



COP30 side event

**Ten years after the Paris Agreement:**

*Raising the collective climate ambition as a driver for sustainable prosperity and a just transition*

Wednesday 19 November 2025  
17:00-18:00 (GMT-3) / 21:00-22:00 (CET)  
Finnish Pavilion, Blue Zone

**TEN YEARS AFTER THE PARIS AGREEMENT**

Raising the collective climate ambition as a driver  
for sustainable prosperity and a just transition

**DATE:** 19/11/2025 | 17h00 – 18h00 (GMT-3)

**CO-ORGANISER:** The European Economic and Social Committee and the European Parliament

**BACKGROUND**

Ten years after the signing of the Paris Agreement, global ambition for ecological and climate transition is showing signs of stagnation. Greenhouse gas emissions keep rising while the consequences of global warming — more frequent and more intense extreme weather events and slow-onset events — disproportionately affect vulnerable citizens and communities around the globe.

Furthermore, current geopolitical tensions are undermining the prospects for dynamic and effective multilateralism built over the past decades. The recent withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Agreement illustrates this challenge, and the need to accompany ambitious National Determined Contributions (NDCs) with enabling policies to ensure that decarbonisation and climate goals go hand in hand with industrial growth, job creation, and innovation.

In this context, it is imperative to 1) raise the collective climate ambition in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement; 2) to implement and further strengthen the commitments and actions agreed in the first Global Stocktake and 3) to mobilise climate finance by the public and private sectors towards the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG)

If the world fails to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions with sufficient speed, the resulting impacts will be increasingly severe at human, material, and economic levels, placing mounting pressure on national budgets and public systems. Decisive climate

action is not only an environmental imperative, but also a strong business case helping ensuring long-term competitive advantage and resilience.

## KEY CHALLENGES AND PRIORITIES

Three major challenges stand out in advancing ambitious and effective climate action:

- **Strengthening mitigation efforts** by phasing-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies and by transitioning away from fossil fuels in energy systems, which represents sound investment opportunities in clean energy security.
- **Enhancing public awareness and the important role of local and regional authorities in designing and implementing institutional actions on adaptation to climate change.** Climate adaptation, resilience and preparedness within the EU and globally need to be stepped up at all levels (national, regional, and local) to minimise the negative effects of climate change and biodiversity loss.
- **Advancing just transitions** that leave no one behind, engaging all stakeholders — businesses, trade unions, communities, young people and citizens — in building decarbonized and sustainable futures.

This side event aims to foster a high-level and cross-sectoral dialogue on how to design and implement ambitious climate mitigation and adaptation policies that respond to today's global challenges.

## PARTICIPANTS

The event will bring together distinguished speakers with direct experience and leadership in legislative and policy processes within the European Union. Institutional, trade union, business, and civil society representatives will contribute to a rich debate on how to drive and implement ambitious, inclusive, and effective climate policies.

Draft programme:

Moderator: Teppo Säkkinen, EESC member and Climate expert of the Finnish Chamber of Commerce

- Member of the European Parliament: Chair or Vice-Chair of the COP30 Delegation of the European Parliament.
- Stoyan Tchoukanov, NAT Section president, EESC
- Dimitrios Zevgolis, Head of Multilateral Affairs Unit, Deputy Head of the EU Delegation to the UN Climate Change Convention, DG CLIMA, European Commission
- Stora Enso (tbc)
- Judit Carreras Garcia, Director of Just Transition Institute in Spain