro-plastics and substances of very high concern, in all their uses, including food contact materials, toys, medical products, cosmetics, biocides and pesticides, cleaning products, flame retardants and other uses; stresses that these legislative measures are urgently needed and cannot be delayed any longer;
64. Stresses that taking precautionary risk management actions for groups of chemicals and promoting the use of chemicals that are safe and circular by design could help to limit future pollution; believes that materials should be free from toxic components from the design stage and that material streams with legacy chemicals should be detoxified so that they can be safely reused and recycled in a circular economy; rejects any attempt to erase or subvert the precautionary principle in EU legislation;
65. Underlines the need for a clear commitment to securing funds for improved research and testing methods and support for organisations providing and researching safer alternatives, and to promoting the substitution of harmful chemicals, clean production and sustainable innovation; underlines the need to reduce animal testing in risk assessments, and calls for increased efforts and funds for this; advocates the design of an early warning system to identify new chemical threats;
66. Believes that the zero pollution ambition should be based on the latest scientific insights and should offer no less protection than the World Health Organisation recommends; calls on the Commission to adjust EU air quality standards to match the WHO recommendations as a minimum;
67. Believes that consumers have a right to be fully informed; calls for coordinated European-wide mandatory information systems on chemicals in consumer products, materials and waste, as well as for public information and awareness-raising campaigns; calls for full and active transparency during risk assessment and risk management procedures;

Financing the European Green Deal and ensuring a just transition

68. Considers that the Commission's proposal dramatically lacks a clear and ambitious financing plan; expects the Commission to produce such a financing plan showing both the public and private sources of money to be used, where these resources come from

and how they will be allocated; calls on the Member States involved in the negotiations for an enhanced cooperation procedure on a financial transaction tax to reach an agreement on this instrument; considers that such an instrument could be one of the new sources of money that the EU could mobilise to finance the European Green Deal;

69. Believes that just transition is more than just a fund or a pot of money, but a whole policy approach underpinned by investment that must ensure that everyone benefits from the transition by upholding socio-economic rights, guaranteeing better standards of living and implementing the principles of economic, social and territorial cohesion; calls on the Commission and the Council to strengthen existing social funds, rather than defund them, as is proposed for the Cohesion Fund, and to ensure that the Just Transition Fund helps vulnerable regions, communities and workers, and offering protection from present and future stranded assets; underlines the need to ensure a just allocation of the resources of the Just Transition Fund, taking into account cohesion criteria; believes that the Just Transition Mechanism should respect and reinforce the partnership principle by integrating all relevant stakeholders into the process, and that the Just Transition Fund should be financed through a significant increase in public spending as well as leveraging existing funding mechanisms;
70. Considers that the EU's cap on national borrowing of 3 % of GDP as prescribed in the Stability and Growth Pact and the zero structural deficit required by the Fiscal Compact severely inhibit the ecological transition by prohibiting Member States from launching massive public investment drives to achieve a zero-carbon economy; stresses that the costs of deep decarbonisation are now far less than the costs incurred from the effects of climate change; calls for the Fiscal Compact to be repealed, and calls on the Commission and the Council to replace the Stability and Growth Pact and the new Fiscal Compact with an Employment and Sustainability Pact, or at the very least to exclude environmental and social public investment from this 3 % rule; calls for State aid rules to be reformed to allow for unprecedented public investment in the green transition, public services and social protection;
71. Welcomes the proposal for the EIB to be transformed into the EU's new Climate Bank and the decision of the EIB to divest from most fossil fuels; calls on the EIB to completely divest from all fossil fuels, including gas; calls on the new Climate Bank to support the transition with zero-interest loans and calls on the Commission and the Council to put in place regulations that prohibit investment in polluting sectors;
72. Stresses that the ECB and monetary policy should be fully involved in financing the transition; welcomes the statement by the President of the ECB calling the fight against climate change 'mission critical' for the bank; expects the ECB to completely divest from all fossil fuels, including gas, in its corporate sector purchase programme; calls on the ECB to mobilise prudential management tools to favour green assets and shift investment to sustainable activities, and to mobilise supervision tools such as stress tests to properly assess and reduce financial environmental risks; calls for the standards of rating agencies to be revised to include environmental, social and governance criteria in their assessments; considers that the ECB should be able to lend money directly to the Member States with zero-interest loans to allow for massive public investment in the transition; calls on the Council and the Member States therefore to review the mandate of the ECB to allow it to fully contribute to funding the transition, including by lending

directly to Member States;

