



The G7 Research Group presents the

## 2021 G7 Cornwall Summit Interim Compliance Report

14 June 2021 to 1 February 2022

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“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme,  
*in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit*

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## 11. Energy: Coal

“[To accelerate the international transition away from coal, recognising that continued global investment in unabated coal power generation is incompatible with keeping 1.5°C within reach we stress that international investments in unabated coal must stop now and] we commit now to an end to new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021, including through Official Development Assistance, export finance, investment, and financial and trade promotion support.”

*Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.75 (88%)	

### Background

While coal has long been on the G7 agenda, the transition away from coal is a relatively recent commitment area first seen at the 1998 Birmingham Summit.<sup>1345</sup> By adopting and implementing international treaties like the Kyoto Protocol of 2007 and the Paris Agreement of 2016, G7 leaders have been able to develop measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the use, trade and generation of coal-power.<sup>1346</sup> International instruments like the International Energy Agency (IEA) and Development Financial Institutions (DFIs) have also enabled the G7 members to support developing countries in transitioning to low-carbon economies.<sup>1347</sup>

At the 1979 Tokyo Summit, G7 members promised to “increase as far as possible coal use, production, and trade, without damage to the environment” amidst the ongoing oil crisis of 1979.<sup>1348</sup> To avoid any future dependency on oil resources, G7 members pledged “not to interrupt coal trade under long term contracts unless required to do so by a national emergency.”

At the 1989 Paris Summit, G7 members recognised the scientific basis which argued that “excessive emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases could lead to future climate changes.”<sup>1349</sup> To advocate the need to limit emissions of greenhouse gases, G7 members supported the work of international institutions like the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the World Meteorological Organization.

<sup>1345</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>

<sup>1346</sup> What Is The Kyoto Protocol?, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Kyoto) n.d. Access Date: 26 October 2021. [https://unfccc.int/kyoto\\_protocol](https://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol); The Paris Agreement, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>

<sup>1347</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

<sup>1348</sup> G7 1979 Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 1979. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1979tokyo/communiqu.html>

<sup>1349</sup> 1989 Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 1989. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/communiqu/index.html>

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, G8 members underscored their determination to combat climate change as “the greatest environmental threat to their future prosperity.”<sup>1350</sup> Members welcomed the adoption and implementation of the 1997 Kyoto Protocol as it set forth legally-binding targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and encouraged the supplementation of domestic actions with international market-based mechanisms.

At the 1999 Köln Summit, G8 members committed to developing domestic measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.<sup>1351</sup> While not explicitly mentioning coal, this commitment shows that emission reductions and limiting warming was on the agenda.

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, the G8 supported international efforts to make coal power generation more clean and efficient.<sup>1352</sup> In the Gleneagles Plan of Action: Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development, G8 members agreed to assist the IEA by “disseminating information on energy efficiency of coal-fired power plants,” assessing which power plants had the lowest emissions and working with stakeholders “on projects to demonstrate the potential of advanced fossil fuel technologies.”<sup>1353</sup>

At the 2008 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, G8 members committed to “establish an international initiative with the support of the IEA to develop roadmaps for innovative technologies including carbon capture and storage (CCS)” in pursuing the objective of a low-carbon society.<sup>1354</sup> Specifically, members initiated 20 large-scale CCS demonstration projects globally by 2010. Moreover, the G8 advocated for the role of World Bank initiatives like the Climate Investment Funds (CIF) including the Clean Technology Fund and the Strategic Climate Fund in providing access to cleaner energy in developing countries. Members themselves “pledged approximately [USD6 billion] as an Official Development Assistance (ODA) contribution to the funds in support of low-carbon economies.”

At the 2009 L’Aquila Summit, G8 members explicitly recognised that the “increase in global average temperature above pre-industrial levels ought not to exceed 2°C” in reaffirmation of the importance of the IPCC’s 2007 Fourth Assessment Report.<sup>1355</sup>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 members welcomed the 2016 Paris Agreement by committing “to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.”<sup>1356</sup> The purpose of this commitment was to reduce the impacts of climate change and stem rising rates of emissions.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 members welcomed “the adoption by the UN General Assembly of a resolution titled Towards a Global Pact for the Environment” as part of their commitment to reach a global carbon-neutral economy over the course of the second half of the century.<sup>1357</sup>

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<sup>1350</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>

<sup>1351</sup> G8 Communiqué Köln 1999 Final, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 June 1999. Access Date: 26 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1999koln/finalcom.htm>

<sup>1352</sup> Chair’s Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 July 2005. Access Date: 26 October 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/summary.html>

<sup>1353</sup> Gleneagles Plan of Action: Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 July 2005. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/climatechangeplan.html>

<sup>1354</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 July 2008. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

<sup>1355</sup> Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 July 2009. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html>

<sup>1356</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

<sup>1357</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 June 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

On 21 May 2021 in a virtual meeting, G7 Climate and Environment Ministers committed “to rapidly scale-up technologies and policies that further accelerate the transition away from unabated coal capacity and to an overwhelmingly decarbonised power system in the 2030s.”<sup>1358</sup> The G7 Ministers highlighted the importance of working with different initiatives and institutions to achieve this objective like the Energy Transition Council (ETC), the Powering Past Coal Alliance, and the upcoming United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow. The Ministers also discussed the role of “aligning official international financing with the global achievement of net zero GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions no later than 2050 and deep emissions reductions in the 2020s” to keep the goal of limiting the global temperature increase to 1.5°C within reach. G7 Ministers also appreciated the support provided and mobilised by DFIs and multilateral funds to support the energy transition. Finally, the Ministers approved the recent CIF’s board decision to launch new sector specific funds, including those to accelerate coal transitions, and support renewable energy deployment in emerging economies.

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 members planned “to commit up to [USD2 billion] in the coming year to its Accelerating the Coal Transition and Integrating Renewable Energy programs” in efforts to “mobilize up to [USD10 billion] in co-financing, including from the private sector, to support renewable energy deployment in developing and emerging economies.”<sup>1359</sup> Encouraging domestic actions coordinated through the ETC, G7 members also called on other major economies to join them in “phasing out the most polluting energy sources, and scaling up investment in the technology and infrastructure to facilitate the clean, green transition.”

### **Commitment Features**

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders recognised that “continued global investment in unabated coal power generation is incompatible with keeping 1.5°C within reach.”<sup>1360</sup> In response, they produced the following commitment under the Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: “[To accelerate the international transition away from coal, recognising that continued global investment in unabated coal power generation is incompatible with keeping 1.5°C within reach we stress that international investments in unabated coal must stop now and] we commit now to an end to new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021, including through Official Development Assistance, export finance, investment, and financial and trade promotion support.”

To define the key terms in this commitment, “direct government support” refers to “a grant or loan by a government to a private person or company to assist an enterprise deemed advantageous to the public.”<sup>1361</sup> “New” is defined as “having recently come into existence.”<sup>1362</sup> In the context of direct government support, “new” is understood to mean any recently created loan, grant, or subsidy.

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<sup>1358</sup> G7 Climate and Environment: Ministers’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 May 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2021-environment.html>

<sup>1359</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communication.html>

<sup>1360</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communication.html>

<sup>1361</sup> Subsidy, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/subsidy>

<sup>1362</sup> New, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/new>

“Unabated coal power generation” is defined as “the use of coal that [is not] mitigated with technologies to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> [carbon dioxide] emissions, such as Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage (CCUS).”<sup>1363</sup> International is defined as “of, relating to, or affecting two or more nations.”<sup>1364</sup> Thus, the term “unabated international thermal coal power generation” is understood to mean the use of coal by two or more nations that is not mitigated with technologies to reduce emissions.

The term “1.5° Celsius” refers to the latest limit placed on global warming by the Paris Agreement, “a legally binding international treaty on climate change that entered into force on 4 November 2016.”<sup>1365</sup> The goal of the treaty was to limit global increases in temperature to 1.5° Celsius by curbing greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible.

G7 members agreed to bring an end to any new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation through four pillars of cooperation: Official Development Assistance, export finance, investment or financial and trade promotion support. ODA refers to “government aid designed to promote the economic development and welfare of developing countries i.e., grants, ‘soft’ loans and the provision of technical assistance.”<sup>1366</sup> ODA “may be provided bilaterally, from donor to recipient, or channelled through a multilateral development agency such as the United Nations or the World Bank.” A member can receive compliance for this aspect of the commitment by providing government aid to the ODA through loans, assistance, or sharing information to aid in the implementation of clean and sustainable energy.

The term “export finance” is defined as “a cash flow solution for exporters which facilitates the commerce of goods internationally.”<sup>1367</sup> It is a range of finance that “aims to support businesses reaching the international market.” The purpose of export finance is to fund the production of products that are to be sold internationally prior to payment from the purchaser. A member can receive compliance for this aspect of the commitment by providing funding to a company or manufacturer that produces alternative energies to coal in order to facilitate its usage internationally.

The term “investment” refers to the act of allocating funds into something to achieve a result.<sup>1368</sup> In the context of this commitment, export finance and investments refer to funding allocated for initiatives that seek to develop or utilize alternative energy sources other than unabated coal production in order to achieve the goal of limiting emissions to maintain a 1.5°C warming range. Examples of investments that count towards compliance for this aspect of the commitment include funding for research and development of sustainable energies or funding for companies that produce sustainable energies.

