For the attention of:
Ms Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission
Ms Teresa Ribera, Executive Vice-President of the European Commission,
Mr. Dan Jørgensen, Commissioner for Energy and Housing

3 November 2026

Joint CSO letter on Protecting the Integrity of the EU Methane Regulation

Dear President, Executive Vice-President and Commissioner,

We, the undersigned organisations, are writing to express our deep concern regarding recent developments in the legislative process for amending the EU Methane Regulation. What was meant to be a targeted proposal to address specific implementation challenges is evolving into a broader reopening of the Regulation, driven less by objective evidence than by sustained political and industry pressure to defer compliance obligations.

The position now adopted by the European Parliament extends well beyond the scope and rationale of the Commission's original proposal and risks undermining both the integrity and effectiveness of legislation that was only recently adopted following an impact assessment, stakeholder consultation, and extensive interinstitutional negotiations. Delaying even further the implementation of the Regulation is neither compatible with maintaining its level of ambition in terms of overall emissions reduction objective, nor with UNEP's urgent recent call to reduce methane emissions by at least 25% by 2035, to keep the world on track for the lowest possible 1.5°C overshoot scenario. Furthermore, the current push to delay, dilute and reopen substantive elements of the Regulation before they have even entered into force creates significant regulatory uncertainty, weakens investor confidence, and sends an unfortunate signal regarding the durability of EU climate and energy legislation.

With this in mind, should the co-legislators pursue amendments that materially exceed the scope of the Commission's targeted proposal, we urge the Commission to make full use of the prerogatives available to it under the Treaties, and in particular not to accept any amendment that damages the proposal's essential balance, objectives or scope, so that, in accordance with Article 293(1) TFEU, the Council could adopt such amendments only by unanimity.

Should the negotiations culminate in a compromise that departs fundamentally from the Commission's narrowly targeted approach and would distort the proposal to the point of defeating its objectives, the Commission should exercise its right to withdraw the proposal before the Council acts, as confirmed by the Court of Justice in Case C-409/13.

We appreciate the Commission's commitment to the Regulation and stand ready to engage constructively on practical solutions that accelerate implementation without compromising its core objectives.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. We remain at your disposal to support this process.

Signatories

1. Lotte Leicht, Advocacy Director, **Climate Rights International**
2. Sascha Müller-Kraenner , Executive Director, **Deutsche Umwelthilfe (DUH)**
3. Mary Rice, Executive Director, **Environmental Investigation Agency**
4. Seda Orhan, Head of Energy, **Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe**

5. Mario Rodríguez, Public Policy Director, **Fundación Ecología y Desarrollo (ECODES)**
6. Brandon Locke, Director, Global Policy, Methane, **Clean Air Task Force (CATF)**
7. Nika Murzynová, Expert on Energy Transition, **Centre for Transport and Energy**
8. Mihai Stoica, Executive Director, **2Celsius**
9. Colin Black, Executive Director, **Center for Climate Crime Analysis**
10. Arthur Oldeman, Researcher, **Fossielvrij NL**
11. Gabriel Malek, President, **Les Amis de la Terre France**
12. Morgane Creach, Director, **Réseau Action Climat - CAN France**
13. Magdalena Goryl, Project Manager, **Instrat Foundation**
14. Durwood Zaelke, President, **Institute for Governance & Sustainable Development**
15. Christopher Lambin, **Head of Data Investigations, Global Witness**
16. Raluca Petcu, Fossil fuels Campaigner, **Bankwatch Romania**
17. Kim Claes, Fossil Free Politics Campaigner, **Friends of the Earth Europe**
18. Britt Dam, Senior Advisor on Climate and Energy, **Rådet for Grøn Omstilling**
19. Juraj Melichár, Coordinator, **Priatelia Zeme-CEPA**
20. Tobias Münchmeyer, European Campaign Director, **Greenpeace**
21. Erika Fiala-Butora, Director, **Environmental and Human Rights Centre**
22. Rita Tedesco, Head of Energy, **ECOS – Environmental Coalition on Standards**
23. Diana Maciąga, Fossil Gas and Climate Campaigner, **Polish Green Network**
24. Liutauras Stoškus, Director, **Centre for Sustainable Development**
25. Katarzyna Wiekiera, Climate Campagner, **Workshop for All Beings**
26. Akos Eger, Executive President, **NSC - Friends of the Earth Hungary (MTVSZ)**
27. Stefano Ciafani, President, **Legambiente**
28. Helen Spence-Jackson, Executive Director, Europe, **Environmental Defense Fund Europe**
29. Radosław Gawlik , President, **Stowarzyszenie Ekologiczne EKO-UNIA, Poland**
30. Ester Asin, Director, **WWF European Policy Office**
31. Alexandru Mustață, Senior Energy Campaigner, **Beyond Fossil Fuels**
32. Gligor Radečić, Gas Campaigner, **CEE Bankwatch Network**
33. Laura Morosini, Europe Director, **Laudato Si' Movement**
34. Bartosz Kwiatkowski, Director, **Fundacja Frank Bold**
35. João Costa, Campaigner, **Linha Vermelha**
36. Sabina Assan, Principle Analyst, **Ember**