

# Roadmap on the EU Strategy for a Sustainable and Smart Mobility

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Eurelectric response paper

Eurelectric represents the interests of the electricity industry in Europe. Our work covers all major issues affecting our sector. Our members represent the electricity industry in over 30 European countries.

We cover the entire industry from electricity generation and markets to distribution networks and customer issues. We also have affiliates active on several other continents and business associates from a wide variety of sectors with a direct interest in the electricity industry.

## We stand for

The vision of the European power sector is to enable and sustain:

- A vibrant competitive European economy, reliably powered by clean, carbon-neutral energy
- A smart, energy efficient and truly sustainable society for all citizens of Europe

We are committed to lead a cost-effective energy transition by:

**investing** in clean power generation and transition-enabling solutions, to reduce emissions and actively pursue efforts to become carbon-neutral well before mid-century, taking into account different starting points and commercial availability of key transition technologies;

**transforming** the energy system to make it more responsive, resilient and efficient. This includes increased use of renewable energy, digitalisation, demand side response and reinforcement of grids so they can function as platforms and enablers for customers, cities and communities;

**accelerating** the energy transition in other economic sectors by offering competitive electricity as a transformation tool for transport, heating and industry;

**embedding** sustainability in all parts of our value chain and take measures to support the transformation of existing assets towards a zero carbon society;

**innovating** to discover the cutting-edge business models and develop the breakthrough technologies that are indispensable to allow our industry to lead this transition.

Dépôt légal: -

Eurelectric welcomes the initiative for adopting a Strategy for a Sustainable and Smart Mobility. The European power sector endorses the proposed targets in the transport sector, as part of the European Green Deal, for advancing towards a green, digital and competitive modern economy.

As concluded in Eurelectric's Decarbonisation Pathways modelling results, electrification will possess an essential role in the transport domain for reaching Europe's emission reduction objectives. Electrification of transport within an increasingly cleaner electricity mix is the most effective and sustainable way to decarbonise the sector, reduce its dependence on fossil fuel imports outside Europe and decrease air pollution.

Being aware of the challenging emissions figures in transport, our industry reiterates the necessity to focus on future-proof investments especially in the context of the current health crisis and related recovery measures. Particularly in road transport, financing has to be fully in line with the commitment to invest in the future in order to achieve a greener, more digital and resilient as well as socially-fair Europe. This would require delivering in several key dimensions: (a) increasing the levels of clean electrification across different vehicle segments, (b) rolling out the supporting infrastructure and (c) ensuring fair competition that guarantees the free choice of consumers in the context of increased digitalisation.

Based on the composition of transport-related emissions and the reality of citizens' mobility patterns, the EU strategy first and foremost needs to address the emissions of individual mobility. Hereby, accelerating the uptake of zero-emission vehicles and the corresponding necessary infrastructure is of utmost importance (i, ii and iii). At the same time, emission standards need to reflect the EU goal to move to zero-emission mobility and significantly decrease transportation's overall emissions (ii and vi). Such an approach provides clarity of purpose and will give a strong direction for businesses and decision-makers. The objectives of this strategy need to be also analysed from the perspective of integrating renewables.

Freedom of choice for customers as well as rules for a level playing field to ensure fair competition for all market players are the main cornerstones that truly facilitate the uptake of electric mobility and the transition to zero-emission transport. Only on this basis can the desired connectivity for citizens, seamless charging all over Europe and innovation in the market be enabled.

The initiative must leave space for learning and innovation while encouraging the participation of main European cities administrative bodies. Their understanding of the problems and challenges faced by their own communities is crucial to design solutions as well as it could leverage the share of learnings among cities based on their own experiences so far. This is also quite the relevant aspect for businesses, as successful initiatives implemented by other companies tend to be a very important factor considered in the decision making process of evaluating, for instance, the conversion of ICE fleets to EVs.

As identified, the EU strategy needs to center holistically and with the highest priority on reaping the benefits of clean mobility for European citizens. Individual mobility and passenger car road transport is the most important lever for reducing emissions and should therefore be the focal element of the strategy. Turning the transformation of the passenger cars segment into a true European success story will pave the way for decarbonising long-haul, maritime and aviation. Therefore, incentivising the uptake of zero-emission vehicles, advancing the corresponding infrastructure, intelligent linking of transport systems based on digital platforms as well as implementing stringent emission standards that truly reflect the EU ambitions, should be the main pillars of the strategy.

Eurelectric pursues in all its activities the application of the following sustainable development values:

Economic Development

- Growth, added-value, efficiency

Environmental Leadership

- Commitment, innovation, pro-activeness

Social Responsibility

- Transparency, ethics, accountability



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