“Financial support” is defined as money that is usually provided by the government to enable an organization to continue.<sup>1369</sup> “Trade promotion” is defined as “a marketing technique directed at wholesalers or retailers

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<sup>1363</sup> G7 Leaders Commit To Protect Planet and Turbocharge Global Green Growth, G7 UK 2021 (Cornwall) 12 June 2021. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.g7uk.org/g7-leaders-commit-to-protect-planet-and-turbocharge-global-green-growth/>

<sup>1364</sup> International, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/international>

<sup>1365</sup> The Paris Agreement, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>

<sup>1366</sup> Net ODA, Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://data.oecd.org/oda/net-oda.htm>

<sup>1367</sup> What is Export Finance?, Velotrade (Hong Kong) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.velotrade.com/guides/what-is-export-finance/>

<sup>1368</sup> Investment, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/investment>

<sup>1369</sup> Financial Support, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/financial-support>

rather than the final consumer, specifically aimed at increasing demand for products in retail stores.”<sup>1370</sup> In the context of coal power generation, the term “trade promotion support” is understood as investing in the accessibility and profitability of clean and sustainable energy generation for industry workers.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, is awarded to G7 members who demonstrate strong action in ending any new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation through at least two and a weaker action in at least one of the pillars of cooperation of the commitment. The four pillars, as stated before, include: Official Development Assistance, export finance, investment or, financial and trade promotion support. Strong actions include providing direct investment and funding into the ODA, manufacturers as export finance, research and development initiatives for clean energy technologies and initiatives that promote the sale and trade of sustainable energies. Weaker actions include reasserting the commitment to end new government support for unabated thermal coal power generation by attending meetings, making public statements and attending summits but without taking any concrete action or issuing any funding for initiatives. In order to achieve full compliance, a member must at a minimum take strong action in two of the component criteria (for example, increasing funding for export finance and investments) and weaker action in at least one other area (for example, making a statement emphasizing the importance of the ODA in transitioning to sustainable energy.)

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, is awarded to G7 members who only take weak actions in three of the four pillars of cooperation. Examples of weak action, as previously stated, includes actions that are less substantial, like verbal reaffirmations of existing commitments, attendance at international conferences, etc. Partial compliance is also awarded when a state only takes strong action in one component criteria but fails to fulfill the two needed to achieve full compliance.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, is awarded either to those members who do not demonstrate any action in ending any new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has taken NO action towards ending new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation in any of the four pillars of cooperation (Official Development Assistance, export finance, investment and financial and trade promotion support).
0	The G7 member has taken WEAK action(s) towards ending new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation through THREE of the following: 1) Official Development Assistance, 2) export finance, 3) investment or 4) financial and trade promotion support.
+1	The G7 member has taken STRONG action(s) towards ending new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation through at least TWO and weaker action in at least ONE of the following: 1) Official Development Assistance, 2) export finance, 3) investment or 4) financial and trade promotion support.

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### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On 21 June 2021, Minister of Natural Resources Seamus O’Regan Jr. launched the Clean Fuels Fund along with a call for project proposals that would increase Canada’s capacity to produce clean fuels.<sup>1371</sup> Worth

<sup>1370</sup> What is Trade Promotion, HCL Technologies (Noida) n.d. Access Date: 26 September 2021. <https://www.hcltech.com/technology-qa/what-trade-promotion>

CAD1.5 billion, this fund supports the creation or expansion of new and existing clean fuel production facilities in order to help Canada transition away from fossil fuels like coal.

On 24 June 2021, Minister O'Regan and the United States Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on energy cooperation.<sup>1372</sup> This MOU aims to increase bilateral cooperation on clean fuel research and sustainable and equitable energy transitions in pursuit of Canada's commitment to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.

On 29 June 2021, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne announced a CAD20 million investment in ELYSIS Limited Partnership to support its work to create the world's first carbon-free aluminum.<sup>1373</sup> This investment will improve Canada's reputation as a reliable and secure supplier of green aluminum. Furthermore, this domestic investment acts as a model to other aluminum-producing countries that still use coal for aluminum smelting.

On 8 July 2021, the Government of Canada announced funding for the creation of three new solar farms in the towns of Antigonish, Berwick and Mahone Bay in Nova Scotia.<sup>1374</sup> These projects will increase Nova Scotia's use of renewable energy and diminish their reliance on coal-based energy.

On 12 July 2021, the Government of Canada announced a CAD1.8 million investment in the first net-zero energy community in Nova Scotia.<sup>1375</sup> The funding will support the refurbishment of related energy and heating infrastructure in the community of Pine Tree Park Estates, Nova Scotia. Data from this community will be collected and analyzed to serve as a model for future net-zero communities in Atlantic Canada.

On 16 July 2021, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion Carla Qualtrough earmarked an investment of CAD35 million for innovative clean tech projects led by the British Columbia Centre for Innovation and Clean Energy.<sup>1376</sup> This investment aims to fund research on how clean fuels and renewable natural gas aim to meet Canada's goal of net-zero emissions by 2050.

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<sup>1371</sup> Minister O'Regan Launches Call for Proposals Under \$1.5-Billion Clean Fuels Fund to Grow Clean Fuels Market Across Canada, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/06/minister-oregan-launches-call-for-proposals-under-15-billion-clean-fuels-fund-to-grow-clean-fuels-market-across-canada.html>

<sup>1372</sup> Canada Strengthens Energy Partnership with the United States, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/06/canada-strengthens-energy-partnership-with-the-united-states.html>

<sup>1373</sup> Investment to Help Canada's Aluminum Industry Eliminate its Carbon Footprint, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Alma) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/06/investment-to-help-canadas-aluminum-industry-eliminate-its-carbon-footprint.html>

<sup>1374</sup> Canada and Nova Scotia Invest in Renewable Energy Infrastructure with Three Solar Farms in Antigonish, Berwick, and Mahone Bay, Infrastructure Canada (Mahone Bay) 8 July 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/07/canada-and-nova-scotia-invest-in-renewable-energy-infrastructure-with-three-solar-farms-in-antigonish-berwick-and-mahone-bay.html>

<sup>1375</sup> Government of Canada Announces Support for the First Net-Zero Energy Community in Nova Scotia, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (Sydney) 12 July 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/atlantic-canada-opportunities/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-the-first-net-zero-energy-community-in-nova-scotia.html>

<sup>1376</sup> Canada Invests Up to \$35 Million to Support Made-in-B.C. Clean Tech Projects, Natural Resources Canada (Vancouver) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/07/canada-invests-up-to-35-million-to-support-made-in-bc-clean-tech-projects.html>

On 20 July 2021, Minister O'Regan launched the Just Transition Engagement.<sup>1377</sup> This program aims to collect feedback from Canadians on how the Government of Canada can ensure a just and equitable transition to a low-carbon future for workers and their communities.

On 30 July 2021, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Labour Filomena Tassi and Minister Champagne announced an investment of CAD400 million in ArcelorMittal Dofasco G.P., which is Canada's largest producer of flat-rolled steel.<sup>1378</sup> The goal of this investment is to help ArcelorMittal Dofasco phase out coal-fired steelmaking at its facilities in Hamilton, Ontario. This measure aims to reduce Canada's greenhouse gas emissions by up to 3 million tonnes every year till 2030.

On 4 August 2021, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard and to British Columbia's Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages Terry Beech announced investments in ten small- and medium-sized enterprises in areas like clean technology.<sup>1379</sup> This announcement includes a CAD4 million investment in Clir Renewables Inc. to help expand their operations and sales of a renewable energy software.

On 5 August 2021, Canada signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Romania on nuclear energy collaboration.<sup>1380</sup> This MOU aims to decarbonize electricity systems and strengthen bilateral cooperation on establishing new and refurbished nuclear reactors in Romania.

On 6 August 2021, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Jonathan Wilkinson rejected the Grassy Mountain Coal Project, preventing the extraction of 4.5 million tonnes of coal.<sup>1381</sup> This decision highlights Canada's commitment to ending further expansions of existing thermal coal mines and preventing the encroachment of Indigenous lands.

On 11 August 2021, Minister Champagne announced an investment of CAD19.1 million in six Canadian clean technology companies through Sustainable Development Technology Canada.<sup>1382</sup> This action includes an investment in the development of Eavor-Loop, a technology which can generate heat and power with zero emissions.

On 11 August 2021, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade Mary Ng and British Columbia's Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation Ravi Kahlon announced a partnership to increase the development and testing of integrated markets for clean technologies in Canada by

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<sup>1377</sup> Canada Launches Just Transition Engagement, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/07/canada-launches-just-transition-engagement.html>

<sup>1378</sup> Government Investing in Hamilton's Steel Industry to Support Good Jobs and Significantly Reduce Emissions, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Hamilton) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 16 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/07/government-investing-in-hamiltons-steel-industry-to-support-good-jobs-and-significantly-reduce-emissions.html>

<sup>1379</sup> Government of Canada Announces Over \$20 Million Investment in Clean Tech, Digital Economy, Health Services, and Value-added Agriculture, Western Economic Diversification Canada (Delta) 4 August 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/western-economic-diversification/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-announces-over-20-million-investment-in-clean-tech-digital-economy-health-sciences-and-value-added-agriculture.html>

<sup>1380</sup> Canada Strengthens Nuclear Collaboration with Romania, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 5 August 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/08/canada-strengthens-nuclear-collaboration-with-romania.html>

<sup>1381</sup> The Government of Canada Releases its Final Decision on the Grassy Mountain Coal Project, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 16 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/news/2021/08/the-government-of-canada-releases-its-final-decision-on-the-grassy-mountain-coal-project.html>

<sup>1382</sup> Government of Canada Supporting Canadian Cleantech Companies from Seed to Scale-Up, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-supporting-canadian-cleantech-companies-from-seed-to-scale-up.html>

using British Columbia as a testing point.<sup>1383</sup> The goal is to support greater domestic adoption of clean technologies and make Canadian clean technology companies more competitive in the international market.

On 12 August 2021, Minister O'Regan launched a new "capacity-building-stream" under the Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways Program to invest in renewable energy technologies.<sup>1384</sup> This stream will enable communities to thrive in a low-carbon economy as it supports and invests in projects that build knowledge and skills related to renewable energy and grid modernization technologies.

On 13 August 2021, Minister Wilkinson and France's Minister for the Ecological Transition Barbara Pompili renewed the 2018 Canada-France partnership on climate and the environment.<sup>1385</sup> The goal is to work together on new initiatives to phase out coal, by working through the Powering Past Coal Alliance which Canada leads, and to ensure an equitable transition for workers and their communities.

On 22 October 2021, along with other countries and jurisdictions, Canada joined the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)'s statement to end export credit support for unabated coal-fired power plants.<sup>1386</sup> Thus, signatories to this agreement will no longer finance new coal-fired power plants without operational carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS) facilities nor to existing coal-fired power plants unless they are used for retrofitting to install CCUS.

