

## Council Failure on 2030 Energy Efficiency Target – a cold decision increasing pressure to bring in strong measures for Buildings

The European Council today adopted its Climate and Energy Package for 2030 and has chosen to go for a **27% indicative Energy Efficiency Target**. It is a **dismal agreement** that falls short of the Commission's unambitious proposal, which was made in July.

EuroACE member companies have systematically called for a **binding 40% Energy Efficiency Target** as this is the proven cost-effective potential for the EU. EuroACE is also convinced that renovating our wasteful, leaky buildings is a key part of our effort on climate and energy policy and it offers the **best solution to Europe's energy crisis**. Companies in the sector have called for **clear policies and long-term targets** in order to provide **market certainty for investments**. The decision of the Heads of State simply does not deliver.

*"This is not good enough!"* said Adrian Joyce, Secretary General of EuroACE *"Despite the numerous studies<sup>1</sup> demonstrating the cost-effective potential of a higher energy efficiency target, the 28 Heads of State shied away from setting a strong Energy Efficiency target. A strong target could have unleashed investment in hard-hit sectors like construction and delivered multiple benefits through reduced energy dependence, a boost to public finances and improved health for EU citizens"*.

The Council conclusions indicate that the Commission will propose **'priority sectors in which significant energy efficiency gains can be reaped and ways to address them'**. Swallowing a high of 40% of all energy consumed in the EU, **buildings should feature as the top priority sector to be addressed in upcoming legislation revision**, namely with Energy Efficiency Directive and the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive.

**Buildings** play a major role in the **EU's energy dependence and high import costs**. A major renovation program, amounting only to a quarter of what Member States currently spent on energy imports (EU Members States collectively spend €1.1bn every day on energy imports), could put Member States on the right track to reduce the energy demand of the building stock in the EU by 80% by 2050.

See EuroACE's Infographics about the Impact of Buildings on Energy Dependence: [www.euroace.org](http://www.euroace.org)

Download the letter EuroACE and other leading building associations addressed to the 28 Heads of State ahead of the European Council: [www.euroace.org](http://www.euroace.org)

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<sup>1</sup> A study by E3Mlab, which also provides the European Commission's central energy modelling, shows that on the contrary a trio of binding targets, 30% energy efficiency, 30% renewable energy share and 40% GHG emission reductions, is in fact no more expensive than a GHG target alone, and delivers much higher energy security, economic and environmental benefits. Another other study, lead by the Fraunhofer ISI, shows that energy efficiency substantially brings down system costs, and thus facilitates higher renewable energy shares. More information: [www.energycoalition.eu](http://www.energycoalition.eu)

## For further information:

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## About EuroACE:

EuroACE represents Europe's leading companies involved with the manufacture, distribution and installation of energy saving goods and services for buildings. EuroACE members employ over 300 000 people and have over 770 production facilities and office locations in the EU. The mission of EuroACE is to work together with the EU institutions to help Europe move towards a more efficient use of energy in buildings, thereby contributing to Europe's commitments on climate change, energy security and economic growth.

Website: [www.euroace.org](http://www.euroace.org)

## About the Renovate Europe Campaign:

Launched in 2011, the Renovate Europe Campaign is an initiative of EuroACE. Its headline ambition is to reduce the energy demand of the EU building stock by 80% by 2050, as compared to 2005 levels.

Website: [www.renovate-europe.eu](http://www.renovate-europe.eu)

EuroACE Members (October 2014) are:

