

# What future for *the Green Deal* for Europe and its citizens?

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In line with the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement (limiting the global average temperature increase to 1.5 °C), the European Commission launched the "European Green Deal" (EGD) at the end of 2019. This cross-cutting, multi-sectoral road map is designed to make the European Union the first climate-neutral continent by 2050. However, on the eve of the European elections, the EGD is faced with a number of factors that call into question its environmental ambitions: tense negotiations between farmers and the EU, demands from businesses for greater adaptation to their needs, the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, trade tensions with China and the United States, and budgetary rigour. Finally, the very principle of the Green Deal is becoming uncertain, as the consensus of 2019 in favour of the ecological transition could be succeeded by deeper political divisions between European parliamentary groups after the European elections.



43%

**of Green Deal texts adopted and 21% in triologue**

In the light of these concerns, the ESEC wishes to draw attention to the progress made under the Green Deal, which affects the day-to-day lives of EU citizens, particularly in the areas of housing and transport. The Deal is also a driving force behind the strategic autonomy of the EU, which has major assets at its disposal to reconcile environmental transformation with international competitiveness. In the face of climate disruption, the objectives of the Green Deal are not called into question: but the way in which it is deployed, for a just transition (pace, method, resources and social support), is at the heart of the debates.

## *How can the future of the European Green Deal be secured?*

The ESEC has studied the conditions that will make the Green Deal sustainable over the next European legislature and has put forward 19 recommendations for its development designed to:

- take better account of the concerns and expectations of the stakeholders concerned, as well as the economic and social context (simplifying the administrative burden and legal complexity).
- promote greater social acceptance of the EGD by organising democratic debates bringing together economic and social players and local authorities, as well as accompanying measures.



50%

**of Europeans believe that the EU is doing enough to ensure a balanced ecological transition**



## 1 CONSOLIDATING THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL

**Make the EU the first climate-neutral continent by 2050** (in line with the Paris Agreement)

*How?* By pursuing the global and effective implementation of the 8 objectives of the EGD and by integrating the need for adaptations (pace, method, means and social support), by re-examining the texts that have remained pending/deferred in the light of scientific knowledge and the EU's international obligations, in order to make better decisions.

## 2 BETTER INFORMATION FOR GREATER ACCEPTANCE OF THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL

**Implement the institutionalisation of citizen participation processes (Agora, convention, etc.) and organise in the parliaments of each EU country:**

- **a presentation on the progress of the Green Deal, followed by a debate with stakeholders and civil society.**
- **social conferences to build strategies for transformation that are operational and effective, addressing the issues of jobs, skills and the attractiveness of professions.**

*Why?* To improve information through greater participation and mobilisation of the public.

## 3 FINANCING THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL

**Urgently and collectively define a clear strategy for the funding available in line with the priorities set** (support for a just transition, development of the European social progress model)

*Why?* To make the various European budgetary instruments easier to understand and facilitate their management by the Union and their appropriation by beneficiaries.

## 4 SUPPORTING TRANSITIONS

**Establish a shared definition of the national and European ways and means, particularly budgetary, to achieve this just transition and thus improve its level of acceptability.** *Why?* Because the resources allocated to support the just transition are not equal to the challenges at hand.

## 5 ASSERTING A "EUROPEAN POWER" TO PROMOTE THE EGD INTERNATIONALLY: GREEN DIPLOMACY, OPEN STRATEGIC AUTONOMY, NEW FORMS OF REGULATION, ETC.

**Evaluate new regulations in force** (Border Carbon Adjustment Mechanism, imported deforestation, etc.)

*Why?* In order to analyse the conditions for checking imported products and their traceability, and to determine whether the resources and staff deployed are capable of carrying out the necessary checks.

### THE RAPPORTEURS

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