

Paris Climate Agreement



What is the Paris Agreement?

- It is a legally binding international treaty on climate change mitigation, adaptation and related finances.
- It is an agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- It was negotiated by representatives of 196 nations at the 21st UNFCCC Conference in Paris in December 2015.
- It was opened for signature on Earth Day, April 22nd 2016, and went into effect in November 2016.



PARIS2015
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE
COP21·CMP11

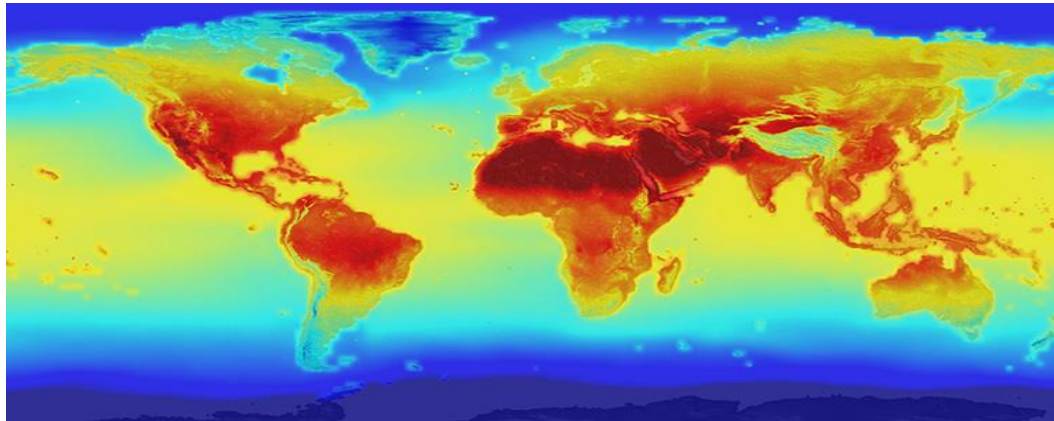


What were the reasons behind the Paris Agreement?

- The first reason was the necessity to deal with and resolve the climate change.
- The second one was that the previous agreements, like Kyoto Protocol, Doha Amendment and Copenhagen Accord, needed the more effective successor treaty.



- **Climate change** includes both global warming and shifts in weather patterns. Though there have been previous periods of climatic change, since the mid-20th century people have had an unprecedented impact on Earth's climate system and caused the change on a global scale.



- The largest driver of warming is the emission of gases that create the greenhouse effect, especially carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane (CH₄). Fossil fuels burning for energy consumption is the main source of these emissions, with additional contributions from agriculture, deforestation, and manufacturing.

The impacts of climate change:

- heatwaves, wildfires and desert expansions
- melting permafrost, glacial retreat, sea ice loss and rising sea levels
- weather extremes and more intense storms
- changes in ecosystems and even the extinction of some species
- food insecurity, water scarcity, flooding



What are the goals of the Paris Agreement?

- The main goal is to substantially reduce the impacts and risks of climate change. This should be done by reducing emissions as soon as possible.
- The concrete long-term goal is to keep the rise in global average temperature less than 2 °C above pre-industrial levels, preferably to 1.5 °C. In 2020 the average global temperature rise reached 1.2 °C compared to pre-industrial levels from the 19th century.



Climate plans and actions

What have the countries determined to do? In 2020, the involved countries submitted their plans for climate action known as ***nationally determined contributions*** (NDCs).

In their NDCs, they communicate actions they will take to reduce the greenhouse gases emissions in order to reach the goals of the Paris Agreement.

The countries have also determined their ***long-term strategies*** to provide the long-term horizon to the NDCs. Unlike NDCs, they are not mandatory.



How does it work? (5-year cycle...)

Article 4 of the Paris Agreement says that countries will revise their emissions targets known as NDCs and communicate them every 5 years. Each successive NDC should represent a progression beyond the current target and reflect the highest possible ambition.



How are the countries supporting one another?

Many countries do not have sufficient capacities to deal with various challenges brought by climate change. Developed countries take the lead in providing assistance to countries that are less endowed and more vulnerable. There are also voluntary contributions by other parties.

The assistance includes:

- finances
- technology
- capacity-building



How is the progress tracked? The countries established an enhanced transparency framework (ETF). Under ETF, starting in 2024, they will report transparently on their actions and progress in climate change reduction.

What has been achieved so far? The Paris Agreement has already sparked low-carbon solutions and new markets. More and more countries, regions, cities and companies are establishing carbon neutrality targets.

In November 2021, the 26th UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) is being held in Glasgow. Here, the countries must submit new or updated nationally determined contributions (NDCs).



EU's goal is to become carbon neutral in 2050.