On 1 November 2021, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced plans to end thermal coal exports by no later than 2030 and to achieve net-zero emissions on electricity grids by phasing out coal-fired electricity by 2035.<sup>1387</sup> Prime Minister Trudeau also announced Canada's contribution of CAD1 billion for the Climate Investment Funds Accelerated Coal Transition Investment Program to aid developing countries transition from coal-fired electricity to clean power.<sup>1388</sup> Additionally, Canada will contribute CAD25 million to the Energy Sector Management Assistance Program to assist the implementation of clean energy alternatives.<sup>1389</sup>

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<sup>1383</sup> Joint Statement: Government of Canada and Government of British Columbia Announce a Partnership to Accelerate Integrated Clean Technology Markets in British Columbia and Beyond, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/08/joint-statement-government-of-canada-and-government-of-british-columbia-announce-a-partnership-to-accelerate-integrated-clean-technology-markets-in.html>

<sup>1384</sup> Building Capacity to Accelerate Canada's Low-Carbon Future - Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways Program, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/08/building-capacity-to-accelerate-canadas-low-carbon-future--smart-renewables-and-electrification-pathways-program.html>

<sup>1385</sup> Canada and France Renew Partnership on Climate and Environment, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Gatineau) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 2 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/08/canada-and-france-renew-partnership-on-climate-and-environment.html>

<sup>1386</sup> Agreement Reached at OECD to End Export Credit Support for Unabated Coal-Fired Power Plants, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Media Office (Paris) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/newsroom/agreement-reached-at-oecd-to-end-export-credit-support-for-unabated-coal-fired-power-plants.htm>

<sup>1387</sup> Prime Minister Trudeau Announces Enhanced and Ambitious Climate Action to Cut Pollution at the COP26 summit, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Glasgow) 1 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/11/01/prime-minister-trudeau-announces-enhanced-and-ambitious-climate>

<sup>1388</sup> Prime Minister's Remarks Delivering Canada's National Statement at the COP26 summit, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Glasgow) 1 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/speeches/2021/11/01/prime-ministers-remarks-delivering-canadas-national-statement-cop26-summit>

<sup>1389</sup> Prime Minister Trudeau Announces Enhanced and Ambitious Climate Action to Cut Pollution at the COP26 summit, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Glasgow) 1 November 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/11/01/prime-minister-trudeau-announces-enhanced-and-ambitious-climate>

On 4 November 2021, along with a coalition of 190 countries and organizations, Canada signed the Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow.<sup>1390</sup> This statement recognizes the need to transition away from unabated coal power generation and commits the signatories towards working together on actions such as cleantech research, financial support and ending new direct government support for unabated coal-fired power generation by the end of 2022.<sup>1391</sup>

On 9 November 2021, Minister of Northern Affairs, Minister responsible for Prairies Economic Development Canada and Minister responsible for the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency Daniel Vandal announced an investment of CAD1.35 million for hydrogen fuel infrastructure, equipment and technology.<sup>1392</sup> This investment is aimed at developing hydrogen as a cleaner burning fuel alternative to fossil fuels such as coal.

On 1 December 2021, Minister of Natural Resources Jonathan Wilkinson announced a call for proposals to support low-carbon fuels research, development and demonstration projects.<sup>1393</sup> The goal is to ease Canada's shift towards more sustainable and low-carbon market operations.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021. Canada's strongest actions towards this commitment are its numerous investments in clean fuel technologies, renewable energy projects and research on thermal coal energy divestment. Additionally, Canada pursued actions on the domestic level with its pledge to shift electrical grids toward net-zero emissions and on the international level with the OECD agreement to ban future investments in coal power. Under the pillar of Official Development Assistance, Canada has pledged funds to ease the transition away from coal for developing countries. It has provided trade promotion support to the steel and aluminium industries by investing in their capacity to transition toward the use of renewable energy sources. Finally, Canada has continued bilateral and international cooperation to promote clean technologies and replace unabated coal power generation.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Daryll Bien Concepcion*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On 14 July 2021, France introduced a national aid scheme to support the production of renewable energy.<sup>1394</sup> Worth EUR30.5 billion, this scheme is approved by the European Commission as it will support the transition to environmentally sustainable energy sources.

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<sup>1390</sup> Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement, United Nations Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://ukcop26.org/global-coal-to-clean-power-transition-statement/>

<sup>1391</sup> Canada Announces Commitment to End New Direct Public Support for the International Unabated Fossil Fuel Sector by the End of 2022, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 17 November 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/11/canada-announces-commitment-to-end-new-direct-public-support-for-the-international-unabated-fossil-fuel-sector-by-the-end-of-2022.html>

<sup>1392</sup> Federal Investment Advances Alberta's Hydrogen Economy, Prairies Economic Development Canada (Edmonton) 9 November 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/prairies-economic-development/news/2021/11/federal-investment-advances-albertas-hydrogen-economy.html>

<sup>1393</sup> Canada Opens Call for Research, Development, and Demonstration Projects on Industrial Decarbonization and Low-Carbon Fuels, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 1 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/12/canada-opens-call-for-research-development-and-demonstration-projects-on-industrial-decarbonization-and-low-carbon-fuels.html>

On 20 July 2021, the Parliament passed a final version of the Climate and Resilience law to combat climate change and increase energy efficiency through a variety of bans, incentives and quotas that address areas like housing, means of transportations and food consumption.<sup>1395</sup> This includes measures such as requiring airlines to compensate emissions for domestic flights by purchasing carbon credits from 2024 onwards, banning domestic flights if there is a train alternative of less than two and a half hours, restricting advertising for fossil fuel energies and banning the availability of badly insulated housing from 2025.

On 13 August 2021, Minister of the Ecological Transition Barbara Pompili and Canada's Minister of Environment and Climate Change Jonathan Wilkinson renewed the Canada-France Partnership on Climate and Environment.<sup>1396</sup> The new features of this Partnership include working through the Powering Past Coal Alliance (PPCA) and promoting a green recovery in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The PPCA focuses mainly on phasing out the use of coal as a resource and addressing the social and economic impacts of this transition.

On 24 September 2021, France signed a pledge, along with six other countries, led by the United Nations to stop building new power plants.<sup>1397</sup> This No New Coal agreement focuses on phasing out the use of coal and ending the construction of new plants.

On 12 October 2021, President Emmanuel Macron unveiled the EUR30 billion plan known as "France 2030" which seeks to decarbonize key polluting industries and develop certain sectors for innovation.<sup>1398</sup> As part of the plan, President Macron announced investments up to EUR2 billion in green hydrogen technologies.<sup>1399</sup> President Macron also emphasized nuclear power as crucial to the clean energy investment plan with the allocation of EUR1 billion to developing small nuclear reactor technologies.<sup>1400</sup>

On 13 October 2021, France's national majority-owned company Électricité de France proposed the construction of up to six nuclear reactors in Poland to mitigate the impact of the country's coal-based energy sector.<sup>1401</sup> This development would help move Poland away from coal and develop its nuclear sector, thereby aiding the country's transition towards carbon neutrality.

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<sup>1394</sup> State Aid: Commission Approves €30.5 Billion French Scheme to Support Production of Electricity from Renewable Energy Sources, European Commission (Brussels) 27 July 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_3922](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3922)

<sup>1395</sup> France Cracks Down on Car, Home and Plane Emissions in New Law, Bloomberg (New York) 20 July 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-07-20/france-cracks-down-on-car-home-and-plane-emissions-in-new-law>

<sup>1396</sup> Canada and France Renew Partnership on Climate and Environment, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/08/canada-and-france-renew-partnership-on-climate-and-environment.html>

<sup>1397</sup> United Nations Launches Pledge to Stop Building New Coal Power Plants, Bloomberg (New York) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-09-24/these-countries-plan-to-stop-building-new-coal-power-plants>

<sup>1398</sup> Macron Unveils 30-Bln Euro Plan For Innovation And Industrial Revival, Reuters (Paris) 12 October 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/macron-unveils-30-bln-euro-france-2030-investment-plan-2021-10-12/>

<sup>1399</sup> France's Green Hydrogen Pioneers Aim To Revolutionise Energy Production, Radio France Internationale (Paris) 22 December 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20211222-france-s-green-hydrogen-pioneers-aim-to-revolutionise-energy-production>

<sup>1400</sup> Macron: Nuclear 'Absolutely Key' to France's Future, World Nuclear News (London) 13 October 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Macron-Nuclear-absolutely-key-to-France-s-future>

<sup>1401</sup> France's EDF Offers to Build Nuclear Reactors in Coal-Dependent Poland, Radio France Internationale (Paris) 14 October 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.rfi.fr/en/europe/20211014-france-s-edf-offers-to-build-nuclear-reactors-in-coal-dependant-poland>

On 27 October 2021, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of the Economy, Finance and the Recovery led a joint initiative to include climate and environmental issues in development policies.<sup>1402</sup> The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Development Assistance Committee agreed to exclude “any support for coal without abatement mechanisms” from the scope of possible assistance and to limit support for other fossil fuels.

On 2 November 2021, along with the European Union, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States, France announced a long-term partnership to support South Africa in its transition away from coal, and in the country's decarbonization efforts.<sup>1403</sup> Through the International Just Energy Transition Partnership, France will commit to a combined investment of USD8.5 billion.<sup>1404</sup> President Macron stated that this partnership would “benefit from the long-standing cooperation between France and South Africa through the work of the Agence Française de Développement.” The International Just Energy Transition Partnership “is expected to prevent up to 1-1.5 gigatons of emission over the next 20 years.”

On 9 November 2021, President Macron vowed to build more nuclear reactors nationally in an effort to move away from coal dependency.<sup>1405</sup> The goal of this measure is to develop more nuclear energy to “guarantee France's energy independence” and to reach the country's goal of carbon neutrality by 2050.

