



The European Parliament calls for a Fossil Fuel Treaty

PARTNERS COMMUNICATION PACK

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URL to promote: fossilfueltreaty.org/eu

The European Parliament has just formally called on countries to develop a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty, in a resolution outlining its demands for COP27.

We welcome this support for the proposal which comes **on the back of a recent wave of support for the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty from the President of Vanuatu, the President of Timor-Leste, the Foreign Minister of Tuvalu and the Vatican.**

Just three weeks ago, His Excellency President Nikenike Vurobaravu, President of Vanuatu, invited parliaments to join them in developing a Fossil Fuel Treaty at the UN General Assembly – sparking a wave of diplomatic support for the proposal, including now in the European Parliament.

The call adds to the chorus of voices calling for the global energy system to be urgently transformed in the face of many long-term net-zero emissions pledges being “worryingly ambiguous and lack[ing] transparency”. The Treaty reference is complemented by demands to eliminate all direct and indirect fossil fuel subsidies and highlights the importance of international cooperation required to phase out fossil fuels, referring to the initiatives of the Beyond Oil and Gas Alliance, and the Powering Past Coal Alliance.

We call on nation states to join the Vanuatu and the European Parliament in supporting the development of a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty to immediately end expansion of new fossil fuel projects, phase out existing coal, oil and gas production, and manage a global just transition where no country, community or worker is left behind.

We welcome anyone to **use this communication pack to amplify** the call for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty from Vanuatu, the Vatican and now the European Parliament.

In case useful, talking points and social media content are included that can be used or tailored for your region.

Click here for quick access:

- [Key Messages](#)
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- Press release in [English](#), [Spanish](#), [German](#), [Polish](#), [Swedish](#) and [French](#)
- [Quotes](#) (partners can add reaction quotes relevant for media in your region)

Key Messages

- **The European Parliament has just formally called on countries to develop a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty, in a resolution outlining its demands for COP27.** We welcome this.
- **This support comes on the back of a recent wave of support for the just end to the fossil fuel age via the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty from the President of Vanuatu, the President of Timor-Leste, the World Health Organisation, the Foreign Minister of Tuvalu and the Vatican.** Just three weeks ago, His Excellency President Nikenike Vurobaravu, President of Vanuatu, invited governments to join them in developing a Fossil Fuel Treaty at the UN General Assembly – sparking a wave of diplomatic support for the proposal, including now in the European Parliament.
- The proposed Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty has also been backed by the World Health Organisation, the Vatican and 70 cities and subnational governments.
- Despite consistent warnings from climate scientists that emissions must fall dramatically, even without any new fossil fuel expansion there is already more coal, oil and gas under production to take global heating well beyond our global climate target of 1.5°C. Current international climate agreements make no explicit mention of fossil fuels. **The Paris Agreement** sets the benchmark for global climate action through its global temperature goal but **can be complemented by a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty with three pillars:** 1) end expansion of fossil fuel production, 2) phase out existing production in line with 1.5°C, and 3) enable a global just transition for every worker, community and country. In addition to developing a treaty with these pillars, European states must enact them urgently within domestic policy.
- **Many European nations have the capacity to transition away from fossil fuels faster than other countries around the world.** While we appreciate the shorter-term challenges to European energy security posed by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Europe holds greater historical responsibility for climate change than most and therefore must do its fair share in supporting a global just transition – by ending expansion of *any* new fossil fuel projects, rapidly winding down existing production and most importantly supporting nations with less capacity to also transition away from coal, oil and gas. A Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty can provide the missing framework to manage this transition at an international level.
- However **many European nations are doing the exact opposite of what is required, currently they lead a dangerous 'dash for gas' in Africa – pivoting from importing Russian gas to pressuring the African Union to expand gas exports.** Over recent months, European governments, corporations and elites have aimed to capture Africa's resources and convert the continent into Europe's feedstock for fossil fuels. African civil society has vocally opposed these efforts through their [Don't Gas Africa](#) campaign. The European Parliament's resolution should be used to *further pressure* European nation states to act, rather than greenwash all European actors as climate leaders.
- A Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty would also build on the sectoral initiatives – **Beyond Oil and Gas Alliance, and the Powering Past Coal Alliance** – which are being driven by many countries, particularly European governments, and are important stepping-stones towards a full managed phase out of fossil fuels.
- **The push for a Fossil Fuel Treaty to manage a global just transition draws significant lessons from other treaties to manage global threats**, such as nuclear weapons, landmines and chlorofluorocarbons. Each has built momentum with an initial group of 'first mover' countries who have built further diplomatic support on a global scale. Ok