73. Considers the Energy Charter Treaty to be harmful and outdated, and calls on the Commission and Member States to withdraw from it as soon as possible;
74. Stresses that Member States lose billions in revenue every year due to tax dodging, and that these sums could be invested in the ecological transition; calls on the Commission and the Council to produce a credible and complete black list of all tax havens and to adopt tax transparency and public country-by-country reporting to ensure that big companies are taxed where income is generated; calls on the Commission to tackle the harmful tax practices of Member States and to establish a minimum effective corporate income tax to put a stop to the race to the bottom;
75. Calls for new tax incentives to be developed to discourage activities that are harmful to the environment; considers that the revenues of such taxes should be fully dedicated to financing the transition; stresses the need to conduct a distributional analysis before setting such tax incentives to ensure that they do not fuel inequalities;
76. Believes that no effective just transition is possible within the neoliberal economic framework; calls on the Commission to break with this framework and to put an end to austerity measures and austerity-based, antisocial policies, such as those advocated as part of the European Semester; calls on the Commission to recognise the European Green Deal as an opportunity and a necessity to increase public investment at European level;
77. Recalls the role of education, training, reskilling and upskilling in the green transition, and notes that low-carbon quality jobs also include those beyond hard-hat jobs, including work in the care, health and education sectors; underlines in this regard the importance of consulting with and involving social partners; insists that capacity-building of regions and municipalities should be included in order to make these stakeholders part of the solution and to facilitate access to available funding;
78. Calls on the Commission to present an ambitious Just Transition Fund to support vulnerable regions, communities and workers, to finance new environmentally sound activities so as to create sustainable jobs, to promote local production, to finance technical retraining for workers and to grant indemnities and allowances to workers in search of new quality jobs; calls on the Commission also to establish appropriate criteria for just transition spending, including the phasing out of fossil fuels as a conditionality; calls for unemployment to be tackled through training and education programmes focusing on sustainable jobs and quality jobs fit for the future;

Mobilising research and fostering innovation

79. Notes the importance of publicly funded research in finding new solutions to the climate crisis that produce public goods; believes that the European Green Deal should accelerate investment in sustainable practices; stresses, however, that the solutions to the climate crisis already exist and that the main blocking point is a lack of political will; notes with concern the financial interests of the fossil fuel industry in promoting geoengineering climate solutions;

80. Stresses the need to invest in research into sustainable alternative fuels, particularly for the aviation and shipping sectors, and calls on the Commission to make full use of the Horizon Europe programme to support the challenges of the ecological transition, particularly in the digital and industrial sectors; notes the role that new technologies can play in adaptation, and urges the Commission and the Member States to focus research efforts on adaptation technologies;

‘Do no harm’ – Mainstreaming sustainability in all EU policies

81. Welcomes the green oath of doing no harm, and indeed insists that all EU actions and policies should work together to achieve a just transition; points out that the current agricultural, fisheries and trade policies of the EU are in fact doing a great deal of harm to all climate, biodiversity and just transition ambitions as laid out in the European Green Deal; emphasises that radical changes are necessary in all these areas if any of these ambitions are to be realised; calls for these facts to be clearly recognised and for courageous proposals to end these controversies in EU policies and legislation;