On 12 November 2021, Minister Pompili joined the agreement to end global financing of coal, oil and gas projects by the end of 2022 at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow.<sup>1406</sup> As part of this agreement, France will “continue to work on proposals to accelerate the improvement of the carbon balance of the energy mix of countries receiving export support.” The declaration encompasses the elimination of both export finance and bilateral official development assistance and it encourages the deployment of clean power generation as well as technologies and policies that might facilitate this transition.<sup>1407</sup>

On 1 December 2021, Minister Pompili attended the Pentalateral Energy Forum to discuss how to administer a resilient transition to clean energy.<sup>1408</sup> The goal of this action was to emphasize the importance of cooperation for the global energy transition on an international platform.

On 9 December 2021, President Macron announced his ecological objectives for France's European Union Council presidency in the first half of 2022.<sup>1409</sup> President Macron stated that the climate transition would be

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<sup>1402</sup> OECD/Development Assistance Committee – Agreement on Aligning Official Development Assistance With The Paris Agreement And Excluding Coal From The Scope Of Assistance, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 27 October 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2021/article/oecd-development-assistance-committee-agreement-on-aligning-official>

<sup>1403</sup> France, Germany, UK, US and EU Launch Ground-Breaking International Just Energy Transition Partnership with South Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_5768](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_5768)

<sup>1404</sup> Joint Statement - International Just Energy Transition Partnership, Office of the President of France (Paris) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2021/11/02/joint-statement-international-just-energy-transition-partnership>

<sup>1405</sup> France Vows to Build New Nuclear Reactors to Meet Climate Goals, Euronews (Lyon) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.euronews.com/2021/11/10/france-vows-to-build-new-nuclear-reactors-to-meet-climate-goals>

<sup>1406</sup> COP26: France Signs a Statement Reaffirming its Commitment to End International Public Financing of Fossil Fuel Projects, Ministry for the Ecological Transition (Paris) 12 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/cop26-france-signs-statement-reaffirming-its-commitment-end-international-public-financing-fossil>

<sup>1407</sup> Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement, United Nations Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://ukcop26.org/global-coal-to-clean-power-transition-statement/>

<sup>1408</sup> Penta Countries Discuss Measures To Make The Clean Energy Transition Secure And Resilient, European Commission (Brussels) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/penta-countries-discuss-measures-make-clean-energy-transition-secure-and-resilient-2021-dec-02\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/penta-countries-discuss-measures-make-clean-energy-transition-secure-and-resilient-2021-dec-02_en)

closely linked to the goals for economic growth thereby favoring the overall decarbonization of France and the EU's economy. The goal of this measure is "to achieve a balance between climate ambition and social justice."

On 11 December 2021, France's Ambassador to India Emmanuel Lenain reaffirmed France's support to India in achieving their renewable energy goal by 2030.<sup>1410</sup> Ambassador Lenain stated that both countries share the common objective of increasing the use of renewable energy and that their continued cooperation would be beneficial in achieving both of their environmental goals.

On 14 December 2021, representatives of France and the United States held the first meeting of the US-France bilateral clean energy partnership.<sup>1411</sup> This partnership is set up under the auspices of France's Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the US Department of Energy and Department of State. The goal of this partnership is to coordinate energy policy, technology and innovation. This first meeting resulted in "broad exchanges on clean energy policy in both countries, including efforts to decrease energy consumption, reduce emissions and support the transition to a low-carbon economy."

France has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021. France has taken strong actions in all pillars of cooperation like providing financing for decarbonization partnerships, investing in clean energy technologies and using bilateral channels to pursue their goal of carbon neutrality by 2050. France has also worked with international organizations like the OECD and attended international conferences like the COP26 to reaffirm their commitment to mitigating the impact of the coal-based energy sector.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ana Djordjijevic*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On 13 June 2021, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Peter Altmaier and Federal Minister of Education and Research Anja Karliczek signed a Declaration of Intent with Australia's Minister for Energy Angus Taylor to establish a German-Australian Hydrogen Accord.<sup>1412</sup> Under the Accord, Germany will contribute EUR50 million towards research to develop, improve and test hydrogen technologies. Germany will co-finance two important projects: the development of industrial-scale production of hydrogen in Australia using German technology to replace coal production and an auction to export Australian hydrogen to Germany. The goal of this agreement is to invest in renewable energy production on a bilateral level.

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<sup>1409</sup> France To Link Climate And Economic Goals During Eu Presidency Stint, Euractiv (Brussels) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy-environment/news/france-to-link-climate-and-economic-goals-during-eu-presidency-stint/>

<sup>1410</sup> France To Continue Supporting India In Its Renewable Energy Goals: Ambassador, Economic Times (Mumbai) 10 December 2021. Access Date: 06 January 2022. <https://energy.economicstimes.indiatimes.com/news/renewable/france-to-continue-supporting-india-in-its-renewable-energy-goals-ambassador/88197576>

<sup>1411</sup> Joint Statement Issued By The United States And France Following The First Meeting Of The United States-France Bilateral Clean Energy Partnership, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/news/article/joint-statement-issued-by-the-united-states-and-france-following-the-first>

<sup>1412</sup> Declaration of Intent Signed to Establish German-Australian Hydrogen Alliance, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/06/20210613-declaration-of-intent-signed-to-establish-german-australian-hydrogen-alliance.html>

On 14 June 2021, Minister Altmaier announced the establishment of the H2Global Foundation, which is an organization tasked with buying green hydrogen abroad and reselling it at annual auctions.<sup>1413</sup> Purchases through H2Global are made through long-term contracts, providing hydrogen producers with a secure basis to continue developing their operations. The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy has allocated EUR900 million to support H2Global. These funds will be used to temporarily cover the difference between the purchase price of hydrogen derivatives and their domestic sale prices to incentivize the growth of the international hydrogen market. The goal of this organization is to create a niche in the global energy market for an ecologically sustainable alternative to coal: green hydrogen.<sup>1414</sup>

On 23 June 2021, Germany earmarked EUR8 billion towards the “immediate climate action programme” which will finance measures to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions in 2022.<sup>1415</sup> This investment includes a EUR50 million increase in funding towards the development of green hydrogen production from offshore wind energy production and a EUR15 million increase in funding towards H2Global.

On 14 September 2021, Germany joined the International Solar Alliance, which is an international organization led by India, to assist countries in developing solar energy capabilities and reducing their dependence on fossil fuels.<sup>1416</sup> Parliamentary State Secretary Norbert Barthle reaffirmed Germany’s commitment to closely cooperate with India in developing its solar sector to replace coal-based power generation through reduced-interest loans, technical advice and vocational training. This alliance has resulted in the support for the installation of 3.37 gigawatts of renewable energy in India and is an example of how G7 members can assist developing countries in making their energy production systems more sustainable.

On 24 September 2021, Germany signed a pledge, along with six other countries, led by the United Nations to stop building new power plants.<sup>1417</sup> This No New Coal agreement focuses on phasing out the use of coal and ending the construction of new plants.

On 2 November 2021, along with the European Union, France, the United Kingdom, and the United States, Germany announced a new partnership with South Africa which is aimed at supporting the country’s energy transition and phase-out of coal-fired power generation at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow.<sup>1418</sup> Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety Svenja Schulze stated that Germany would be contributing nearly EUR700 million towards the partnership. These funds are directed towards investments in social infrastructure to ensure a “socially just” coal phase-out and in technological innovations such as green hydrogen.

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<sup>1413</sup> Minister Altmaier: “Making Further Progress on International Market Ramp-Up for Green Hydrogen,” Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021.

<https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/06/20210614-new-funding-instrument-h2global-launched.htm>

<sup>1414</sup> Minister Altmaier: “Making Further Progress on International Market Ramp-Up for Green Hydrogen,” Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021.

<https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/06/20210614-new-funding-instrument-h2global-launched.htm>

<sup>1415</sup> Immediate Climate Action Programme for 2022, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Priority-Issues/Climate-Action/immediate-climate-action-programme-for-2022.html>

<sup>1416</sup> Germany Joins the International Solar Alliance, Which Had Been Initiated by India, and Increases its Cooperation with India on Climate Policy and Renewable Energy, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin/New Delhi) 14 September 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/archive-press-releases/germany-joins-the-international-solar-alliance-92834>

<sup>1417</sup> United Nations Launches Pledge to Stop Building New Coal Power Plants, Bloomberg (New York) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-09-24/these-countries-plan-to-stop-building-new-coal-power-plants>

<sup>1418</sup> Germany Supports South Africa in Coal Phase-Out, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin/Glasgow) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/archive-press-releases/mueller-germany-supports-south-africa-in-coal-phase-out-98432>

On 23 November 2021, Germany committed to accelerating its plan to phase out coal from 2038 to 2030.<sup>1419</sup>

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021. Germany has demonstrated strong action in supporting bilateral agreements to develop decarbonisation technologies with Australia and India, investing in the ongoing climate action programme at COP26 and employing export finance in the production of alternative energies like green hydrogen.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Justin Del Negro*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On 20 September 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi addressed the United Nations roundtable on climate action highlighting the importance of phasing out unabated coal internationally.<sup>1420</sup> Prime Minister Draghi affirmed Italy's determination to help the European Union achieve a 55 per cent reduction in carbon emissions by 2030. Prime Minister Draghi also discussed the importance of supporting developing countries with the transition away from coal and encouraging investment in the development of carbon capture and other clean energy technologies.

On 30 September 2021, Italy hosted the Pre-COP in Milan till 2 October 2021 which was a meeting held in preparation for the 26th United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26).<sup>1421</sup> Ministers and high-level representatives from around the world met to set expectations for the upcoming convention and discussed limiting subsidies for coal and fossil fuels.

From 31 October to 13 November 2021, Italy co-hosted COP26 in partnership with the United Kingdom.<sup>1422</sup> The agenda included accelerating the transition away from unabated coal and increasing investment in clean energy sources in order to achieve the goal of net zero emissions by 2025.

On 4 November 2021, Italy signed the Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement at COP26.<sup>1423</sup> The statement promises to rapidly develop technologies that will replace unabated coal, to stop issuing permits for unabated coal projects and to provide social, financial and technical support to communities and industries affected by the transition.