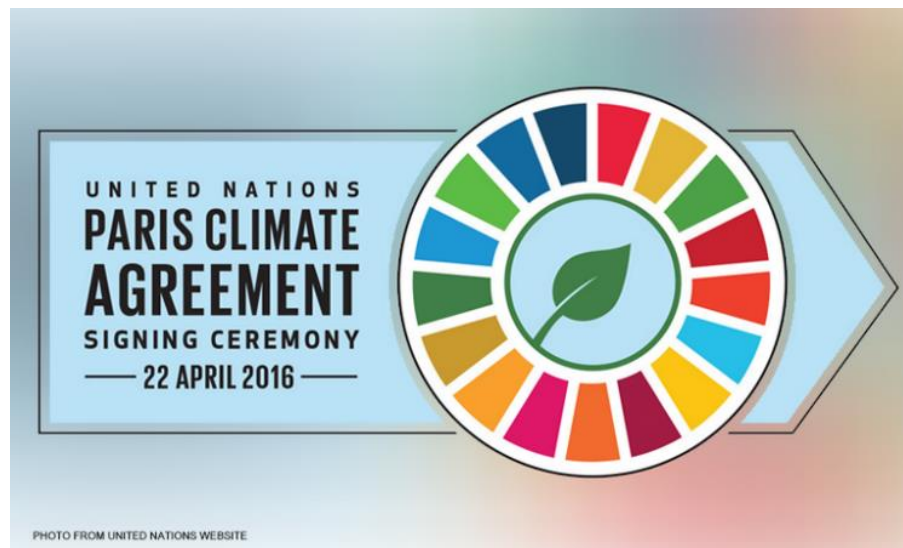
By 2030 the European Union has already committed to:

- reduce emissions 55% below 1990
- achieve 32% total share of renewable energy sources (RES)
- have 14% share of RES in transport.



The Paris Agreement and Slovakia

- On Earth Day, April 22nd 2016, Slovakia signed the Paris Agreement at the UN headquarters in New York.
- And in September 2016 the Slovak Parliament voted to ratify it.



- In that time Slovakia held the rotating presidency of the Council of the EU. We proclaimed the completion of the ratification procedure at European level as one of our key priorities because after China and the US, the EU is the third largest emitter of greenhouse gases.



- According to the targets of the Paris Agreement, our country has committed to reach climate (carbon) neutrality by 2050, which means that we will emit only as much greenhouse gas emissions as we can remove.



2016 Slovak Presidency
of the Council
of the European Union



The main sectors producing greenhouse gases emissions:

- energy (electricity, transport, heating) - more than half of all the emissions
- industry
- agriculture
- waste management

The important points of our low-carbon energy strategy:

- to reduce the exploitation of coal, gas and oil
- to keep and increase the usage of nuclear power and hydropower
- to increase the share of renewable energy greatly, especially biomass and solar energy

**Carbon neutral
by 2050**



0% Carbon neutral

Achievement of net zero greenhouse gas emission in our business by 2050

Some of the concrete steps and commitments we have done

- The automotive industry has 50% share of the total industrial production in Slovakia. In March 2019 the Government adopted “Action Plan to Develop E-Mobility“, which contains 15 specific measures.
- The most attractive measure was the financial support of 8,000 euro for all those who purchase an e-vehicle and 5,000 euro per plug-in hybrid.
- The Ministry of Economy has also provided the financial support for the construction of public charging stations.



Electric and Partly Electric Models Produced in Slovakia

BEV



VW e-Up



Seat e-Mii



Škoda e-Citigo



Peugeot e-208

PHEV



VW Touareg*



Porsche Cayenne



Porsche Cayenne Coupe



Kia XCeed*



Kia Ceed Sportswagon

MHEV



Kia XCeed



Kia Sportswagon



Kia Sportage



Kia Ceed



Kia Ceed GT



Kia Ceed PRO



Audi Q7



Audi Q8

- The amount of coal is gradually reduced in our thermal power plants and it is combined with and substituted by biomass.
- In 2023 the state donation for coal mining will be stopped. About 100 million euro is donated annually. Electricity production from coal will also be stopped. However, it will still be used for heating.
- By 2027 all coal mines have to stop its operation and close. Coal cannot be used as the source of energy any more.

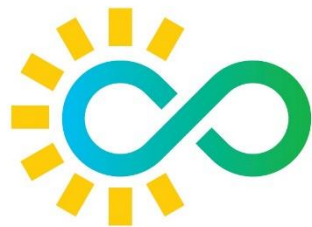


Information sources:

- **unfccc.int**
- <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>
- <https://www.euractiv.com/section/climate-environment/news/slovakia-becomes-fourth-eu-country-to-ratify-the-paris-climate-agreement/>
- <https://www.minzp.sk/files/oblasti/politika-zmeny-klimy/ets/lts-sk-eng.pdf>
- <https://e.dennikn.sk/1517155/vlada-schvalila-plan-na-likvidaciu-bani-chvali-ho-greenpeace-aj-miestni-aktivisti/>
- <https://ukcop26.org/>



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**Energizing
people**

Renewable energy is the smart way.



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