



KlimaatCoalitie Coalition Climat

Position of the Climate Coalition Ed. 2026

For a just and equitable phase-out of fossil fuels

International :

The climate crisis requires a rapid and just phase-out of fossil fuels. Belgium must take responsibility for this, both nationally and internationally. This means reducing our dependence on fossil fuels, leveraging the available levers and removing obstacles to the transition, and investing in a just transition, both in Belgium and worldwide. The Climate Coalition puts forward the following recommendations at international and national level for a rapid and just phase-out of fossil fuels.

International section

Join a coalition of like-minded and ambitious states for a just phase-out of fossil fuels, and actively participate in the work stemming from the Santa Marta Conference, including the second conference in Tuvalu. Push for the integration of the outcomes of these processes into the UNFCCC framework, including through the adoption of the Brazilian roadmap and the second Global Stocktake process.

Join an alliance of states against ISDS mechanisms. This alliance commits to ending existing agreements containing such mechanisms, excluding ISDS from future agreements, and negotiating inter se agreements that neutralize the effects of "sunset clauses" with regard to their respective investors.

Contribute to climate finance in the Global South in proportion to Belgium's fair share. Honor the NCQG commitment and triple adaptation funding. Also support the adoption of a treaty on international tax cooperation that permanently taxes fossil fuel companies' profits, and work towards a multilateral solution for unsustainable debt.

Work towards a treaty for the phase-out of fossil fuels that sets a clear timetable for the gradual end of fossil fuel exploration, production and consumption. This must take into account national circumstances, respective capabilities, equity, a just transition, and historical responsibility. In doing so, pay attention to the ecological and social impacts of

the mining required to extract transition metals, and to incentives for high energy-consuming countries to reduce their consumption.

Support the creation of an international mechanism for a just transition, grounded in the principles of just transition set out at COP30. Give this mechanism the capacity to strengthen knowledge-sharing and translate it into concrete implementation, and ensure the adequate participation of relevant stakeholders.

National section

1. Draw up and implement a fossil fuel phase-out plan

Set a precise timetable for phasing out each fossil fuel by sector, starting with a socially just reduction of fossil fuel subsidies. Rule out false solutions, such as massive biomass imports or the use of hydrogen in sectors that can be electrified. Also include the gradual dismantling of fossil fuel infrastructure that will become obsolete, such as gas networks, and limit any further expansion of it.

2. Reduce fossil energy consumption

a. Make social justice the guiding principle of all measures. Support and accompany the most vulnerable groups through the energy transition — for example in housing and mobility — by introducing exemption schemes and support measures.

b. Support a fiscal reform that redirects part of fossil fuel financing — including direct and indirect fossil fuel subsidies — with the aim of investing at least 0.5 to 1% of GDP in a transition that lowers households' energy bills and electrifies all possible applications.

c. Accelerate the residential energy transition through mass renovation, supported by grants or interest-free loans, and through energy taxation that favors low-carbon heating technologies such as heat pumps. Strengthen the funding provided for this and support households through the transition. Ban rent indexation for energy-guzzling homes.

d. Make mobility more sustainable by promoting active mobility, public transport use and car-sharing. Ban the sale of combustion-engine vehicles by 2030 at the latest, and already now encourage the choice of efficient electric vehicles.

e. Adopt a plan for the transformation of the agricultural sector that supports farmers in reducing their dependence on synthetic inputs and fossil fuels, and that promotes agroecology.

3. Develop renewable energy

a. Prioritize the development of offshore wind energy in the Princess Elisabeth Zone, simplify the permitting process for onshore wind energy, and support the installation of solar panels in densely populated and socio-economically disadvantaged areas.

b. Strengthen the electricity grid, increase supply security, and expand energy sharing and storage.

c. Gradually close the oldest and least efficient gas-fired power plants.

d. Support cooperative energy models that encourage the direct consumption of renewable energy and enable more people to access renewable energy at a stable and affordable price.

4. Consume more consciously

a. Strengthen and further develop the circular economy to increase our autonomy in energy and raw materials. Extend the mandatory warranty period from 2 to 5–10 years for household products and from 3 to 5 years for electronics.

b. Optimize the use of the existing building stock by creating affordable housing units in under-occupied homes through housing subdivision. Reduce the number of vacant buildings and dwellings, and put an end to urban sprawl.

c. Ban advertising for goods and services that are highly damaging to the climate, as well as advertising for fossil fuel companies and polluting products.

d. Draw up a plan to shift excise duty reductions from fossil fuels to electricity.

5. Plan a just transition

a. Develop a common and binding transition framework, including climate neutrality and emission reduction targets for heavy industry, based on a well-substantiated, ambitious, science-based, innovative and participatory roadmap, and draw up an investment plan to that end. Ensure that all parties involved — in particular government, employers' organizations and businesses, trade unions and workers, academia, and civil society — comply with and strengthen this transition framework over time.

b. On this basis, develop transition plans at sectoral level and at the level of companies and/or sites. Make the implementation of these plans a condition for granting support measures to businesses.

c. Work with social partners to develop a just transition plan to support the reconversion of industries dependent on fossil fuels, with decent work and skills development at its core.

d. Guarantee regulatory stability through ambitious and predictable rules, so that businesses can plan their short- and medium-term investments. In doing so, also work towards shifting excise duty reductions from fossil fuels to electricity, as part of financing the transition.