

Parliamentary work on energy efficiency: it's not over yet!

EuroACE notes the broad support from the Parliament Plenary for the POCHE Report on the EED, which strengthens energy efficiency policies for the post-2020 period, but we lament the fallback in ambition from previous parliamentary positions.

Today's vote is the result of long and arduous negotiations between political groups. "We would like to acknowledge the impressive and tenacious work of MEPs, particularly the Rapporteur Miroslav POCHE", said Adrian JOYCE, EuroACE Secretary General. "The adoption of the report with almost 500 votes in favour allows us to say that **MEPs continue to be serious about energy efficiency**, but falling back from a 40% to a 35% target is a disappointment", he added.

With a **minimum 35% binding EU target**, a **good part of the cost-effective potential** in key sectors of the European economy, including in building renovation, will be **left untapped** – and this will translate into a missed opportunity for economic growth. To be in line with the Paris Agreement commitments, and to match the progress achieved on the Buildings Directive just before Christmas, a 40% binding EU target would have been more relevant. This said, today's position from the Parliament is an improvement compared to both the Commission and the Council positions of a 30% target.

The Parliament strengthened the provision on annual energy savings requirement. "**Article 7**, which was labeled by Commissioner ARIAS CANETE as the best instrument to deliver energy efficiency measures, will continue at a good pace after 2020" said Céline CARRÉ, EuroACE President. "Considering the 2050 ambition for the building stock in the recently adopted EPBD, we need instruments to give predictability to industry and confidence to investors, so as to **ensure a stable flow of investments into energy renovation of buildings**", she added. Those measures are a true engine for jobs and improved quality of life, especially for the most vulnerable.

EuroACE, as a leading business voice on energy efficiency in buildings, supports Rapporteur Miroslav POCHE (S&D, CZ), who will soon enter inter-institutional negotiations with the Council, based on today's strong mandate. It is essential that he vehemently defends the Parliament's position and **does not give in on the level of ambition adopted today**.

The Bulgarian Council Presidency prioritises youth and a strong future Europe. By agreeing fully with the Parliament's position on energy efficiency and the call for ambition from some countries, including France and Germany, they will deliver benefits to European citizens and businesses. This will also ensure that the EU keeps a strong industrial base in the next decades, and that European people will benefit from comfortable healthy homes and productive workplaces.

END

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About EuroACE

EuroACE represents Europe's leading companies involved with the manufacture, distribution and installation of energy saving goods and services for buildings. EuroACE members employ over 291,000 people in these activities in Europe, and have around 1,400 production facilities and office locations. The mission of EuroACE is to work together with the EU institutions to help Europe move towards a more efficient use of energy in buildings, thereby contributing to Europe's commitments on climate change, energy security and economic growth.

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