

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Brussels, 17 January 2018 –**

## **Clean energy package – not so ‘clean’ anymore?**

Today’s vote in the European Parliament (EP) on the Renewable Energy Directive, the Energy Efficiency Directive and the Energy Union Regulation represents a step back from the ambition shown in November by EP’s ITRE Committee towards a more efficient and greener energy system.

Today’s decisions on the levels of the 2030 energy efficiency and renewable energy targets failed to be backed by an ambitious necessary underlying tool: the primary energy factor (this small number with big implications was changed from 2.0 to 2.3 in the plenary vote). Keeping the value so high can only be considered backwards orientated, as the conversion efficiency of Europe’s energy system was already 2.11 in 2015 (later numbers are not yet available). Consequently, a value of 2.3 falls short of guiding our society into a future where a much larger share of electricity comes from renewable source.

On the positive side: it is good to see that a new specific sectoral target for renewable heating and cooling in the Renewable Energy Directive was introduced.

Thomas Nowak, EHPA’s Secretary General, stated: “Today’s vote in the Parliament was rather hesitant than ambitious. It strikes me, in particular, that despite the fact that the EU electricity system is greening by the hour, the Parliament refused to recognise this and set an adequate primary energy factor. A default value of 2.0. is needed to accelerate the deployment of efficient and renewable technologies and facilitate the transition to a cleaner future energy system.”

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**Note to the editor**

The Brussels based European Heat Pump Association (EHPA) represents the majority of the European heat pump industry. It has currently 119 members from all parts of the industry's value chain: heat pump and component manufacturers, research institutes, universities, testing labs and energy agencies. Its key goal is to promote awareness and proper deployment of heat pump technology in the European market place for residential, commercial and industrial application. EHPA coordinates the European Quality label for heat pumps and the EUCERT education and training scheme for heat pump installers. It compiles the annual sales statistics and market outlook. For more information, please visit: [www.ehpa.org](http://www.ehpa.org).