

Joining Forces for the Just Transition



Dear Members of the European Parliament,

Civil society calls for the establishment of a European Parliament Intergroup on the Just Transition

Social Platform and Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe, together with the signatories of this letter, call on the Members of the European Parliament to advocate and vote for a European Parliament Intergroup on the Just Transition. Climate, economic and social policy must no longer be addressed in isolation. The rise of the far-right across Europe, the farmers' protests and the ongoing struggles of the cost-of-living crisis show that people are being left behind and **a meaningful Just Transition must be a priority for the European Parliament.**

The social dimension of the European Green Deal must be reinforced, an objective also reflected in the mission letter of the Commissioner designate for Climate, Net Zero and Clean Growth on strengthening the framework for a social and just transition. An Intergroup on the Just Transition would ensure that the social impact of climate policies on marginalised communities, workers, and provision of services, including social services can be fully identified and addressed. Ignoring these realities is a recipe for poor policy making and will prevent Europe from achieving our social targets, while undermining public support for climate policies in the future. At the same time, insufficient action on climate and environment is hurting the elderly, children, and low-income groups, in addition to regional disparities making already vulnerable groups more exposed to extreme weather events which are becoming more common.

The establishment of an Executive Vice-President for Clean, Just and Competitive Transition is an important step forward in the EU's commitment to a Just Transition. Now, we must ensure that the European Parliament is equipped with the necessary tools towards achieving a meaningful Just Transition.

Why an Intergroup?

A Just Transition Intergroup will act as a cross-party political space that fosters debate and discussion on climate, economic, and social policies that will put Europe back on the path to achieve a Just Transition.

While individual votes on policies will be driven by the work of EMPL, ENVI, ECON, ITRE, AGRI, REGI, BUDG and other relevant committees, **a Just Transition Intergroup will:**

- Help raise awareness about the Just Transition to support the alignment of policies across committees, and the wider work of MEPs.

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- Create space for involving stakeholders, such as civil society organisations, social partners, researchers and other relevant actors, to provide evidence-based expertise on policy priorities and proposals, along the line of the very successful experience with the child rights and LGBTI rights intergroups.
- Share evidence and research that builds a stronger Just Transition, while taking into account the particular needs of marginalised and low-income groups, workers and social services, empowering the work of MEPs.

You can read more about our case for the Just Transition Intergroup, including suggested activities for the intergroup, in [the briefing](#) that we produced together with CAN Europe earlier this year.

Show your support

We urge you to use your influence and advocate for the inclusion of the Just Transition Intergroup in your political group's suggestions for intergroups and to cast your vote in favour of it this December.

If you plan to support an Intergroup on Just Transition, we invite you to register your interest by contacting: Sanna Honkaniemi, Policy and Advocacy Assistant, Social Platform sanna.honkaniemi@socialplatform.org.

Yours sincerely,

Social Platform and CAN Europe

Call supported by:

- *ATD Fourth World*
- *Carbon Market Watch*
- *Caritas Europa*
- *COFACE Families Europe*
- *EAPN Europe*
- *Eco-union*
- *Eurodiaconia*
- *The European Environmental Bureau (EEB)*
- *European Association for the Education of Adults (EAEA)*
- *European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA)*
- *European Roma Grassroots Organisations (ERGO) Network*
- *The European Youth Forum*
- *The International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW) Europe*
- *International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) Europe*
- *Make Mothers Matter*
- *RREUSE*
- *Seas at Risk*
- *SOLIDAR*
- *Volonteuropa*
- *WWF European Policy Office*