

CEEP (European Centre of Employers and Enterprises providing Public Services and Services of General Interest)

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Organisation

CEEP (European Centre of Employers and Enterprises providing Public Services and Services of General Interest)

Organisation size

Micro (1 to 9 employees)

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Country of origin

Belgium

Initiative

[Strategy for long-term EU greenhouse gas emissions reductions](#)

CEEP gathers members from the whole economy, including sectors such as health, transport, communications, environment, waste, water, education, housing, local administration and, of course, energy. This last one is on the front line when addressing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction. But as the EU action is impacting the whole economy, and seen the broad actions required to reduce substantially greenhouse gas emissions, all CEEP members are concerned and can bring their expertise in that debate.

Reducing the EU GHG emissions is more than a goal: it is an obligation. This pledge to reduce GHG in Europe materialized by the commitment undertaken in Paris in 2015 and the adoption of the Clean Energy Package.

CEEP members, including both large companies and local public services enterprises, are daily actors of the energy transition. We would like to share 5 main messages:

1. As one of the EU cross-industry social partner, CEEP underlines that, together with digitalization, the energy transition is a revolution for companies and employees, and must be just. 'Just transition' means, among others, that any compulsory closure of industrial installations before the end of their economic life implies accompanying companies, workers and territories. For instance, specific training for adults would benefit to workers, employers and the whole society. European regional policy should facilitate the transition of strongly impacted territories.
2. Competitiveness is included in the 5th dimension of the Energy Union. For this reason, CEEP pleads for a long-term strategy where all decarbonization technologies compete on an equal level-playing field. Public financing must be deployed in line with that principle.
3. The recent Clean Energy Package and the revision of the ETS directive happened at different moments, leading to overlaps between the EU climate and the energy policies. CEEP calls for a realignment of those two policies within the Strategy for long-term EU greenhouse gas emissions reductions, especially by giving to carbon an efficient and predictable market price.
4. Electricity covers about 22% of the EU energy needs, with a maximum of 35 % in Sweden who is a leader in low-carbon electricity in Europe. These figures show that there is a lot of room in Europe to increase decarbonized energy based on decarbonized electricity. Going higher than 35 % is likely in the long-term with, among others, the electrification of (light) vehicles. Combining a significant step forward in electrification with deep decarbonisation of electricity must be an objective, and can be achieved in a

cost-effectively way, especially with the recent decrease of costs of renewables and batteries.

5. Finally, with the growing share of dispersed low-cost generation, CEEP insists on the roles of local actors, especially towns and local authorities, in the energy transition. They are in the best place to combine advantageously district heating, gas and electricity systems and take advantage of all new decarbonization technologies.

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