

TO CANDIDATES FOR THE EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

EUROPEANS, GET OUR EYES OPEN !!!

This letter was prepared by Sauvons le Climat, one member organisation of weCARE, and signed by a number of high level people, most of them French, to be sent to the French candidates running for the European Elections of May 2019.

Each year more CO₂ (carbonic gas) is rejected into the atmosphere, increasing the impact on climate change, as foreseen since long by climatologists.

To avoid a catastrophic evolution, humanity needs to reduce its CO₂ emissions by 80 % for 2050, which nearly means not using anymore an equivalent fraction of the energy sources on which we rely today.

Fortunately, decarbonised sources of energy are available and competitive. They could be deployed if interests of diverse parties, many times not based on scientific facts, would not block this process. At this time juncture when EU citizens will elect their representatives for the European Parliament, the signatories of this document have to note, with regret, that Europe is not doing what it should do to become a model for the fight against climate change.

It is time to look to reality and see that:

- the production of electricity can be strongly decarbonised at economic and affordable conditions for the people,
- it is urgent, in transport, building and industry, to replace all fossil fuels by decarbonised energy sources,
- that nuclear energy is rejected on purely dogmatic grounds in a number of European countries, while noting that this energy is further developed elsewhere in the world (with 54 reactors in construction and more planned).

To do better, we ask:

- that Europe develops energy policies based solely on targets on greenhouse gas emissions reduction, leaving each state decide on the ways and means to reach these targets,
- that the national targets take account of emission levels effectively reached per inhabitant, while seeking convergence of performance among the countries,
- that decisions at European level are taken on economic calculations based on scientific grounds and not influenced by interested parties,
- that investment decisions consider security of supply at global European level and the competitiveness of the European industry,
- that results in terms of greenhouse gas emission reduction per inhabitant are regularly published to create an emulation among the European countries and their people.

Signatories are convinced that the energy transition can be the opportunity to build a better world, more secure, more safe and with increased solidarity, where Europe can take its part, if indeed results are at the level of the declared ambition.

Signatories: Bernard Accoyer, André Berger, Marcel Boiteux, Yves Bréchet, Edouard Brezin, Jean-Pierre Chevènement, Claude Cohen-Tannoudji, Gérard Grunblatt, Hélène Langevin-Joliot, Hervé Macheda, Roland Masse, Jacques Percebois, Michel Petit, Jean-Pol Poncelet, Gilbert Ruelle.