



2019/2544(RSP)

30.1.2019

DRAFT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to Questions for Oral Answer B8-0000/2019 and B8-0000/2019

pursuant to Rule 128(5) of the Rules of Procedure

on a European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive
and climate neutral economy
(2019/2544(RSP))

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on behalf of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

European Parliament resolution on a European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate neutral economy (2019/2544(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Communication from the Commission ‘A Clean Planet for all - A European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern competitive and climate neutral economy’ (COM(2018)773)¹,
 - having regard to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol thereto,
 - having regard to the Paris Agreement, Decision 1/CP.21, to the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) to the UNFCCC and to the 11th Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP11), held in Paris, France, from 30 November to 11 December 2015,
 - having regard to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),
 - having regard to its resolution of 25 October 2018 on the 2018 UN Climate Change Conference in Katowice, Poland (COP24)²,
 - having regard to the Clean Energy Package,
 - having regard to the questions to the Council and to the Commission on a European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate neutral economy (O-000000/2019 – B8-0000/2019 and O-000000/2019 – B8-0000/2019),
 - having regard to the motion for a resolution of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy,
 - having regard to Rules 128(5) and 123(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
1. Welcomes the Commission Communication on the 2050 long-term strategy “A Clean Planet for all”, which underlines the opportunities and challenges that the transformation towards a net-zero greenhouse gas economy brings to European citizens and Europe’s economy, and sets the basis for a wide debate involving EU institutions, national parliaments, the business sector, non-governmental organisations, cities and communities, as well as citizens;

¹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions and the European Investment Bank A Clean Planet for all A European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate neutral economy adopted on 28 November 2018, COM(2018)773.

² Texts adopted, P8_TA-PROV(2018)0430.

2. Believes that Europe can lead the way to climate neutrality by investing into innovative technological solutions, empowering citizens, and aligning action in key areas such as energy, industrial policy and research, while ensuring social fairness for a just transition;
3. Agrees with the strategic areas identified by the Commission where joint action is required and supports energy efficiency, the deployment of renewables and the global competitiveness of the EU industry;
4. Stresses the importance of the various climate measures and legislation taken in different policy domains, but warns that a scattered approach might lead to inconsistencies and not lead to the EU achieving a net-zero greenhouse gas economy by 2050; believes that an overarching approach needs to be taken;
5. Agrees with the goal of the EU to achieve a net-zero greenhouse gas economy by 2050 as set out in the Communication from the Commission; asks the Member States to agree on a strategy to achieve this goal at the special EU summit in Sibiu in May 2019, and calls on the Member States to commit to the required ambition in order to achieve this goal;

Energy policy

6. Highlights the central role of energy in the transition towards a net-zero greenhouse gas economy;
7. Recalls that the Union has managed to successfully decouple greenhouse gas emissions from economic growth for the past decades and has reduced emissions, particularly through energy efficiency and the penetration of renewables;
8. Stresses that the clean energy transition should continue to spur the modernisation of the European economy, to drive sustainable economic growth and to bring societal and environmental benefits for European citizens;
9. Believes that EU leadership in renewable energy and energy efficiency demonstrates to other parts of the world that the clean energy transition is both possible and beneficial beyond the fight against climate change;
10. Points out that achieving a net-zero greenhouse gas economy will require considerable additional investments in the EU's energy system and related infrastructure compared to today's baseline, in the range of EUR 175 to 290 billion a year;
11. Stresses that, given the different starting points of the energy transition, the greenhouse gas reduction efforts in order to achieve climate neutrality at the EU level may be spread unevenly across the EU;

12. Calls on Member States to implement the Clean Energy Package without delay; recalls the Member States' competence to decide on their energy mix within the EU climate and energy framework;
13. Considers that technology developments and solutions, energy efficiency, sustainable renewable energy and the full integration of the internal energy market will be key;
14. Underlines the need for an anticipatory approach to ensure a just transition for EU citizens and to support regions whose economies depend on activities linked to sectors or technologies that are expected to decline or will have to transform in the future;
15. Calls all levels of government, national, regional and local, to put in place measures to encourage the participation of citizens in the energy transition and to stimulate the exchange of best practices;

Industrial policy

16. Reiterates that the transition towards a net-zero greenhouse gas economy presents challenges and opportunities for the EU, and that investments in industrial innovation, including digital technologies, and clean technology will be needed to spur growth and strengthen competitiveness, boost future skills and create millions of jobs, for example in a growing circular economy and bio-economy;
17. Believes that economic prosperity, global industrial competitiveness and climate policy are mutually reinforcing;
18. Underlines that a stable and predictable energy and climate policy framework is key to provide much needed investor confidence and to enable European industries to make long-term investment decisions in Europe, since most industrial installations' lifetime exceeds 20 years;

Research and innovation

19. Underlines that Union and national research and innovation programmes are crucial to support the European Union in its leading role in the fight against climate change;
20. Believes that climate mainstreaming should be adequately integrated in the preparation and implementation of research and innovation programmes;
21. Draws attention to the report of the High-Level Panel on Decarbonisation Pathways (HLP)¹ on the role of research and innovation in achieving the objectives of the Paris Agreement while putting the EU at a competitive advantage in the decarbonisation race; notes the set of thematic and cross cutting recommendations produced by the HLP, in particular for the orientation of the new EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation 2021-2027, Horizon Europe;

¹ Final Report of the High-Level Panel of the European Decarbonisation Pathways Initiative, European Commission Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, November 2018.

22. Considers that a substantial research and innovation effort is needed within the next two decades to make low and zero-carbon solutions available to all and socially and economically viable and bring about new solutions for achieving a net-zero greenhouse gas economy;
23. Underlines the EP Position on Horizon Europe to contribute at least 35% of its expenditures supporting climate objectives as appropriate and as part of the general Union objective of mainstreaming climate actions;
24. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States.