



**2021/0200(COD)**

16.11.2021

## **DRAFT OPINION**

of the Committee on Regional Development

for the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) 2018/842 on binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions by Member States from 2021 to 2030 contributing to climate action to meet commitments under the Paris Agreement (COM(2021)0555 – C9-0321/2021 – 2021/0200(COD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Vlad-Marius Botoș

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## **SHORT JUSTIFICATION**

The Paris Agreement emphasizes the imperative need to take action to fight climate change, and to reduce the dramatic impact on the life on earth and on the future of mankind. The European Union is committed to lead by example and adapt to an environmentally-friendly approach in all the sectors of the economy and in all Member States and regions.

The cohesion policies will have to take into account that each region must strive to reach European targets and contribute to achieving climate neutrality by 2050, while also aiming for regional development. The strategies must be adapted, and the cohesion programs must prioritise the solutions to reach the targets, especially in the regions with predominant high polluting economy.

The protection of the environment, and the reduction of the greenhouse gas emissions must be a main objective present in all the development strategies at all levels. The regions need support and technical assistance in achieving their environmental goals in all the polluting sectors from industrial and transport sectors to the domestic and social ones. The reduction of the greenhouse gas emissions will only be possible with the help and the commitment of all society, including the domestic polluters.

The targets set out at the European and national levels must be realistic, achievable and backed up by accurate data. The national inventory of data needs to be corroborated with the data accumulated at the European and international level by different scientific bodies and agencies. This will contribute to better measurements, especially for the cross-border areas, in order to set out realistic targets and paths for the development and cohesion strategies at the regional level taking into account the specificities of all regions, for the efforts to reduce energy poverty and for the need to leave no one behind.

Climate ambition must go hand-in-hand with cohesion policies and the social and economic development of all regions in the European Union including the less developed and the outermost regions.

## **AMENDMENTS**

The Committee on Regional Development calls on the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, as the committee responsible, to take into account the following amendments:

## Amendment 1

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(3) The European Green Deal<sup>31</sup> combines a comprehensive set of mutually reinforcing measures and initiatives aimed at achieving climate neutrality in the Union by 2050, and sets out a new growth strategy that aims to transform the Union into a fair and prosperous society, with a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy, where economic growth is decoupled from resource use. It also aims to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital, and protect the health and well-being of citizens from environment-related risks and impacts. At the same time, this transition affects women and men differently and has a particular impact on some disadvantaged groups, such as older people, persons with disabilities and persons with a minority racial or ethnic background. It must therefore be ensured that the transition is just and inclusive, leaving no one behind.

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<sup>31</sup> Commission Communication - The European Green Deal, COM(2019) 640 final of 11 December 2019.

*Amendment*

(3) The European Green Deal<sup>31</sup> combines a comprehensive set of mutually reinforcing measures and initiatives aimed at achieving climate neutrality in the Union by 2050, and sets out a new growth strategy that aims to transform the Union into a fair and prosperous society, with a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy, where economic growth is decoupled from resource use. It also aims to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital, and protect the health and well-being of citizens from environment-related risks and impacts. At the same time, this transition affects women and men differently and has a particular impact on some disadvantaged groups, such as older people, persons with disabilities and persons with a minority racial or ethnic background. It must therefore be ensured that the transition is just and inclusive, ***and takes into account the regions, industries and domestic sector which will face the greatest challenges***, leaving no one behind.

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<sup>31</sup> Commission Communication - The European Green Deal, COM(2019) 640 final of 11 December 2019.

Or. en

## Amendment 2

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 5

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(5) In order to implement those commitments as well as the Union's

*Amendment*

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contributions under the Paris Agreement<sup>33</sup> adopted under the UNFCCC, the Union regulatory framework to achieve the greenhouse gas emission reduction target should be adapted.

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<sup>33</sup> Paris Agreement (OJ L 282, 19.10.2016, p. 4).

contributions under the Paris Agreement<sup>33</sup> adopted under the UNFCCC, the Union regulatory framework to achieve the greenhouse gas emission reduction target should be adapted *as well as the development strategies at national, regional and local level taking into account the importance of the domestic energy efficiency and independence.*

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<sup>33</sup> Paris Agreement (OJ L 282, 19.10.2016, p. 4).

Or. en

### Amendment 3

#### Proposal for a regulation

##### Recital 7

###### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(7) While emissions trading will also apply to greenhouse gas emissions from road and maritime transport as well as buildings, the scope of Regulation (EU) 2018/842 will be maintained. Regulation (EU) 2018/842 will therefore continue applying to the greenhouse gas emissions from domestic navigation, but not to those from international navigation. Greenhouse gas emissions of a Member State within the scope of Regulation (EU) 2018/842 to be taken into account for compliance checks will continue to be determined upon completion of inventory reviews in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and the Council<sup>34</sup>.