On 2 December 2021, the Ministry for Ecological Transition ordered Enel, Italy's main provider for electricity, to close its coal-fired plant at the Eugenio Montale power plant in La Spezia, Liguria.<sup>1424</sup> This is the

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<sup>1419</sup> German Parties Agree On 2030 Coal Phase-Out In Coalition Talks, Reuters (Berlin) 23 November 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/business/cop/exclusive-germanys-government-in-waiting-agrees-phase-out-coal-by-2030-sources-2021-11-23/>

<sup>1420</sup> Prime Minister Draghi's Remarks to the UN Climate Roundtable, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 20 September 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.governo.it/en/node/18006>

<sup>1421</sup> Pre-Cop Chairs' Summary, United Nations Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Milan) 14 October 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://ukcop26.org/pre-cop26-chairs-summary/>

<sup>1422</sup> COP 26 Goals, United Nations Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://ukcop26.org/cop26-goals/>

<sup>1423</sup> Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement, United Nations Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) 04 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://ukcop26.org/global-coal-to-clean-power-transition-statement/>

<sup>1424</sup> Enel Continues Its Energy Transition With The Closure Of The La Spezia Coal-Fired Power Plant In Italy, Enel (Rome) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.enel.com/media/explore/search-press-releases/press/2021/12/enel-continues-its-energy-transition-with-the-closure-of-the-la-spezia-coal-fired-power-plant-in-italy>

third time the government has demanded that Enel close one of its coal-fired plants. These closures are a part of Enel's greater plan to phase out all use of fossil fuels in powering its electricity grids.

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021. While Italy has taken strong action on an international level to provide official development assistance towards clean energy production, it has taken weaker action domestically like promising to end financial and trade promotion support for the coal industry on a regional rather than national level.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Elisabeth Iannucci*

### **Japan: 0**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On 15 June 2021, the Ministry of the Environment announced an initiative for decarbonized infrastructure that relies on strengthening "key public-private partnerships to promote the development of 'environmental infrastructures' overseas through Joint-Crediting Mechanism."<sup>1425</sup> Minister of the Environment Shinjirō Koizumi stated that Japan wants to "express [its] intention to promote not coal-fired power but decarbonized infrastructure." He added that the Ministry of the Environment wishes to support companies in taking such actions themselves.

On 18 June 2021, the Director of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry's Coal Division Hiroshi Tsuchiya announced the implementation of stricter rules on support for exports of new coal power plants.<sup>1426</sup> The goal is to end unabated coal power by the end of 2021, however the rules make an exception for countries that lack viable alternatives to coal and require Japan's technology to build coal-fired stations.<sup>1427</sup>

On 21 June 2021, Minister of Economy, Trade and Finance Hiroshi Kajiyama addressed energy ministers from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and discussed the Asia Energy Transition Initiative (AETI).<sup>1428</sup> The goal of the AETI is to enable innovation and investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency to promote alternatives to coal. Japan's project will provide USD10 billion to foster clean energy in ASEAN.<sup>1429</sup>

On 29 June 2021, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) announced that it would extend support for "exports from coal power plants if they come with emissions-cutting steps such as carbon and storage and co-firing ammonia."<sup>1430</sup> The goal of this measure is to promote innovation in technologies that

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<sup>1425</sup> Formulation of "MoEJ Initiative for Decarbonized Infrastructure," Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2523.html>

<sup>1426</sup> Japan to Tighten Rules on Coal Power Exports to Meet G7 Vow, Reuters (Tokyo) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/business/sustainable-business/japan-tighten-rules-coal-power-exports-meet-g7-vow-2021-06-18/>

<sup>1427</sup> Japan Looks to Tighten Overseas Coal Financing Policies, Argus Media (Tokyo) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2226121-japan-looks-to-tighten-overseas-coal-financing-policies>

<sup>1428</sup> Japan Shifts Toward Clean Energy in Southeast Asia as China Stokes up Coal, Benar News (Washington D.C.) 24 June 2021. Access Date: 6 January 2022. <https://www.benarnews.org/english/news/malaysian/japan-clean-energy-southeast-asia-06242021164744.html>

<sup>1429</sup> Japan pledges \$10 bln financial support for Asia's energy transition, Reuters (Tokyo) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/business/sustainable-business/japan-pledges-10-bln-financial-support-asias-energy-transition-2021-06-21/>

<sup>1430</sup> JBIC to Support Exports Of Coal Power Plants With CCS Or Ammonia Co-Firing, Reuters (Tokyo) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 5 January 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/business/sustainable-business/jbic-support-exports-coal-power-plants-with-ccs-or-ammonia-co-firing-2021-06-29/>

minimize the damaging effects of coal-powered plants. JBIC's three-year business plan focuses on funding renewable energy and new mitigating techniques for the use of coal such as ammonia and hydrogen.

On 21 July 2021, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry announced plans to decrease the use of coal and liquefied natural gas to reduce dependency on fossil fuels for energy generation.<sup>1431</sup> According to the policy draft, renewables should account for 36 to 38 per cent of power supply by 2030-2031 and the use of coal would be decreased from 26 per cent to 19 per cent.

On 26 July 2021, the Ministry of the Environment released a plan with specific targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.<sup>1432</sup> The Ministry of the Environment calculated the percentage of greenhouse gases that needed to be reduced. For example, the industry sector would have to cut emissions by 37 per cent, while the household sector would have to reduce emissions by 66 per cent.

On 31 August 2021, Japan and the United States reaffirmed their commitment to work to “end new direct government support for unabated international coal-fired power generation by the end of 2021.”<sup>1433</sup> They stated that this renewal of their partnership was part of the broader goal of working towards net zero emissions with developing countries. Japan and the US also discussed cooperating on innovation in areas concerning renewable energy, energy efficiency, storage and industrial decarbonization and taking steps to meet the USD100 billion annual joint mobilization goal of aligning climate resilience development.

On 22 October 2021, Japan joined the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) agreement to end export credit support for unabated coal-fired power plants.<sup>1434</sup> Along with Canada, the European Union, Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States, Japan agreed to ban “officially supported export credits and tied aid for new coal-fired power plants without operational carbon capture, utilization and storage facilities” and “existing coal-fired power plants, unless the purpose of the equipment supplied is pollution or CO<sub>2</sub> [carbon dioxide] abatement.” The goal of this OECD agreement is to end all export financing of coal.

On 22 October 2021, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida formally approved plans originally announced on 22 July 2021 to increase the use of renewable energy sources by 2030.<sup>1435</sup> The policy emphasizes research on how hydrogen and ammonia energy can reduce emissions and accelerate the move towards nuclear power.

On 27 October 2021, officials from the Ministry of the Environment met virtually with representatives of ASEAN to reaffirm their cooperation in working towards decarbonization.<sup>1436</sup> The summit touched on the three core pillars of transparency, mitigation and adaptation which are at the heart of the Japan-ASEAN cooperative efforts on climate change.

On 2 November 2021, Prime Minister Kishida introduced new financial support to combat climate change at the 26th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change United

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<sup>1431</sup> Japan cuts 2030 coal/gas power share targets, Argus Media (London) 21 July 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022.

<https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2236379-japan-cuts-2030-coalgas-power-share-targets>

<sup>1432</sup> Suga's 2030 goal for greenhouse gas asks housing, industry for cuts, The Asahi Shimbun (Osaka) 27 July 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022. <https://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/14404344>

<sup>1433</sup> U.S.-Japan Joint Statement, United States Department of State (Washington D.C.) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 11 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-japan-joint-statement/>

<sup>1434</sup> Agreement Reached at OECD to End Export Credit Support for Unabated Coal-Fired Power Plants, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 3 December 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/newsroom/agreement-reached-at-oecd-to-end-export-credit-support-for-unabated-coal-fired-power-plants.htm>

<sup>1435</sup> Japan OKs Plan To Double Use Of Renewables For Energy By 2030, The Asahi Shimbun (Osaka) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/14466293>

<sup>1436</sup> Outcome of the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting on Environmental Cooperation, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 27 October 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2547.html>

Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow.<sup>1437</sup> He pledged USD10 billion “in climate finance for developing countries over the next five years, in addition to the already-pledged” USD60 billion. Prime Minister Kishida also stated that Japan would develop projects to transform fossil-fuel-fired thermal power into zero-emission thermal power through the AETI.<sup>1438</sup> Foreign Press Secretary Yoshida Tomoyuki stressed that “while Tokyo has agreed to end new financial support for new coal-fired power plants by the end of 2021, it will stick to using the fuel for power generation until it can be replaced with ammonia or hydrogen.”<sup>1439</sup>

On 4 November 2021, Prime Minister Kishida highlighted plans to promote climate technology in Asia at COP26.<sup>1440</sup> Specifically, he referred to the national strategy of burning coal combined with ammonia to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from coal-fired power plants. The goal was to share information about Japan’s efforts in ending support for unabated coal capacities.

On 10 November 2021, the Ministry of the Environment and the US Office of Special Presidential Envoy for Climate announced the launch of the “Global Subnational Zero Carbon Promotion Initiative.”<sup>1441</sup> The goal of this initiative is to promote global decarbonization.

On 8 December 2021, the Japan International Cooperation Agency announced a partnership with four Japanese utility companies to accelerate decarbonization efforts in Indonesia.<sup>1442</sup> The goal of the project is to reduce Indonesia’s reliance on coal-fired energy sources and help the country achieve its goal of carbon neutrality by 2060.

On 15 December 2021, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the US Department of State met for the second Japan-U.S. Clean Energy Partnership to discuss priorities in accelerating clean energy support in the Indo-Pacific region.<sup>1443</sup> These priorities include “capacity building activities, advanced cooperation on Small Modular Reactor nuclear energy, quality infrastructure, global procurement, power grid development and critical mineral mining sector governance.”

