

## CONNECTING EUROPE

# GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR EUROPE'S DECARBONISATION BY 2050

Europe finds itself in a **phase of transition**: the effects of **climate change** are already leaving their marks on many regions of the planet; the patterns of global cooperation are changing; longstanding political realities and alliances are challenged. In short, the very foundations of economic and social welfare are undergoing substantial changes. The **energy transition is at the heart of these changes** and the members of the Roundtable for Europe's Energy Future (REEF) are at the forefront of technological advancements: all Europeans need connections – not new barriers – for a sustainable, viable and **greener future**.

With the **European Energy Union**, the Commission has created a **powerful framework** to address, support and steer the transition to a greener future. For Europe to be at the forefront of **combating climate change**, achieving net-zero emissions by mid-century is a pre-requisite for meeting its commitment under the **Paris Agreement** and to raise the ambition level. We as a Roundtable want to make this happen! In the interest of society, we spur **innovations in the areas of sector coupling and digitalisation, develop new business models** and support the introduction of **carbon pricing** in order to create a cleaner and greener future for all Europeans.

It is not only about delivering electricity, it is about **connecting people** across borders and **advancing European cooperation**. Making energy more secure, affordable and sustainable for all citizens across Europe requires a **robust and seamless EU internal energy market design**, reinforced cooperation among all actors and a **price that reflects the real impact of carbon emissions**. Hence, the REEF stresses the following **7 key priorities which should guide EU energy and climate policy in the trajectory to net-zero by 2050**:

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### DELIVER AN ENERGY UNION WHICH IS FOCUSING ON CLIMATE PROTECTION THAT IS FULLY ACCEPTED BY ALL



1. Provide robust planning for national energy and climate plans.



2. Create an efficient market design, including effective carbon pricing.



3. Strengthen power grids for the energy transition and security of supply.



4. Mobilise consumers for stronger demands of green products.



5. Embrace digital solutions and cybersecurity to integrate rising shares of fluctuating and decentralised renewable energy.



6. Foster regional governance through Regional Energy Forums (REF).



7. Realise the potential of sector coupling.

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