



Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe is Europe's leading NGO coalition fighting dangerous climate change. With 200 member organisations active in 40 European countries, representing over 1,700 NGOs and more than 40 million citizens, CAN Europe promotes sustainable climate, energy and development policies throughout Europe.

12 June 2025

Council Conclusions on Energy Security – No to an energy omnibus and the specific reference to the Methane Regulation

Dear Minister,

We, the undersigned civil society organisations, are writing to express our deep concern regarding the current discussions in the Council on the inclusion of the 'energy acquis' into the "Omnibus Programme" and the explicit mention of the **Methane Regulation as a target for simplification**.

The current tendency to 'simplify' agreed legislation via omnibus procedures is very worrying, as **the line between reducing administrative burden through simplification and outright deregulation is extremely thin**. Any changes to EU legislation must follow established democratic procedures, including comprehensive impact assessments, meaningful stakeholder consultations, and robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to ensure transparency and accountability – this is the essence of the **recent inquiry opened by the EU Ombudsman**.¹ Re-opening legislation before even implementing it risks **eroding public confidence in EU institutions and undermining regulatory stability**.

We are particularly alarmed by the **singling out of the Methane Regulation** as it represents the EU's main tool for tackling the second-most significant [climate pollutant](#). The EU has committed to climate neutrality by 2050, and methane abatement is among the [fastest and most cost-effective](#) ways to reduce near-term climate impacts and protect [public health](#). Any specific targeting of the Methane Regulation or related articles risks reopening a hard-negotiated compromise and weakening the recently adopted law.

Delaying or diluting the **import-related provisions** for example would render the regulation toothless, as the EU imports over [90%](#) of its fossil gas and oil. The import framework could also create positive methane abatement impacts on other fossil-fuel-heavy sectors, like petrochemicals manufacturing, and indirectly tackle [human rights violations](#) linked to oil and gas exploitation, especially in countries exporting liquified fossil gas.

Revisiting the Methane Regulation before it's even implemented would undermine investor confidence and generate additional **market and regulatory uncertainty** for [companies who are ready to comply](#). In the current geopolitical context, the EU is rightfully revising its energy security framework, building on the lessons learned from the 2022 energy crisis. From that

¹ Ombudswoman opens [inquiry](#) concerning how Commission prepared a legislative proposal as part of its omnibus package of simplification measures, Friday May 23, 2025

perspective, the Methane Regulation is a crucial element complementing the recently released [EU Roadmap to phase out Russian energy imports](#) to achieve more **gas market transparency**.

The EU is uniquely positioned to cut methane emissions while maintaining a secure and resilient energy system. EU gas demand is [structurally declining](#) – and must continue to decline and [ultimately stop altogether](#) to reach climate goals. With increasing supplier options, the EU will have the ability to prioritise exporters with methane mitigation rules in place, while boosting energy demand reduction and renewable energy deployment as a first priority.

Beyond the Methane Regulation, we are deeply concerned about the rushed, intransparent and undemocratic manner in which the Commission is altering democratically decided legislation. Therefore, we urge you in your capacity as Energy Minister, to oppose any simplification proposal through an “energy omnibus” in general, or by opening up the Methane Regulation specifically.

The integrity of recently adopted climate and energy legislation needs to be guaranteed by focusing on implementation first.

Sincerely,

Chiara Martinelli
Director, Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe

On behalf of:

Global, Regional Network or Umbrella Organisations:

1. Beyond Fossil Fuels
2. CEE - Bankwatch Network
3. Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)
4. Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe
5. Debt Observatory in Globalisation (ODG)
6. Environmental Coalition on Standards (ECOS)
7. European environmental Bureau (EEB)
8. Friend of the Earth Europe
9. Greenpeace
10. Human Rights Watch
11. Oil Change International (OCI)
12. WeMove Europe
13. 350.org

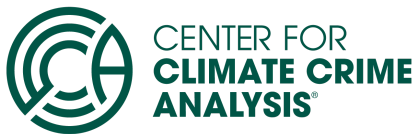
Other Civil Society Organisations and Think Tanks:

14. Advocates for the Future, Netherlands
15. Amici della Terra, Italy

16. Andy Gheorghiu Consulting
17. Association for Promoting Sustainability in Campuses & Communities (APSCC), UNEP Accredited
18. ATTAC Espana, Spain
19. Berliner Wassertisch, Germany
20. Biofuelwatch, UK and USA
21. Bond Beter Leefmilieu, Belgium
22. Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland e. V., Germany
23. Bürgerinitiative gegen CO2-Endlager e.V., Germany
24. 2Celsius, Romania
25. Center for Climate Crime Analysis, Netherlands
26. Center for Transport and Energy (CDE), Czech Republik
27. Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental, A. C. (CEMDA), Mexico
28. Clean Air Action Group, Hungary
29. Connected Advocacy, Nigeria
30. Corporate Europe Observatory (CEO), Belgium
31. DNR, Deutscher Naturschutzring, Germany
32. Deutsche Umwelthilfe (DUH) - Environmental Action Germany
33. Earthworks, USA
34. ECCO Think Tank, Italy
35. ECODES, Spain
36. EKOenergy ecolabel, Finland
37. Ember, USA and EU
38. End Fossil Finance, global campaign
39. Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA), UK
40. Extinction Rebellion Ireland
41. Food and Water Action Europe (FWAE), Belgium and USA
42. Fossielvrij NL, Netherlands
43. Friends of the Earth Ireland
44. Friend of the Earth Malta
45. Fundacja Instytut na rzecz Ekorozwoju, Poland
46. Fundacja "Rozwój TAK - Odkrywki NIE", Poland
47. GegenStrömung / CounterCurrent, Germany
48. Global Witness, UK
49. Global 2000, Friends of the Earth Austria
50. Institute for Governance and Sustainable Development (IGSD), USA
51. InStrat, Poland
52. Just Shift, USA
53. Legambiente, Italy
54. Milieu Defensie, Netherlands
55. National Society of Conservationists - Friends of the Earth Hungary
56. One Planet Port - Port of Rotterdam, Netherlands
57. Polski Klub Ekologiczny Okręg Mazowiecki, Poland
58. Polski Klub Ekologiczny w Krakowie, Koło Miejskie w Gliwicach, Poland
59. Pro grün Paderborn e. V., Germany
60. Razom We Stand, Ukraine
61. Reclaim Finance, France

62. ReCommon, Italy
63. Rinascimento Green, Italy
64. Say No to LNG, global campaign
65. Stowarzyszenie Ekologiczne EKO-UNIA, Poland
66. The Green Tank, Greece
67. The Sunrise Project, Australia
68. Umweltinstitut München e.V., Germany
69. Urgewald, Germany
70. Workshop for All Beings, Poland
71. Youth Ecological and Security Zone- EcoZ (Kosovo)
72. Za Zemiata, Friend of the Earth Bulgaria
73. ZERO - Associação Sistema Terrestre Sustentável, Portugal
74. Związek Stowarzyszeń Polska Zielona Sieć, Poland







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Umweltinstitut
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Za Zemiata
Friends of the Earth Bulgaria

zero.