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021. Most of the actions that Japan took were weak as they either kept reaffirming existing commitments or stating that they would not stop using coal power until viable alternatives were developed. Also, Japan promised to develop energy technologies that would mitigate the effects of coal energy and to share these climate solutions with other countries in Asia - however, this measure has not actually taken place yet. The few strong actions that Japan took were to use

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<sup>1438</sup> Prime Minister Kishida Fumio Attends the COP26 Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 02 November 2021. Access Date: 08 January 2022. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page6e\\_000257.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page6e_000257.html)

<sup>1439</sup> Japan Ups Climate Finance Support But Sticks With Coal, Argus Media (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2269911-japan-ups-climate-finance-support-but-sticks-with-coal>

<sup>1440</sup> Japan Pledges Support For Asia-Wide Decarbonization, The Diplomat (Washington D.C.) 6 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://thediplomat.com/2021/11/japan-pledges-support-for-asia-wide-decarbonization/>

<sup>1441</sup> Announcement of Launch of "Global Subnational Zero Carbon Promotion Initiative" by Japan and United States of America, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2558.html>

<sup>1442</sup> Japanese Utilities Partner to Decarbonise Indonesia’s Power Sector, Smart Energy International (Maarsen) 08 December 2021. Access Date: 06 January 2022. <https://www.smart-energy.com/regional-news/asia/japanese-utilities-partner-to-decarbonise-indonesias-power-sector/>

<sup>1443</sup> Second Japan-U.S. Clean Energy Partnership (JUCEP) Plenary Recognizes Achievements and Affirms Indo-Pacific Support Plans, United States Department of State (Washington D.C.) 23 December 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.state.gov/second-japan-u-s-clean-energy-partnership-jucep-pleinary-recognizes-achievements-and-affirms-indo-pacific-support-plans/>

bilateral channels to help develop renewable energy capacities in Indonesia and promote decarbonization efforts with the US.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Ana Djordjijevic*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On 30 June 2021, Minister for Energy, Clean Growth and Climate Change Anne-Marie Trevelyan announced that from 1 October 2024 onwards the United Kingdom will no longer use coal to generate electricity.<sup>1444</sup> She also spoke at the Powering Past Coal Alliance (PPCA) Europe Roundtable on the importance of phasing out coal power.

On 30 June 2021, the Minister of State at the Cabinet Office and the President for the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) Alok Sharma urged countries to commit to phasing out coal power.<sup>1445</sup> He also encouraged nations to join the PPCA as it would play a vital role in accelerating the world's transition to decarbonized power systems.

On 14 July 2021, the UK announced GBP5 million for the South East Asia Energy Transition Programme, which will provide technical and financial resources for renewable energy infrastructure in Southeast Asia.<sup>1446</sup> The UK also announced GBP3.8 million of technical assistance through the World Bank's Energy Sector Management Assistance Programme to accelerate South Africa's clean energy transition.

On 6 August 2021, the UK launched a new research programme worth GBP5 million, "Climate Services for a Net Zero Resilient World," to inform future climate policy.<sup>1447</sup> The goal of this programme is to provide models for how the UK can develop bilateral decarbonisation strategies like transitioning away from coal.

On 9 August 2021, COP26 President Sharma called on countries to commit to ending the financing and use of coal for power generation and to end financing the use of coal globally.<sup>1448</sup> This action falls under the pillar of Official Development Assistance (ODA).

On 11 August 2021, Prime Minister Boris Johnson and COP26 President Sharma called for greater global actions in keeping global warming to 1.5 degrees as a new United Nations report observed that the world was

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<sup>1444</sup> End To Coal Power Brought Forward to October 2024, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/end-to-coal-power-brought-forward-to-october-2024>

<sup>1445</sup> Urging All Countries to Commit to Phase Out Coal Power Ahead of COP26, Cabinet Office (London) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/urging-all-countries-to-commit-to-phase-out-coal-power-ahead-of-cop26--2>

<sup>1446</sup> UK Convenes Key Ministers to Unlock Investment for Energy Transition Ahead of COP26, Cabinet Office (London) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-convenes-key-ministers-to-unlock-investment-for-energy-transition-ahead-of-cop26>

<sup>1447</sup> Government Boosts UK Resilience Against Climate Change, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 6 August 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-boosts-uk-resilience-against-climate-change>

<sup>1448</sup> Following The Science to Take Climate Action and Make Sure COP26 Keeps The 1.5 Degree Goal Alive, Cabinet Office (London) 9 August 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/following-the-science-to-take-climate-action-and-make-sure-cop26-keeps-the-15-degree-goal-alive>

warming more than previously estimated.<sup>1449</sup> The goal of this action was to emphasise the global phasing out of coal power.

On 3 September 2021, COP26 President Sharma highlighted the importance of international collaboration in the world's transition to renewable energy and the phasing out of coal power at a summit in Taiyuan, China.<sup>1450</sup>

On 13 September 2021, Minister Trevelyan launched a new investment round of GBP265 million in the Contracts for Difference scheme, which is an initiative to encourage investments in low-carbon electricity.<sup>1451</sup> The goal of this scheme is to provide renewable energy project developers with protection from volatile wholesale energy prices.

On 16 September 2021, COP26 President Sharma called on nations to scale up clean power more quickly and “consign coal power to history.”<sup>1452</sup> He emphasized the importance of phasing out coal in order to meet the Paris Agreement targets and avoid the worst effects of climate change.

On 20 September 2021, Prime Minister Johnson called upon the world's richest countries to commit more to developing countries in their transition to net-zero economies.<sup>1453</sup> He also announced an allocation of GBP550 million to support developing countries to meet net-zero emissions and end the domestic use of coal.

On 22 September 2021, the United Kingdom allocated GBP220 million to support green projects for domestic businesses under the Industrial Energy Transformation Fund.<sup>1454</sup> This funding will enable energy-intensive industries like steelmaking to transition away from the use of coal in production and reduce carbon emissions.

On 22 September 2021, Prime Minister Johnson called on members of the United Nations General Assembly to invest in clean energy and phase out coal by 2030 for developed countries and 2040 for developing countries.<sup>1455</sup> He asked developed countries to deliver on their commitment to providing at least USD100 billion per year in climate financing for developing countries.

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<sup>1449</sup> UK Calls for Greater Global Ambitions as UN Finds World Warming Faster Than Previously Estimated, Cabinet Office (London) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-calls-for-greater-global-ambition-as-un-finds-world-warming-faster-than-previously-estimated>

<sup>1450</sup> Accelerating The Global Energy Transition Through International Collaboration, Cabinet Office (London) 3 September 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/accelerating-the-global-energy-transition-through-international-collaboration>

<sup>1451</sup> Biggest Ever Renewable Energy Support Scheme Backed By Additional £265 Million, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 13 September 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/biggest-ever-renewable-energy-support-scheme-backed-by-additional-265-million>

<sup>1452</sup> Coal Power Should Be Consigned To History To Keep To 1.5 Degrees, Cabinet Office (London) 20 September 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/coal-power-should-be-assigned-to-history-to-keep-to-15-degrees>

<sup>1453</sup> PM Calls On Richest Countries To Meet \$100 Billion Climate Pledge, Prime Minister's Office 10 Downing Street (London) 20 September 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-calls-on-richest-countries-to-meet-100-billion-climate-pledge>

<sup>1454</sup> £220 Million To Help Big-Emitting Industries Reduce Fossil Fuel Use, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/220-million-to-help-big-emitting-industries-reduce-fossil-fuel-use>

<sup>1455</sup> PM To Tell UN: It's Time For Humanity To Grow Up And Address Climate Change, Prime Minister's Office (New York) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 08 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-to-tell-un-its-time-for-humanity-to-grow-up-and-address-climate-change>

On 24 September 2021, the UK co-launched the No New Coal Power Compact as part of the PPCA along with Denmark, France, Germany and Montenegro.<sup>1456</sup> This Compact promises that any country willing to begin a process toward a more ambitious transition away from coal-fired power generation can rely on the PPCA, particularly the signatories of this compact, for support in financing, utility and grid transformation, and socially just transitions for affected workers and communities. The UK, along with six other countries, also signed onto the No New Coal agreement, initiated by the United Nations, to stop building new coal power plants.<sup>1457</sup>

On 28 September 2021, Business and Energy Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng and Minister for Investment Gerry Grimstone announced GBP130 million in government and private investment for the construction of facilities that will develop and build components for next generation wind turbines.<sup>1458</sup> The goal of this investment is to increase the country's capacity for using domestic offshore wind.

On 1 October 2021, Minister for Science, Research and Innovation George Freeman released the Fusion Green Paper, which is a strategy outlining how the UK will legislate the safe and effective rollout of fusion energy.<sup>1459</sup> The goal of this measure is to use fusion energy to supply the energy needs of the country as it phases out coal power generation.

On 6 October 2021, the UK announced support for 13 innovative low-carbon projects in South Africa through its Climate Finance Accelerator program.<sup>1460</sup> This support will fund projects like Greenline Africa which will construct dynamic solar thermal concentrators as an alternative heat source and Wetility which is a company that enables clients to generate and store solar energy.

On 19 October 2021, the UK unveiled the "Net Zero Strategy," which is an economy-wide plan setting out how to reach net zero emissions by 2050.<sup>1461</sup> This plan includes supporting domestic businesses in the transition to clean energy and green technology and committing investments like GBP140 million for the Industrial and Hydrogen Revenue Support scheme to help start up hydrogen projects, GBP500 million for innovation projects in green technologies and GBP120 million for the development of nuclear projects through the Future Nuclear Enabling Fund.

