

PRESS RELEASE

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The DecarbHeat Initiative is committed to supporting the European Green Deal

The DecarbHeat Initiative assists policymakers to define transparent and sustainable measures to unleash the potential of the heating and cooling sectors towards the renewable energy and energy efficiency targets.

Following today's publication of the European Green Deal by the European Commission, the partners of the DecarbHeat Initiative would like to stress that the decarbonisation of the heating sector will be a success factor for the European Green Deal and the more ambitious CO₂ emission reduction target put forward by the European Commission President.

Pedro Dias, current covenantor of the DecarbHeat Initiative has stated: *“Sustainable heating and cooling solutions are readily available today but not yet sufficiently deployed. Through an integrated approach, we are convinced that this sector can contribute greatly to reducing greenhouse gas emission, by bringing to market secure, affordable and climate-friendly energy alternatives, based on efficient and renewable heating and cooling solutions.”*

The DecarbHeat Initiative brings together major players of the heating and cooling industry with one clear vision: **a carbon neutral and efficient European heating & cooling (H&C) sector by 2050**. The Initiative invests continuous efforts to urge policy makers to act by creating a more favourable legislative framework, encouraging deployment of sustainable solutions and in particular focusing on modernising existing systems.

The European legislation, and therefore the European Green Deal, need to define clear and sustainable measures to unleash the potential of the heating and cooling sector towards the renewable energy and energy efficiency targets by:

- Prioritising the implementation and enforcement of existing and recently agreed legislation, including market surveillance
- Taking an integrated approach towards the energy systems planning, development and operations across all energy infrastructures. This approach will ensure higher flexibility, improved system efficiency, higher uptake of renewable energy across all energy carriers, and ultimately a cost-effective energy transition.
- Putting forward a smart and cost-effective combination of technologies and fuels. Energy efficiency and renewable energies should be maximised and the synergies between them should be optimised.



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Acting together to decarbonise Europe

- Tapping into existing local resources and technologies and enable further innovation.
- Identifying investment needs in infrastructures and R&D (industrial process heat, building sector, innovative renewable technologies, hybrid systems, energy management and storage, demand-side flexibility, etc)
- Better exploiting the potential of thermal storage. Energy storage will be key in the future energy transition. The cost-effective potential of all types of renewable energy storage (be it in the form of heat, molecules or electricity) should be identified and unlocked. Thermal storage is proven to be a cheap seasonal storage and is already deployed in markets, millions of people have already thermal storage in their home. This will prove key in a system including a high share of variable renewable energy.
- Prioritising effective national and local policies and actions, supported by comprehensive local planning, to trigger the investments needed.
- Ensuring affordability for all through affordable modernisation and quality.
- Incentivising the decarbonisation of heating and cooling by establishing a level playing field across regulatory, fiscal and other policy tools.
- Establishing a robust strategy towards the gradual phase out of fossil fuels.

“The decarbonisation of heating and cooling should be a political priority. Legislators must tap into the sector’s ability and potential, to help Member States delivering on the current climate and energy goals, and enabling the EU to become more ambitious under the future European Climate law. A stronger European industrial capacity in this sector will boost the creation of skilled jobs at local level and support European competitiveness worldwide”, Pedro Dias concluded.

About DecarbHeat Initiative

[DecarbHeat](#), is a joint initiative organised by the European Heat Pump Association (EHPA), Bioenergy Europe, Euroheat & Power, European Partnership for Energy and the Environment (EPEE), Solar Heat Europe/ESTIF, the European Geothermal Energy Council (EGEC) and the European Association for the Promotion of Cogeneration (COGEN Europe).

Decarbheat brings together the major players of the heating and cooling industry and other major stakeholders in order to join forces behind one clear vision: a 100% carbon emission-free, efficient European heating & cooling sector by 2050.

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