

FIT FOR 55 PACKAGE

Are we fit for 55?

Gypsum industry's press release on the Fit for 55 package

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The European Commission adopted yesterday (14 July) a major step towards reducing Europe's greenhouse gas emissions. The "Fit for 55" Package aims to introduce the necessary policy and legislation for Europe to cut its greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030.

Eurogypsum, the European federation of national associations of gypsum product manufacturers, welcomes this announcement and strongly believes that low-carbon and lightweight construction solutions such as gypsum-based products are instrumental to achieving the green transition.

In this context, we welcome the **revision of the EU Emission Trading System (ETS)**, and we consider that the increased ambition is essential for putting us on the necessary path, consistent with our climate goals. As combatting climate change is a collective and shared responsibility, we look forward to working with the Commission to ensure fair and comprehensive package of measures is put in place, with all parties playing their part. This will also mean ensuring the measures are targeted and proportionate.

We welcome the attention paid by the Commission to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the increased ambition on energy efficiency and the new impulse given to renovating public buildings. However, we will follow up carefully how the new ETS for buildings will be designed, as we are concerned this could lead to exacerbating fuel poverty, to which solid energy efficiency policies are the real answer.

We also welcome the revision of the **Effort Sharing Regulation (ESR)** as we believe an enhanced ESR is an important tool for the decarbonisation of our economies and to share the burden equitably among Member States. All sectors of the economy must play their part in addressing the significant challenges ahead.

Eurogypsum stresses its general support to the Fit for 55 package and the EU Green Deal's long-term objectives and is willing to contribute, with its expertise and in a constructive manner, to the adoption and implementation of meaningful legislation to achieve these objectives. We believe gypsum and gypsum systems are key materials for the green transition and to ensure no one is left behind, as they offer flexible and affordable solutions in new build and renovation.

Eurogypsum, which is celebrating 60 years of existence this year, is definitely fit for 55! From words to reality, it is time to act!

***Eurogypsum** is a European federation of national associations of producers of gypsum products (i.e. plaster and plasterboard). It is one of the few fully integrated industries (from cradle to cradle) within the construction*

*products field. The companies which mine gypsum also process it and manufacture the value-added products and systems used extensively in construction and other industries.
With a turnover of EUR 7 billion, the European gypsum and anhydrite industry operates some 160 factories and 154 quarries and generates employment directly to 28,000 persons and indirectly for 300,000 persons. The Gypsum industry provides jobs to 1,100,000 plasterers and plasterboard installers. It trains around 25,000 persons per year across Europe.*

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