On 22 October 2021, along with other members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Kingdom agreed to end export credit support for unabated coal-fired power plants.<sup>1462</sup> This agreement highlights how financial support will no longer be available to new coal-fired

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<sup>1456</sup> PPCA Commends Launch Of Pledge To End New Coal, Powering Past Coal Alliance (London) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.poweringpastcoal.org/news/member-news/ppca-commends-launch-of-pledge-to-end-new-coal>

<sup>1457</sup> United Nations Launches Pledge to Stop Building New Coal Power Plants, Bloomberg (New York) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 5 December 2021. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-09-24/these-countries-plan-to-stop-building-new-coal-power-plants>

<sup>1458</sup> Offshore Wind Powers North-East Jobs In A Boost For UK Supply Chain, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 28 September 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/offshore-wind-powers-north-east-jobs-in-a-boost-for-uk-supply-chain>

<sup>1459</sup> UK Set To Be First Country To Legislate For Safe And Efficient Rollout Of Fusion Energy, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 1 October 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-set-to-be-first-country-to-legislate-for-safe-and-efficient-rollout-of-fusion-energy>

<sup>1460</sup> Climate Finance Accelerator South Africa: First Cohort Of Projects Announced, British High Commission Pretoria (Pretoria) 6 October 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/climate-finance-accelerator-south-africa-first-cohort-of-projects-announced>

<sup>1461</sup> UK's Path To Net Zero Set Out In Landmark Strategy, Department For Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 19 October 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uks-path-to-net-zero-set-out-in-landmark-strategy>

<sup>1462</sup> Agreement Reached At OECD To End Export Credit Support For Unabated Coal-Fired Power Plants, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Media Office (Paris) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 6 December 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/newsroom/agreement-reached-at-oecd-to-end-export-credit-support-for-unabated-coal-fired-power-plants.htm>

power plants which operate without carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) facilities and to existing coal-fired power plants unless they are used for retrofitting to install CCUS.

On 30 October 2021, Prime Minister Johnson and Secretary Kwarteng announced an investment of GBP160 million for the construction of large-scale offshore wind ports and factory infrastructure in Scotland and Wales.<sup>1463</sup> The goal of this investment is to increase the domestic ability to mass-produce offshore wind farms.

On 1 November 2021, Prime Minister Johnson announced the creation of the Clean Green Initiative at COP26, which will scale up public and private investment in quality, sustainable infrastructure globally.<sup>1464</sup> He also announced that the UK aid-backed Private Infrastructure Development Group will commit more than GBP210 million in new investments to support transformational green projects in developing countries. Such investments include solar power projects in Burkina Faso, Pakistan, Nepal and Chad. Furthermore, the United Kingdom will contribute GBP750 million to the World Bank's efforts for funding green energy in India. Supporting the Clean Green Initiative, the United Kingdom will allocate over GBP3 billion in climate financing for green growth in developing countries for the next five years.

On 2 November 2021, Prime Minister Johnson launched the "Breakthrough Agenda," which is an international plan to deliver clean and affordable technology worldwide by 2030.<sup>1465</sup> This plan includes the Glasgow Breakthroughs, a set of goals aimed to assist countries in transitioning to net-zero emissions like clean power research and infrastructure, hydrogen fuel research and near-zero emission steel production.

On 2 November 2021, Prime Minister Johnson delivered a speech at the opening of COP26 highlighting the importance of ODA in the world's phasing out of unabated coal power generation.<sup>1466</sup>

On 2 November 2021, along with France, Germany, the United States and the European Union, the United Kingdom announced the Just Energy Transition Partnership to support South Africa's decarbonization efforts.<sup>1467</sup> This multilateral agreement will accelerate South Africa's transition to a cleaner, low-carbon economy with a particular focus on upgrading its electricity system. The United Kingdom will provide up to an initial combined commitment of USD8.5 billion.

On 3 November 2021, Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak delivered a speech on how the UK plans to become the world's first net-zero aligned financial centre and welcomes commitments from private companies covering USD130 trillion of financial assets.<sup>1468</sup> Chancellor Sunak highlighted how these commitments can be used to fund the United Kingdom's net-zero transition. Furthermore, Chancellor Sunak

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<sup>1463</sup> Scotland And Wales Could Be Home To New Floating Offshore Wind Ports Thanks To £160m UK Government Funding, Prime Minister's Office 10 Downing Street (London) 30 October 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/scotland-and-wales-could-be-home-to-new-floating-offshore-wind-ports-thanks-to-160m-uk-government-funding>

<sup>1464</sup> PM Launches New Initiative To Take Green Industrial Revolution Global, Prime Minister's Office 10 Downing Street (London) 1 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-launches-new-initiative-to-take-green-industrial-revolution-global>

<sup>1465</sup> World Leaders Join UK's Glasgow Breakthroughs To Speed Up Affordable Clean Tech Worldwide, Prime Minister's Office 10 Downing Street (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leaders-join-uks-glasgow-breakthroughs-to-speed-up-affordable-clean-tech-worldwide>

<sup>1466</sup> PM Opening Remarks At COP26 Press Conference: 2 November 2021, Prime Minister's Office 10 Downing Street (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-opening-remarks-at-cop26-press-conference-2-november-2021>

<sup>1467</sup> Joint Statement: International Just Energy Transition Partnership, Prime Minister's Office 10 Downing Street (London) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-international-just-energy-transition-partnership>

<sup>1468</sup> Chancellor: UK Will Be World's First Net Zero Financial Centre, HM Treasury (London) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 8 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-uk-will-be-the-worlds-first-net-zero-financial-centre>

called upon other developed countries to boost their support of developing countries in their efforts to phase out coal.

On 4 November 2021, along with a 190-strong coalition of countries and organizations, the United Kingdom signed the Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement.<sup>1469</sup> This multilateral agreement recognizes the need to transition away from unabated coal power generation and commits the signatories towards working together on clean technologies research, financial support and ending new direct government support for unabated coal-fired power generation.

On 15 November 2021, International Trade Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan announced more than GBP217 million in support for the largest solar facility in Turkey.<sup>1470</sup> This investment will support Turkey's clean energy goals in transitioning away from coal power generation.

On 24 November 2021, Secretary Kwarteng and Minister of Energy, Clean Growth and Climate Change Greg Hands announced an investment of GBP20 million per year in Tidal Stream electricity.<sup>1471</sup> This investment aims to develop marine energy technology, lower its costs of production and reduce domestic reliance on coal.

On 8 December 2021, Representative of British Office Taipei John Dennis reiterated the United Kingdom's commitment to working closely with partners like Taiwan in their transition toward renewable energy, particularly offshore wind.<sup>1472</sup> The goal of this statement was to showcase national expertise in the offshore wind industry.

On 9 December 2021, the UK government announced an increase in the UK Export Finance cover limit for Ukraine<sup>1473</sup> to GBP3.5 billion.<sup>1473</sup> The goal of this action is to enable support for priority projects in various sectors like clean energy.

On 13 December 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy launched the fourth round of applications for the Contracts for Difference scheme.<sup>1474</sup> This scheme makes GBP285 million of annual funding available for green energy projects to help accelerate the United Kingdom's transition from coal energy.

On 17 December 2021, the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority signed two framework agreements for a total of GBP7.5 million to aid in the development of safe, efficient and low-carbon fusion energy.<sup>1475</sup>

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<sup>1469</sup> Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement, UN Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://ukcop26.org/global-coal-to-clean-power-transition-statement/>

<sup>1470</sup> UK To Provide £217 Million For Turkish Solar Project, UK Export Finance (London) 15 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-provide-217-million-for-turkish-solar-project>

<sup>1471</sup> UK Government Announces Biggest Investment Into Britain's Tidal Power, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-announces-biggest-investment-into-britains-tidal-power>

<sup>1472</sup> UK Pavilion Showcases British Offshore Wind Expertise To Support Taiwan's Green Future, British Office Taipei (Taipei) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pavilion-showcases-british-offshore-wind-expertise-to-support-taiwans-green-future>

<sup>1473</sup> Increase to UK Export Finance's Cover Limit for Ukraine, UK Export Finance (London) 9 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/increase-to-uk-export-finances-cover-limit-for-ukraine>

<sup>1474</sup> Biggest Ever Renewable Energy Support Scheme Opens, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/biggest-ever-renewable-energy-support-scheme-opens>

<sup>1475</sup> World-leading Experts Join UKAEA Fusion Energy Mission, UK Atomic Energy Authority (London) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-experts-join-ukaea-fusion-energy-mission>

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021. The United Kingdom demonstrated strong actions within the ODA and investment pillars of cooperation. Not only did the United Kingdom emphasize the need for international investments in renewable power to phase out coal with the OECD and COP26 agreements but they also introduced domestic investments. Regarding trade promotion support, the United Kingdom provided funding to renewable electricity producers and to the steelmaking industry to move towards less polluting production methods.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Daryll Bien Concepcion*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On 26 July 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced its intent to strengthen the legal limits on water waste pollution from coal plants that use steam to generate electricity.<sup>1476</sup> EPA Administrator Michael Regan stated that more stringent regulations are reasonable due to the advancement of carbon capture technologies, such as membranes. The goal of these regulations is to compel coal plants to utilize carbon capture technologies and to protect water resources from coal pollution.<sup>1477</sup>

On 31 August 2021, the United States and Japan reaffirmed their partnership and dedication to take strong climate action over the next decade.<sup>1478</sup> The two countries stated their intent to cooperate and innovate in areas such as carbon capture, renewable energy and industrial decarbonisation. Through the partnership, the two countries agreed “to end new direct government support for unabated international coal-fired power generation by the end of 2021 ... and work together to design pathways towards a net zero emissions future with developing countries.”

On 6 October 2021, the Department of Energy invested USD45 million in 12 research projects focused on developing carbon capture and storage technologies.<sup>1479</sup> Funding these research projects is an important part of the Biden-Harris administration’s goal of reaching net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

On 22 October 2021, the United States joined the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)’s agreement to end export credit support for unabated coal-fired power.<sup>1480</sup> The goal of this OECD agreement is to discourage the construction of new coal-fired power plants that operate without operational carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) facilities.

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<sup>1476</sup> EPA Announces Intent to Bolster Limits on Water Pollution from Power Plants, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-intent-bolster-limits-water-pollution-power-plants>

<sup>1477</sup> EPA Announces Intent to Bolster Limits on Water Pollution from Power Plants, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-intent-bolster-limits-water-pollution-power-plants>

<sup>1478</sup> U.S.-Japan Joint Statement, United States Department of State (Washington D.C.) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-japan-joint-statement/>

<sup>1479</sup> DOE Invests \$45 Million to Decarbonize the Natural Gas Power and Industrial Sectors Using Carbon Capture and Storage, Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 6 October 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-invests-45-million-decarbonize-natural-gas-power-and-industrial-sectors-using-carbon>

<sup>1480</sup> Agreement Reached at OECD to End Export Credit Support for Unabated Coal-Fired Power Plants, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/newsroom/agreement-reached-at-oecd-to-end-export-credit-support-for-unabated-coal-fired-power-plants.htm>

On 2 November 2021, along with France, Germany, the European Union and the United Kingdom, the United States announced a pledge to provide South Africa with USD8.5 billion to accelerate its transition from coal to clean energy.<sup>1481</sup> The goal of this measure is to invest in capacities for developing countries to produce cleaner energy.

