

ROMANIA'S DRAFT UPDATED NATIONAL ENERGY AND CLIMATE PLAN

An important step towards the more ambitious 2030 energy and climate objectives under the European Green Deal and REPowerEU Plan



Highlights of the Commission's assessment

The European Green Deal, the fast-evolving geopolitical context and the energy crisis have led the EU and its Member States to accelerate the energy transition and set more ambitious energy and climate objectives. These developments are reflected in the legislative and policy framework adopted under both the 'Fit for 55' package and the REPowerEU Plan. Taking this new context into account, Member States are updating their National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) for the first time since 2019. The European Commission has assessed Romania's draft updated NECP, submitted on 31 October 2023.

Romania's key objectives, targets and contributions

		2030 value submitted in the draft updated NECP	2030 target un- der EU legisla- tion	Assessment of 2030 ambition level
GHG	Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in ESR sectors (com- pared with 2005)	N/A		No projections provided in Roma- nia's plan
GHG	GHG removals in LULUCF (Mt CO2 eq.net GHG removals)	-32	`	Romania is not on track to reach the target taking into account updated inventories
Con la	Energy Efficiency (final energy consumption)	23.2 Mtoe	22.8 Mtoe***	Romania's final energy consumption is above the indicated target resulting from EU legislation
	Renewable Energy (share of renewable energy in gross final consumption)	34%	41%****	Romania's submitted contribution to the EU target is significantly below the one resulting from EU legislation

^{*} under the Effort Sharing Regulation.

^{**} under the Regulation on Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry.

^{***} according to the formula set out in Annex I of the Directive (EU) 2023/1791 on energy efficiency and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/955 ('EED recast').

^{****} according to the formula set out in Annex II of the Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 on the Governance Regulation of the Energy Union and Climate Action.

Romania's main positive elements and areas for improvement

- ✓ On **energy security**, Romania's draft updated NECP sets out targets and policies to improve Romania's security of energy supply, for instance by strengthening the gas network and interconnections.
- ✓ On **energy efficiency**, Romania's plan is comprehensive and informative and includes new measures addressing different sectors. However, the lack of quantification of energy savings measures makes it difficult to estimate the contribution to the energy efficiency targets.
- ✓ On **energy poverty**, Romania's draft updated NECP identifies this as its most relevant policy and mentions a national objective to reduce energy policy. However, it lacks information on the quantification of this objective and specific policies and measures.
- ✓ On the strategic alignment with other planning tools, Romania's draft updated NECP covers the implementation of the measures included in the recovery and resilience plan and notably those in the new REPowerEU chapter.
- X On **renewable energy**, the Romania's draft updated NECP lacks information on measures that Romania plans to adopt.
- X On **internal market**, the plan lacks ambitious objectives and policies to enable market integration and further measures on the deployment of storage, demand response and flexibility.
- **X** On **research**, **innovation and competitiveness**, policies in Romania's draft updated NECP focus on energy, but lacks concrete targets, measures and funding to support research, innovation and competitiveness of clean energy technologies and skills gaps.
- **X** On the **just transition** dimension, the plan lacks a comprehensive analysis of social, employment and skills impact, including distributional ones, of the climate and energy transition and does not elaborate on concrete policies and measures to address these beyond coal regions. The plan is only partially consistent with the adopted territorial just transition plans concerning the intermediate trajectory for the coal phase out and the timeline for the phase out of coal and lignite-based power plants.

Moving forward...

Based on this assessment, the Commission has published country-specific recommendations for each Member State. These recommendations should be taken into account by the Member States when preparing their final updated NECPs, which are due by 30 June 2024.

Full Commission's assessment and recommendations on Romania's draft updated NECP: here

More information about the National Energy & Climate Plans: NECP website