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## Press Release

# RePowerEU: how the Commission can accelerate the decarbonisation of heating

On 18 May, the European Commission will set out how the EU can reduce its fossil fuel use, including slashing Russia gas imports by two-thirds – around [100 billion cubic metres \(BCM\)\\*](#) - in 2022. The plan is known as ‘RePowerEU’.

Heat pumps have a key role to play: **the roughly 2.5 million heat pumps the sector expects to sell in Europe in 2022 will already save 4.5-5 billion BCM of gas.**

The REPowerEU communication published in March, which this package will build on, specifically proposed a heat pump target a) doubling annual sales, b) adding 10 million hydronic heat pumps by 2026, and c) adding a total of 30 million hydronic heat pumps by 2023. As all heat pumps contribute to reducing gas dependency, this means **around 20 million heat pumps by 2026 and nearly 60 million heat pumps installed in the EU by 2030.**

The sector can and will deliver on those targets, including the build-up of production capacity, continuous R&D on components and heat pump solutions and the need for additional education and training action. But to do so, it needs a clear political commitment to its growth including an acceleration strategy – just like the solar sector has.

**A high level of ambition should also be reflected in the forthcoming package. EHPA hopes to see a specific description of a heat pump accelerator to ensure the heat pump sector develops according to plan and delivers on the target of gas dependency reduction.**

**Thomas Nowak, Secretary General of the European Heat Pump Association** commented:

“To get off gas quick, plugging in more heat pumps is a no-brainer. The industry’s ready to make this happen but the EU Commission must provide the catalyst in its REPowerEU plan. We need a clear commitment towards heat pump solutions. The Commission must



provide **technology clarity**, and this should translate into a strategy for a **heat pump accelerator** to which EHPA and its members will contribute.”

*\*The European Commission text states: ‘With the measures in the REPowerEU plan, we could gradually remove at least 155 bcm of fossil gas use, which is equivalent to the volume imported from Russia in 2021. Nearly two thirds of that reduction can be achieved within a year, ending the EU’s overdependence on a single supplier.’*

More info:

### **EHPA suggests the following text for an EU heat pump accelerator:**

“Heat pumps will play a key role to replace natural gas in residential and commercial heating, in industry and in district heating applications. REPowerEU proposes a heat pump Accelerator setting a target of 60 million heat pumps (including 30 million hydronic heat pumps) installed and 31 GW of industrial and district heat pump capacity being deployed by 2030. To achieve this goal, accelerated joint efforts at EU and Member State level are proposed to finalise regulatory frameworks and heat pump projects, boost renewable electricity roll out and European manufacturing capacities, and to facilitate transition towards heat pump-based technologies in industry.

The Commission will support the industrial scale-up of heat pump production and deployment in the EU. Regulatory frameworks are urgently needed to allow for faster heat pump deployment in the EU. Jointly with this communication, the Commission will start a review process on ongoing legislation to frontload measures positive to heat pump deployment.

Furthermore, the Commission calls upon the European Parliament and the Council to take the need for such frontloading into consideration. There is also an urgent need to accelerate the work on heat pump positive building standards, in particular for the use of flammable and mildly flammable refrigerants.

Accelerated efforts are also needed to train heat pump installers, planners, architects and engineers necessary to install, plan and design 53 million heat pumps by 2030. This is particularly important for heat pumps in renovation and industry, where heat pump projects still need to be deployed massively. To track progress in the use of heat pumps in industry and residential applications, the Commission will develop a progress report on heat pump uptake in 2025, in close cooperation with Member States.

New windows dedicated to REPowerEU objectives under the Innovation Fund will support heat pump uptake by industry and manufacturing capacities for heat pumps, including via a new financial instrument rolling out an EU-wide scheme for carbon contracts for difference.”



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### Note to the editor

EHPA promotes awareness and deployment of heat pump technology in Europe. All activities aim at creating a market environment that facilitates a faster deployment of heat pump technology to unleash its benefits on a European level: efficient heating and cooling using renewable energy. EHPA also coordinates the Heat Pump Keymark – a European certification scheme for all heat pumps, combination heat pumps and hot water heater.

For more information, please visit: [www.ehpa.org](http://www.ehpa.org)