More detail on the resolution

- The European Parliament’s resolutions are not binding on Member States in regards to foreign policy matters, but act as recommendation and **send a message to the governments across Europe that parties from the entire political spectrum are supportive of development of a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.**
- **This is the European Parliament’s formal COP27 resolution.** Beyond calling for states to develop a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty, **the European Parliament has also called for nations to:**
 - “phase out fossil fuels as soon as possible”
 - “halt all new investments in fossil fuel extraction”
 - “urgently end fossil fuel subsidies” including calling on the European Commission and all European Member States to “phase out all direct and indirect fossil fuel subsidies as soon as possible, and by 2025 at the very latest”
 - “progress on the issue of finance to address loss and damage”
 - and “highlights the importance of international cooperation to phase out fossil fuels”
- The resolution also called out the loopholes used by many wealthy nations in Europe and around the world, including the Glasgow Climate Pact’s commitment to accelerate efforts to phase down *unabated* coal power and *inefficient* fossil fuel subsidies. The resolution states “is concerned by the lack of a definition of what an ‘inefficient fossil fuel subsidy’ is and that it seriously endangers the credibility of such commitments.

Press Release

[View the press release in English here](#), as well as translated versions in [Spanish](#), [German](#) and [French](#). Feel free to translate or adapt this to a version specific to your region.




Content for social media

For social media, please use the **hashtags #FossilFuelTreaty** and link to fossilfueltreaty.org/eu.

[Social media graphics can be found here or via links below.](#)

There are also [graphics in Spanish](#) and [graphics in French](#).

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<p>The European Parliament has just called for nation-states to "work on developing a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty" in a resolution passed ahead of COP27.</p>  <p>Click to download</p>	 <p>The European Parliament has called for nation states to "work on developing a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty" ahead of COP27.</p> <p>Click to download</p>	 <p>The European Parliament has just called for nation-states to "work on developing a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty" in a resolution passed ahead of COP27.</p> <p>Click to download</p>
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Draft Copy for Twitter

The European Parliament has just called for nation-states to "work on developing a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty" in their formal #COP27 resolution.

This is a major development in the global push for a #FossilFuelTreaty.

Find out more: fossilfueltreaty.org/eu

A month ago, Vanuatu called for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.

In recent weeks, the proposal was backed by @WHO, the President of Timor-Leste & the Vatican.

Today, the European Parliament has called for the development of a #FossilFuelTreaty. fossilfueltreaty.org/eu

This is huge. The European Parliament just called on nations to:

- 👉 "develop a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty"
- 🏠 "phase out fossil fuels as soon as possible"
- 💰 "halt all new investments in fossil fuel extraction"
- 🏛️ "end fossil fuel subsidies"

More: fossilfueltreaty.org/eu

Draft Copy for Facebook

Huge news! The European Parliament has just formally called on countries to develop a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Their formal resolution outlining demands for COP27 included calling on nations to:

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This resolution comes on the back of a recent wave of support for the just end to the fossil fuel age via a the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty from the President of Vanuatu, the President of Timor-Leste, the Foreign Minister of Tuvalu, the Vatican and the World Health Organisation.

Just three weeks ago, His Excellency President Nikenike Vurobaravu, President of Vanuatu, invited parliaments to join them in developing a Fossil Fuel Treaty at the UN General Assembly – sparking a wave of diplomatic support for the proposal, including now in the European Parliament.

This is excellent to see but also requires further action. Many European nations have the capacity to transition away from fossil fuels faster than other countries around the world. Europe holds greater historical responsibility for climate change than most and therefore must do its fair share in supporting a global just transition – by ending expansion of any new fossil fuel projects, rapidly winding down existing production and most importantly supporting nations with less capacity to also transition away from coal, oil and gas.

A Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty can provide the missing framework to manage this transition at an international level. Find out more at fossilfuel treaty.org/eu

Draft Copy for Instagram

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Quotes (please add)

Pär Holmgren, Swedish Member of the European Parliament, who moved the initial amendment to call for a Fossil Fuel Treaty, said: *"This year's COP must take concrete action on delivering on climate justice. Those of us who are historically most responsible for the emissions causing current climate change must finally take responsibility for both financing the consequent losses and damages, and limiting future ones by reducing our emissions. Not a single leader who claims to be serious about climate justice can deny the importance of an agreement to once and for all end all new exploration, production and proliferation of fossil fuels, and rapidly phasing out existing uses by much more investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency. Showing that the European Parliament is serious about ending fossil fuel dependency by encouraging the development of a fossil fuel non-proliferation treaty is one of the essential wins of the negotiations of this resolution."*

José Ramos-Horta, Nobel laureate and President of Timor-Leste: *"Alongside some of Timor-Leste's Pacific neighbor countries, I have recently called for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty. As the momentum for such a treaty grows, it is encouraging to see the European Parliament formally take up this cause. We now need European nation states to follow suit, by their commitments to ending fossil fuel expansion and by helping support and finance a global just transition that does not rely on new oil and gas from countries like mine."*

Risa Hontiveros, Senator of the Philippines and initiator of the [Parliamentarians' Call for a Fossil Fuel Free Future](#): *"In recent months, parliamentarians on every continent have called for new international commitments and treaties to address the urgency of a swift and just transition away from fossil fuel energy. It is great to see this gaining momentum with the proposed Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty which has now been called for by the President of Vanuatu, the President of Timor-Leste, the Vatican and now the European Parliament."*

Marie Toussaint, French Member of the European Parliament said: *"It was absolutely crucial, ahead of the COP27, to remind European leaders that they cannot use the ongoing energy crisis as an excuse to deepen our dependency on fossil fuels. The call made today by the European Parliament to adopt a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and phase out all direct and indirect fossil fuel subsidies by 2025 must now be heard by the European Commission and Member States. The EU must also acknowledge its climate debt, and the fact it has been a major polluter, responsible for greenhouse gas emissions over centuries. We have to find ways, within this non proliferation treaty, to ensure justice at global level for those who won't earn the money they could through fossil fuel extraction."*

Dr. Julia Miranda Londoño, Member of the House of Representatives of Colombia *"500 legislators from around the globe have joined the Parliamentarian's Call for a Fossil Fuel-Free Future. As signatory and promoter of this Call, I welcome the endorsement of the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty in the European Parliament's formal COP27 resolution."*

Pierre Larrouturou, French Member of the European Parliament, former General Rapporteur for the EU Budget and lead negotiator of the stop EACOP urgency resolution, stated that: *"In order to avoid an apocalyptic future, we need to immediately stop all investments in fossil fuels extraction. It is not just the Parliament but the International Energy Agency which has stated so. That is why I am glad that our Parliament is now calling for a fossil fuel non-proliferation treaty and I want to thank my colleagues who worked hard to obtain this new step forward. This adds up to the text I obtained a month ago in which the Parliament called to stop the giant oil drills and pipeline project 'EACOP' by Total Energies in Uganda and Tanzania. Stopping this carbon bomb and funding just alternatives for the sustainable*

development of these countries based on renewable energy, while leaving the oil in the ground forever : this could be the first step towards a fossil-free future. Europe has a major role to play in turning the « just transition » discourse into action and sufficient funding.”

Dean Bhekumuzi Bhebhe, Campaigns Lead for Power Shift Africa, stated that: *“The ongoing climate emergency is calling on Africa to urgently shift away from their dependence on fossil fuel-based energy generation and transition towards a just renewable energy future. The resolution from the European Parliament provides an avenue to oppose collusion between elites in Africa, Europe and other countries to dominate, extract and mis-appropriate Africa’s energy resources and systems.”*

Tasneem Essop, Executive Director, Climate Action Network International, said: *“Wealthy EU member states are among the highest greenhouse gas emitters globally, with a heavy historical carbon footprint from their decades of dependence on fossil fuels. By endorsing a treaty to stop the expansion of fossil fuels, the EU can stand on the right side of history and demonstrate true leadership ahead of COP27 and enable a just and equitable transition towards clean and sustainable energy for all.”*

Tzeporah Berman, Chair of the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative, said: *“We welcome this resolution. Phasing out fossil fuels is now clearly the test for climate leadership at COP27 in Egypt. It is not a transition if we are growing the problem. If we are going to break free from the tyranny of oil we need countries to cooperate to stop the expansion of fossil fuels.”*