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<sup>34</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action, amending Regulations (EC) No 663/2009

###### *Amendment*

(7) While emissions trading will also apply to greenhouse gas emissions from road and maritime transport as well as buildings, the scope of Regulation (EU) 2018/842 will be maintained. Regulation (EU) 2018/842 will therefore continue applying to the greenhouse gas emissions from domestic navigation, but not to those from international navigation. Greenhouse gas emissions of a Member State within the scope of Regulation (EU) 2018/842 to be taken into account for compliance checks will continue to be determined upon completion of inventory reviews in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and the Council<sup>34</sup> ***corroborated with the most recent available data at the Union and international level.***

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<sup>34</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action, amending Regulations (EC) No 663/2009

and (EC) No 715/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Directives 94/22/EC, 98/70/EC, 2009/31/EC, 2009/73/EC, 2010/31/EU, 2012/27/EU and 2013/30/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Directives 2009/119/EC and (EU) 2015/652 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 328, 21.12.2018, p. 1).

and (EC) No 715/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Directives 94/22/EC, 98/70/EC, 2009/31/EC, 2009/73/EC, 2010/31/EU, 2012/27/EU and 2013/30/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Directives 2009/119/EC and (EU) 2015/652 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 328, 21.12.2018, p. 1).

Or. en

#### Amendment 4

##### Proposal for a regulation Recital 11 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(11a) The development strategies at national, regional and local level need to be adapted as well in order to achieve the targets set out in the Green Deal and in the Paris Agreement, to include clear, measurable objectives taking into account the specificities of the regions and the development needs, aiming at reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in all regions in order to contribute to the achievement of the targets but also to increasing of the quality of the environment all over the Union.***

Or. en

#### Amendment 5

##### Proposal for a regulation Recital 13 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(13a) If an adjustment is needed the Member State should adapt its development strategies at all levels accordingly taking into account the specificities and the development needs of every region and also adapt the***

*programming of the cohesion funds. The Commission should assess the objectives related to the reduction of the greenhouse gas emissions and ensure technical assistance in setting measurable objectives, revising the development strategies and establishing the optimal path to achieve those objectives where needed, especially for the regions with intensive polluting industries in order to ensure the targets are achieved by each Member State.*

Or. en

## **Amendment 6**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 14**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(14) It is therefore appropriate to update in 2025 the annual emission allocations for the years 2026 to 2030. This should be based on a comprehensive review of the national inventory data carried out by the Commission in order to determine the average of the greenhouse gas emissions of each Member State during the years 2021, 2022 and 2023.

##### *Amendment*

(14) It is therefore appropriate to update in 2025 the annual emission allocations for the years 2026 to 2030. This should be based on a comprehensive review of the national inventory data ***corroborated with the most recent available data at the Union and international level*** carried out by the Commission in order to determine the average of the greenhouse gas emissions of each Member State during the years 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Or. en

## **Amendment 7**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 3**

Regulation (EU) 2018/842

Article 4 – paragraph 3 – subparagraph 2

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

For the years 2021 and 2022, it shall determine the annual emission allocations based on a comprehensive review of the most recent national inventory data for the

##### *Amendment*

For the years 2021 and 2022, it shall determine the annual emission allocations based on a comprehensive review of the most recent national inventory data for the

years 2005 and 2016 to 2018 submitted by the Member States pursuant to Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 and indicate the value for the 2005 greenhouse gas emissions of each Member State used to determine those annual emission allocations.

years 2005 and 2016 to 2018 submitted by the Member States pursuant to Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 ***corroborated with the most recent available data at the Union and international level*** and indicate the value for the 2005 greenhouse gas emissions of each Member State used to determine those annual emission allocations.

Or. en

## **Amendment 8**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 3**

Regulation (EU) 2018/842

Article 4 – paragraph 3 – subparagraph 3

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

For the years 2023, 2024 and 2025, it shall determine the annual emission allocations based on the value for the 2005 greenhouse gas emissions of each Member State indicated pursuant to the second subparagraph and the reviewed values of the national inventory data for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018 referred to in the second subparagraph.

#### *Amendment*

For the years 2023, 2024 and 2025, it shall determine the annual emission allocations based on the value for the 2005 greenhouse gas emissions of each Member State indicated pursuant to the second subparagraph ***corroborated with the most recent available data at the Union and international level*** and the reviewed values of the national inventory data for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018 referred to in the second subparagraph.

Or. en

## **Amendment 9**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 3**

Regulation (EU) 2018/842

Article 4 – paragraph 3 – subparagraph 4

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

For the years 2026 to 2030, it shall determine the annual emission allocations based on the value for the 2005 greenhouse gas emissions of each Member State indicated pursuant to the second

#### *Amendment*

For the years 2026 to 2030, it shall determine the annual emission allocations based on the value for the 2005 greenhouse gas emissions of each Member State indicated pursuant to the second



subparagraph and on a comprehensive review of the most recent national inventory data for the years 2021, 2022 and 2023 submitted by the Member States pursuant to Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999.

subparagraph and on a comprehensive review of the most recent national inventory data for the years 2021, 2022 and 2023 submitted by the Member States pursuant to Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 ***corroborated with the most recent available data at the Union and international level.***

Or. en

## **Amendment 10**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 3**

Regulation (EU) 2018/842

Article 4 – paragraph 3 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***3a. Where the Member States have exceeded the annual emission allocations for three years the Commission shall ensure technical assistance in setting the objectives and measurable targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, adapting the development strategies and establishing paths to achieve those objectives in particular for the regions with intensive polluting industries and domestic sector ensuring that the transition is just and inclusive, reduces the energy poverty and leaves no one behind.***

Or. en

## **Amendment 11**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 7**

Regulation (EU) 2018/842

Article 11a – paragraph 4 – point d a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(da) the Member State has implemented the adapted development***

*strategies under Article 4 paragraph 3a.*

Or. en