



To the kind attention of **Herman Van Rompuy**
President of the European Council

Matteo Renzi
Italian Prime Minister

Brussels, 20 October 2014

Dear President,
Dear Prime Minister,

In the coming days the European Council decision on the 2030 climate and energy package will be finalised. Despite a wide understanding of the importance of energy efficiency in delivering European security, prosperity and climate action, this is not yet been turned into a concrete and ambitious political commitment.

A binding energy efficiency target of at least 40% on final energy is a key element for delivering a credible European 2030 climate and energy package.

At a time of competitiveness concerns and fears about the affordability of the package, energy efficiency offers a compelling opportunity to reconcile growth and climate needs. It also has the capacity to address heightened European energy security and resource scarcity concerns.

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Competitiveness: recent Commission analysis shows a strong push for 40% energy savings in 2030 will deliver 4.5% GDP gains compared to only 1% GDP gains if a 30% target is agreed.

Lowering costs of climate action: Cutting greenhouse gases by introducing an ambitious 40% energy efficiency target could cut EU energy costs by as much as €1tr-€2tr during 2020 to 2030.

Reducing gas imports: recent Commission analysis shows that for every 1% increase in the EU energy savings, EU gas imports will fall by 2.6% - underscoring the very significant energy security benefits of a 40% energy efficiency target.

The decisions you take over the shape of the 2030 climate and energy package will determine the future security and prosperity of European citizens for a generation to come.

We urge you to move forward and turn warm words into action by putting in place a binding and ambitious 40% final energy saving target for 2030 - and put Europe on a pathway to truly sustainable growth, security and prosperity.

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