82. Stresses that trade must be in line with the ecological transition goal; calls on the Commission and the Council, therefore, to incorporate the Paris Agreement and biodiversity targets in the form of binding provisions in all trade and investment agreements in order to incentivise partners to abide by the 1.5 °C goal set in the Paris Agreement and the goal to halt biodiversity loss; also calls on the Commission and the Council to revise all trade agreements in order to incorporate ambitious and binding climate and biodiversity obligations in these bilateral agreements and thus incentivise partners to adopt climate strategies in accordance with the Paris Agreement; calls for an end to the EU-MERCOSUR and EU-Australia trade talks and for an end to all free trade agreements;

83. Believes that the European Green Deal is an opportunity to push for fair and just international trade that is mutually beneficial to people, is based on solidarity and is in full alignment with our climate and social objectives; advocates a fundamental shift from competition to complementarity in international trade, and acknowledges the sovereign right of Member States to shape their own trade policies in accordance with this principle; insists that no imports should be allowed into the EU of goods that are produced in violation of EU environmental rules, and that EU chemical companies must not be allowed to export pesticides whose use is prohibited in the EU;

84. Calls on the Commission to undertake a comprehensive screening of all its bilateral free trade agreements signed or being negotiated, with a view to adapting them to the objectives on climate change, sustainable development and food security; calls on the Commission also to engage actively in the new WTO initiative on climate change; abhors the use of investment protection mechanisms in all forms such as investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS), and urges the Commission and all Member States to revise all existing agreements to remove these harmful mechanisms as soon as possible and not to include any of these instruments in future agreements;

85. Believes that the EU’s decarbonisation strategy must include the promotion of peace and an end to the military-industrial complex; underlines that the military-industrial complex constitutes a major source of environmental pollution on the planet, and that

the energy bill of war far exceeds that of several other human activities; calls for security and defence budgets to be siphoned off for climate action;

86. Recalls that the military industry is one of the major sources of environmental pollution on the planet; denounces the Commission's contradictions in adopting a green rhetoric while promoting military escalation in the EU; urges the Commission and the Council to refrain from directing financial resources to military expenses, to immediately stop the ongoing arms race and to allocate those resources to environmental and social areas;
87. Urges the Commission to ensure that significant and measurable outcomes are produced when environmental goals are integrated into sectoral policies; calls for public budgets, private investments and financial markets to be reoriented towards promoting sustainability transitions; urges the Commission and the Member States to develop and adopt means to measure society's progress towards sustainability that go beyond GDP and take into account the wellbeing of people, animals and the planet, using a dashboard of indicators;
88. Calls on the Commission to make these diverse policy areas work together to allow for the transformative change across Europe needed for implementing the long-term vision of 'living well, within the limits of our planet'; hopes that implementing the much-needed European Green Deal brings systemic policy frameworks with binding targets while engaging all stakeholders;
89. Denounces any rhetoric on the need to 'cut red tape' and 'reduce administrative burdens' with a view to hindering the much-needed legislative changes; rejects the concept of 'one in one out'; stresses that truly better regulation can only be achieved by creating a fair and just balance between the possibility for input and participation from civil society, science and industry; calls for full democracy and transparency throughout all stages of policy-making and the drafting and negotiation of policies and legislation, including within the Council and throughout the entire comitology process; believes that there is an urgent need for all levels of government and governance to grant active access to documents; welcomes the fact that consideration has been given to revising the Aarhus Regulation; stresses that full access to documents and courts is essential in order to enable citizens to monitor and help enforce policy and legislation;
90. Is of the opinion that implementation legislation should be the cornerstone of EU and national policies; urges the Member States to strengthen the implementation of environmental policies to achieve their full benefits; emphasises that environmental and climate targets will not be met without more effective implementation and funding of existing measures in all European environmental policies; calls on the Commission to take action where needed to ensure full implementation of EU environmental legislation;

The EU in the international sphere

91. Acknowledges that the burden of the climate crisis is already, and will continue to be, overwhelmingly on the countries of the Global South, that the countries of the Global South are more vulnerable to the negative effects of climate change than the Global North, that they are already experiencing losses and damage, that they are less able to adapt, and that the countries of the Global South have contributed to the climate crisis

considerably less than the Global North; calls for the Commission and the Member States to show true solidarity with the Global South and to recognise and act on its historical responsibility and climate debt;

