

## Press release

**Embargoed: 00.01 Monday, 16th May 2022**

### **Power to the roofs: Repowering Europe through rooftop Solar PV**

- *New report compares European countries' policies and practices in regards to residential rooftop solar PV and reveals the lack of a right regulatory framework and many barriers that are hindering their progress.*
- *The upcoming EU Solar Energy Strategy and the announced European Solar Rooftops Initiative need to provide direction for member states to accelerate their rollout of rooftop solar PV.*
- *Member states need to take immediate action that will enable an accelerated deployment of rooftop solar PV while at the same time developing a clear and ambitious strategy, supported by a thorough analysis, that will secure a continuous rollout .*

Brussels, 16 May 2022 - The new [Rooftop Solar PV Comparison Report](#) produced by CAN Europe, with contributions from its members, reveals the lack of clear policies and regulatory framework for rooftop solar PV expansion and the administrative, political, and economic barriers that are blocking the path to a just and renewable energy future where citizens and communities are active players.

The report determines each of the countries' performances by examining six key areas in relation to the deployment of rooftop solar PV: governance, incentives & support schemes, permitting procedures, energy sharing & collective self-consumption, energy communities and additional measures to support a much higher uptake of residential rooftop solar PV among their citizens and local communities. While countries performed well in some of these areas, overall, no country did exceedingly good, and there is major room for improvement in each of the countries.

"There is strong public demand within EU countries to embrace a rooftop solar PV 'revolution'. As national governments are now scrambling to secure alternative energy sources, it is the opportune moment for them to engage with citizens and local communities in this energy transition. The cost- competitiveness and accessibility of rooftop solar PV makes it an invaluable solution to the current fossil fuel crisis and governments need to work to resolve any barriers for us to see solar PV being installed on rooftops across Europe and gas valves turned off," said CAN Europe's Director, Chiara Martinelli.

The upcoming 'REPowerEU' package and the EU Solar Energy Strategy is a pivotal moment for the Commission to give clear direction towards a major expansion of solar energy throughout Europe in the context of the war in Ukraine, the fossil fuel crisis and the current climate emergency. In the short-term, Member States need to begin immediately rolling out solar panels for rooftops while in parallel, putting together a clear road map with ambitious targets that are underpinned by continuous and thorough assessments.

“Europe can and must achieve an annual growth of at least 5 million new rooftop solar PV in 2025. The ball is in Member States’ court now to massively increase the uptake of rooftop Solar PV. Improving policy and regulatory frameworks and establishing the right support mechanisms and incentives will be the first major steps in the solar rooftop revolution. This will enable citizens and communities to fully engage in the energy transition”. said CAN Europe’s EU Energy Policy Expert Veerle Dossche.

- ENDS -

**Notes to the Editor:**

The Rooftop Solar PV Comparison Report produced by CAN Europe and its member organisations aims to detect barriers at national level that impede a higher uptake of residential rooftop solar PVs, highlight best and bad practices, and to put forward concrete policy recommendations for setting up the right regulatory framework to ensure an accelerated uptake of rooftop solar PV.

11 countries were chosen to be assessed and scored on their performance regarding the development of rooftop Solar PV within their country. These countries were Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Bulgaria, Romania, Latvia, Lithuania, Greece and Sweden.

For the full report, please follow this link:

<https://caneurope.org/rooftop-solar-pv-country-comparison-report/>

The list of country profiles:

<https://caneurope.org/rooftop-solar-pv-comparison-country-profiles/>

For CAN Europe’s briefing ahead of ‘REPowerEU’ “Repowering for the people. Flagship actions the Commission’s plan ‘REPowerEU’ should feature in the current fossil fuel and energy prices crisis” :

<https://caneurope.org/content/uploads/2022/05/Repower-for-the-People-Briefing-2.pdf>

For our Joint NGO statement on protecting nature and fighting climate change must go hand in hand: <https://caneurope.org/joint-statement-on-biodiversity-and-energy-transition/>

**Media Contact:**

James O’Connor, CAN Europe Communications Coordinator,  
[James.OConnor@caneurope.org](mailto:James.OConnor@caneurope.org)