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Press release | 19.11.2026

EU caves in to the fossil fuel lobby

Methane Regulation postponed

In today´s early morning hours, in trilogue negotiations with the Council and the European Commission, a majority of center-right to far-right MEPs agreed to postpone the implementation of certain parts of the Methane Regulation by two years. Strict reporting and documentation requirements, as well as import rules for companies in the oil, fossil gas, and coal sectors, will now take effect later than originally planned. Valuable time is being lost in the fight against global warming—and this is happening even as the EU pushes for faster reductions in methane emissions at the global climate conference in Antalya.

Methane emissions are responsible for about a third of global warming, with the energy sector alone accounting for 10 percent of the global rise in temperature.

The vote in the European Parliament's plenary session next week still needs to be confirmed.

Jutta Paulus, Greens/EFA member and former European Parliament's lead negotiator for the Methane Regulation, commented on the postponement of the reporting requirements:

"*The EU is caving in to the fossil fuel lobby and the Trump administration. While the European Commission and EU member states are pushing to include a commitment to reduce methane emissions in the final text of the global climate conference in Antalya, they are simultaneously kicking the implementation of a key instrument for achieving this down the road in Brussels. It is impossible to justify how the wasteful flaring and venting of gas should somehow enhance energy security or reduce bills for consumers, especially at a time of tight supplies and high prices.*"

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Responsible MEPs



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