92. Considers the Paris Agreement to be under threat owing to the negative impact of right-wing forces globally, and considers COP26 to be a crucial moment that will either undermine or reinforce the integrity of the Paris Agreement; believes that the EU must do its utmost to secure the integrity of the Paris Agreement and that this must be a fundamental part of the European Green Deal;
93. Strongly deplores the outcomes of COP25 in Madrid, Spain, hosted under the Chilean presidency, and notes with concern the lack of progress made at these high-level talks; urges the Council and the Commission, as well as the Member States, to actively engage with other Parties to the Paris Agreement throughout the year to ensure positive and ambitious outcomes at COP26 in Glasgow and to avoid a repeat of COP25;
94. Strongly believes that the Sustainable Development Goals must be an integral part of the ecological transition and that the European Green Deal must aim to achieve these goals in their entirety and adopt a rights-based approach to climate action;
95. Believes that international economic relations must be mutually beneficial, rejecting all forms of neo-colonialism and guaranteeing socio-economic rights for all; underlines that the EU and its Member States must engage with third parties actively and in the spirit of sincere partnerships; rejects all forms of neo-colonialism, which subject the Global South to the control or influence of other countries and encroach on the sovereignty of these states; urges the EU and its Member States to put the climate and biodiversity crises at the top of the agendas of all international forums, including the G7 and G20;
96. Warmly welcomes the global climate movements, such as the Fridays for Future movement, which are bringing the climate crisis to the forefront of public debate and consciousness; believes that activism and protests are an essential part of this transition; insists on the need for national and regional parliaments with legislative powers, trade unions, NGOs, civil society and citizens to be fully involved in the drawing up and implementation of the European Green Deal;
97. Notes with deep concern that 100 companies worldwide are responsible for 71 % of global emissions; reiterates the responsibility of companies to decarbonise their activities; calls on the Commission to bring forward a proposal for a corporate duty of vigilance entailing the liability of parent companies for environmental damage and labour and human rights violations occurring in their global value chains;
98. Believes that it is of the utmost importance that the EU acknowledge its climate debt and its historical responsibility to decarbonise faster, acknowledging the different starting points among its Member States; calls for the EU to replenish climate funds internationally and show global leadership in the funding; calls on the Commission and the Council to support developing countries in their calls for loss and damage compensation and to actively endorse a financial system of international solidarity;
99. Calls on the Commission to present a comprehensive carbon border adjustment

mechanism that is based only on climate, environmental and animal welfare criteria and ILO-assessed labour conditions to support local production, fair prices and short supply chains and to discourage the consumption of products that have travelled long distances; calls for a corporate duty of vigilance and binding ecological labour and social norms to be incorporated throughout the value chain; calls on the Commission to make stopping deforestation outside the EU a top priority, starting with regulatory measures tackling deforestation down supply chains and to use the carbon border adjustment mechanism accordingly;

100. Calls for the EU to endorse and advocate for the establishment of a ‘climate refugee’ status, including an international definition of climate asylum, and to advocate for the recognition of the international crime of ecocide and a global convention for the phasing out of fossil fuels;
101. Considers the EU-China summit in Leipzig to be a key opportunity to consolidate ambitious global climate leadership between China and the EU; looks forward to ambitious outcomes at the Kunming Biodiversity Conference and expects it to interlink with ambitious climate adaptation and mitigation strategies worldwide;
102. Strongly encourages other major economies to increase their NDCs and implement concrete measures in line with their NDCs; believes that the best signal to send to the international community is to lead by example and adopt an ambitious NDC, and also to give support to the Global South so that they can reach ambitious mitigation targets;
103. Calls on national and regional parliaments with legislative powers, trade unions, NGOs, civil society and citizens to ensure that the Council, the Commission and governments abide by their obligations under the Paris Agreement and fully deliver the European Green Deal;

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104. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, and the governments and parliaments of the Member States.