On 4 November 2021, the United States refrained from signing the Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement at the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.<sup>1482</sup> The United Kingdom-led statement was signed by representatives of over 40 countries and it included commitments to rapidly develop technologies that would replace unabated coal capacities, to stop issuing permits for unabated coal projects and to provide social, financial, and technical support to communities and industries affected by the transition.

On 4 November 2021, President Biden announced the launch of the First Movers Coalition at COP26.<sup>1483</sup> Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry stated that “the First Movers Coalition is a platform for the world’s leading global companies to make purchasing commitments to create early markets for critical technologies needed to achieve net-zero by 2050.” The goal of the coalition is to be a “platform for companies to harness their purchasing power and supply chains to create early markets for innovative clean energy technologies that are key for tackling the climate crisis.”

On 9 November 2021, Special Presidential Envoy for Climate Kerry stated that the United States would stop using coal by 2030.<sup>1484</sup> This development will be driven by market forces and the affordability of renewable energy sources caused by President Biden’s climate policies and his plan to eliminate carbon emissions by 2035.

On 10 November 2021, the United States and China announced the U.S.-China Joint Glasgow Declaration on Enhancing Climate Action in the 2020s at the COP26 Summit.<sup>1485</sup> The declaration affirms the two countries’ commitment to increase their climate cooperation over the next decade and eliminate support for “unabated international thermal coal generation.”<sup>1486</sup>

On 19 November 2021, the House of Representatives passed the Build Back Better Act.<sup>1487</sup> On 28 October 2021, President Joe Biden had announced a framework for this act which aims to build a clean energy

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<sup>1481</sup> Fact Sheet: Renewed U.S. Leadership in Glasgow Raises Ambition to Tackle Climate Crisis, The White House (Washington D.C.) 13 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/11/13/fact-sheet-renewed-u-s-leadership-in-glasgow-raises-ambition-to-tackle-climate-crisis/>

<sup>1482</sup> Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement, United Nations Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (Glasgow) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://ukcop26.org/global-coal-to-clean-power-transition-statement/>

<sup>1483</sup> Launching the First Movers Coalition at the 2021 UN Climate Change Conference, United States Department of State (Washington D.C.) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 7 December 2021. <https://www.state.gov/launching-the-first-movers-coalition-at-the-2021-un-climate-change-conference/>

<sup>1484</sup> U.S. ‘Won’t Have Coal’ by 2030, John Kerry Predicts in Glasgow, Bloomberg (Glasgow) 09 November 2021. Access Date: 07 January 2022. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-11-09/u-s-won-t-have-coal-by-2030-john-kerry-predicts-in-glasgow>

<sup>1485</sup> U.S.-China Joint Glasgow Declaration on Enhancing Climate Action in the 2020s, United States Department of State (Washington D.C.) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-china-joint-glasgow-declaration-on-enhancing-climate-action-in-the-2020s/>

<sup>1486</sup> U.S.-China Joint Glasgow Declaration on Enhancing Climate Action in the 2020s, United States Department of State (Washington D.C.) 10 November 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-china-joint-glasgow-declaration-on-enhancing-climate-action-in-the-2020s/>

<sup>1487</sup> House Passed Biden’s Massive Social Safety Net And Climate Bill. Here’s What Happens Next, CNBC (Washington, D.C.) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 09 January 2022. <https://www.cnn.com/2021/11/19/house-passes-build-back-better-act-what-happens-next-in-the-senate.html>

economy and decrease greenhouse gas pollution by over one gigaton by 2030.<sup>1488</sup> It provides USD570 billion in funding for clean energy investments and tax credits that will encourage the utilization of clean energy technologies such as solar panels and electric vehicles.<sup>1489</sup> The goal of this funding is to help the United States transition away from fossil fuels, especially coal.<sup>1490</sup>

On 10 December 2021, President Biden ordered government agencies to stop funding new carbon-intensive projects abroad.<sup>1491</sup> He urged the agencies to instead support global projects that involve the advancement and adoption of clean energy technologies.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021. The United States has taken strong action in all the four pillars of cooperation by promising official development assistance to South Africa, signing international agreements for ending export credit for unabated coal-fired power plants, investing in decarbonising innovation like CCUS and creating a coalition to build early markets for testing clean energy technologies.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Elisabeth Iannucci*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021.

On 24 September 2021, the European Commission announced two Energy Compacts designed to mobilize investments necessary to accelerate the clean energy transition globally at the United Nations High-Level Dialogue on Energy.<sup>1492</sup> The first Energy Compact establishes a joint project with the International Energy Agency (IEA) to prepare zero emission energy “roadmaps” for coal-reliant economies where the European Commission will prioritise creating inclusive pathways for decarbonization to ensure a just and socially fair transition to clean energy. The second Energy Compact establishes a joint project with the International Renewable Energy Agency to prepare Regional Energy Transition Outlooks for Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe. The goal of these measures is to utilise international channels in ending investments in unabated coal capacities.

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<sup>1488</sup> President Biden Announces the Build Back Better Framework, The White House (Washington D.C.) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/10/28/president-biden-announces-the-build-back-better-framework/>

<sup>1489</sup> Biden’s Build Back Better Plan Is On Ice. Here’s What That Means For You, CNN (Atlanta) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.cnn.com/2021/12/20/politics/joe-biden-build-back-better-setback-explained/index.html>

<sup>1490</sup> President Biden Announces the Build Back Better Framework, The White House (Washington D.C.) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/10/28/president-biden-announces-the-build-back-better-framework/>

<sup>1491</sup> Biden Orders U.S. To Stop Financing New Carbon-Intense Projects Abroad, Reuters (Washington D.C.) 10 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/biden-orders-us-stop-financing-carbon-intense-overseas-fuel-projects-2021-12-10/>

<sup>1492</sup> Energy Transition: Commission Announces Three Energy Compacts at UN High-Level Dialogue in New York, European Commission (Brussels) 24 September 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_4877](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4877)

On 27 September 2021, the European Commission endorsed Romania's recovery and resilience plan.<sup>1493</sup> The plan devotes 41 per cent of funds accessed through the Recovery and Resilience Facility towards measures supporting a green transition, including phasing out coal by 2032 and investing in lignite power production.

On 5 October 2021, the Economic and Financial Affairs Council of the European Union (ECOFIN) adopted a set of conclusions regarding climate finance.<sup>1494</sup> The goal of these conclusions was to highlight the importance of phasing out fossil fuel subsidies and shifting financial flows towards sustainable investments.

On 22 October 2021, the EU agreed to end export credit support and tied aid for unabated coal-fired power plants at the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).<sup>1495</sup> This ban applies to new coal-fired power plants without carbon capture, utilization, and storage facilities and existing coal-fired power plants, unless the aid helps to supply or retrofit equipment related to pollution or carbon dioxide abatement.

On 27 October 2021, the European Investment Bank (EIB) announced its support for the United Nations Development Programme's "Don't Choose Extinction" campaign, which endorses the need for urgent fossil fuel subsidy reform.<sup>1496</sup> EIB President Werner Hoyer reaffirmed their 2019 commitment to refuse financing for energy projects reliant on unabated fossil fuels.

On 2 November 2021, along with the United Kingdom, the United States, France and Germany, the EU launched a partnership with South Africa to support the country's energy transition away from coal at the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.<sup>1497</sup> The partnership committed to mobilize USD8.5 billion to support decarbonization efforts through concessional financing, grants, investments and risk-sharing instruments. The EU will direct funds towards social infrastructure to support workers affected by the coal phase-out and stimulate technological innovations such as green hydrogen.

On 21 December 2021, the College of Commissioners endorsed a new framework on state aid for climate, environmental protection and energy which included a new section of guidelines regarding state aid for the closure of coal plants.<sup>1498</sup> This section proposes that member states with "very low" income per capita may use government funds to combine the phase out of coal with a simultaneous investment in transitional fuels such as natural gas.

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<sup>1493</sup> NextGenerationEU: European Commission Endorses Romania's €29.2 Billion Recovery and Resilience Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 27 September 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_4876](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4876)

<sup>1494</sup> ECOFIN Council Conclusions on Climate Finance, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 5 October 2021. Access Date: 9 December 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/10/05/ecofin-council-conclusions-on-climate-finance/>

<sup>1495</sup> Agreement Reached at OECD to End Export Credit Support for Unabated Coal-Fired Power Plants, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 09 December 2021.

<https://www.oecd.org/newsroom/agreement-reached-at-oecd-to-end-export-credit-support-for-unabated-coal-fired-power-plants.htm>

<sup>1496</sup> EIB Supports UNDP campaign to Rethink Subsidies for Fossil Fuels, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 27 October 2021. Access Date: 12 December 2021. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/news/eib-supports-undp-campaign-to-rethink-subsidies-for-fossil-fuels>

<sup>1497</sup> France, Germany, UK, US and EU Launch Ground-Breaking International Just Energy Transition Partnership with South Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 4 December 2021.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_21\\_5768](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_5768)

<sup>1498</sup> State Aid: Commission Endorses the New Guidelines on State Aid for Climate, Environmental Protection and Energy, European Commission (Brussels) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_21\\_6982](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6982)

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to end new direct government support for unabated international thermal coal power generation by the end of 2021. The European Union has demonstrated strong action by working with international organizations like the IEA for implementing zero-emission roadmaps for coal-reliant economies, the OECD for ending export credit for coal-fired power plants, the ECOFIN for promoting the production of renewable energy with ECOFIN and investing in decarbonisation efforts at the COP26 Summit.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Justin Del Negro*