An open call to EU governments and the European Parliament to ensure all new cars and vans in Europe are zero emission from 2035

Policies put in place in the next few years will decide whether the world has a fighting chance to curb climate change. In the EU, the "Fit for 55" climate package will determine whether Europe is on track to reach net zero emissions by 2050 and fulfil its obligations under the Paris Agreement. It will also determine the future of one of the largest sources of greenhouse gases and air pollution on the continent — cars and vans.

Together, passenger cars and light commercial vehicles are responsible for 15% of all Europe's CO2 emissions. **To enable all cars and vans on the road to reach zero emissions by 2050, the last car with any combustion engine, including hybrids, should be sold no later than 2035.** Cars and vans are also the single largest source of nitrogen dioxide pollution, which EEA estimates to cause over 40,000 premature deaths in Europe every year[1].

The solution to both climate damage and dangerous air pollution is readily available. Electric vehicles offer the opportunity to cost-effectively replace the polluting internal combustion engine (ICE) and usher in a new era of zero emission mobility. Manufacturing and demand for electric cars is rapidly growing: every fifth car sold across the EU in 2021 had a plug.

Over a dozen car brands[2] have voluntarily pledged to only sell electric cars in Europe in the next decade. We need European decision-makers to recognise this ambition but ensure laggards don't delay the market shift. The European Commission has recognised this and proposed, via the review of the EU car and van CO2 emissions regulation, that only zero emission new cars and vans can be sold EU-wide from 2035. This is also in line with the global industry goal[3] in leading markets as agreed at COP26.

As Members of the European Parliament and representatives of European governments, the proposals are now in your hands as you decide how fast an emissions-free revolution will happen in Europe.

We call on you to put in place an EU-wide phase-out for sales of new internal combustion engine passenger cars and vans (including hybrids) no later than 2035. This should be enshrined into legislation by setting the 2035 fleet-wide CO_2 target at 0 gram CO_2/km for vehicle manufacturers.

This will set in motion an urgently needed systemic transformation and make Europe a global leader in a key industry for a net zero future. To be successful, this will also require a package of measures, notably support for faster and better roll-out of public and private **charging**

[1] EEA, (2021, 12, 01) Air Pollution: how it affects our health.
[2] T&E, summary of OEM public announcements, https://infogram.com/test-1h7g6k0kegdno2o?live
[3] The Glasgow Declaration on Zero Emissions Vehicles

infrastructure with a European right to plug[4] **and ambitious mandatory targets on public charging**[5], a **just transition framework** for Europe's automotive workers and businesses affected, **smart tax incentives** for companies and individuals and targeted **investments** into green supply chains.

We call on you to show leadership on climate change and industrial vision. The Fitfor55 climate package is a once in a decade opportunity to set Europe on track to zero emissions that you as decision-makers of this generation cannot waste.



[4] https://www.transportenvironment.org/discover/give-europeans-a-right-to-plug-at-home-and-work-say-te-and-acea/
[5] https://www.acea.auto/files/Joint_AFID_letter_ACEA_BEUC_TE.pdf


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