



Net Zero Emissions Legislation Around the World: 2022 Update

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Prepared by the Staff of the Global Legal Research Directorate

This table shows the 57 jurisdictions around the world that the Law Library of Congress has identified as having a net zero emissions or climate neutrality goal enshrined in legislation. The table highlights the most recent legislative developments and reports on laws amended after the COP 26 conference in 2021 as well as recently proposed climate-related legislation under consideration in national parliaments. This includes the European Union (EU) and its 27 member states, where a June 2021 regulation sets 2050 as the target date for climate neutrality. Eleven EU member states have passed their own legislation in addition to the directly applicable regulation, including two that have set an earlier target date. To date, 20 countries outside the EU have passed legislation containing a net zero emissions goal, with five jurisdictions setting a target date earlier than 2050. At least four other countries have introduced or are expressly developing legislation that includes the goal. Three countries enacted laws at the national and subnational level introducing regional goals for reaching carbon neutrality.

Jurisdiction	Enacted Laws	Amendments	Proposed Laws
European Union	Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 (European Climate Law), art. 2, 2021 O.J. (L 243) 1, https://perma.cc/2GM3-9W99 (climate neutrality by 2050)		
Argentina			Senate Bill 682/21 Amending Law 27.520 (on Minimum Standards for Global Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation), on Carbon Neutrality by 2050, art. 1, https://perma.cc/LCJ8-3DAE
Australia	Climate Change Act 2022 (Cth) s 10(1)(b) (came into effect Sept. 13, 2022), https://perma.cc/E5CX-HUBY (net zero by 2050)		
Austria	EU legislation applies		
Belgium	EU legislation applies		

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Bulgaria	EU legislation applies		
Canada	Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act, S.C. 2021, c. 22, (Royal Assent June 29, 2021), https://perma.cc/MD3F-LL9E (net zero by 2050)		
Chile	Ley 21445 Ley Marco de Cambio Climático, Diario Oficial June 13, 2022, art. 1, https://perma.cc/R7R5-SEWL (net zero by 2050)		
Colombia	Ley 2169, por Medio de la Cual se Impulsa el Desarrollo Bajo en Carbono del País Mediante el Establecimiento de Metas y Medidas Mínimas en Materia de Carbono Neutralidad y Resiliencia Climática y se Dictan otras Disposiciones, art. 5.2, Diario Oficial Dec. 22, 2021, https://perma.cc/UHB2-YEVC (carbon neutrality by 2050)		
Croatia	EU legislation applies		
Cyprus	EU legislation applies		
Czechia	EU legislation applies		
Denmark	Climate Act (No. 965 of June 26, 2020) art. 1, https://perma.cc/RP3S-J7EF (English translation of unamended version), https://perma.cc/6TE6-AGGY (Danish amended version, as consolidated in LBK nr 2580 af 13/12/2021) (climate neutrality by 2050)	Law amended to increase 2025 emissions reduction target, but provision on climate neutrality by 2050 unchanged. Lov om Ændring af Lov om Klima (LOV nr 2387 af 14/12/2021), https://perma.cc/NLW6-MDG8 .	

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Ecuador	Acuerdo Ministerial 018-2021 on Ecuador Carbon Neutral Program, Ministerio del Ambiente y Agua, Registro Oficial Aug. 18, 2021, https://perma.cc/6NVJ-8Q38 (establishes Zero Carbon Ecuador program that provides incentives to achieve carbon neutrality)		
Estonia	EU legislation applies		
Fiji	Climate Change Act 2021 (Act No. 43 of 2021) s 6(5), https://perma.cc/4S9N-AS44 (net zero by 2050)		
Finland	EU legislation applies See also Klimatlag (FFS 609/2015), § 6, https://perma.cc/B7CL-J7B6		
France	Code de l'énergie, art. L100-4, https://perma.cc/MBZ8-28GM , as amended by Loi n° 2019-1147 du 8 novembre 2019 relative à l'énergie et au climat, art. 1, Nov. 8, 2019, https://perma.cc/VF4A-LGYZ (net zero by 2050)		
Gabon	Ordonnance N° 019/2021 du 13 septembre 2021 relative aux changements climatiques, Sept. 13, 2021, https://perma.cc/4AJ7-Q25A (Gabon's status as carbon positive country will be maintained through 2050)		
Germany	Bundes-Klimaschutzgesetz [KSG], Dec. 12, 2019, Bundesgesetzblatt [BGBl.] I		

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	at 2513, as amended, art. 3, para. 2, https://perma.cc/2RH2-V367 (climate neutrality by 2045)		
Gibraltar	Climate Change Act 2019, No. 29/2019, ss 8, 25, https://perma.cc/XPF7-F3U9 (100% lower net emissions by 2045 from 1990 or 1995 baselines)		
Greece	National Climate Law, Law 4936/2022, E.K.E.D. 2022, A:105, https://perma.cc/TL5Q-8FC7 (climate neutrality by 2050)		
Hungary	Law on Climate Policy: On the Declaration of a Climate Emergency, on Climate Protection, (T/7021), May 14, 2020, art. 3, § 4, https://perma.cc/683R-7U5M (climate neutrality by 2050)		
Iceland	Climate Act (Lög um loftslagsmál, 2012 nr. 70 29. Júní, https://perma.cc/D4YF-9TF6 (legally binding emissions reductions for 2030; specifies that the government can issue further legally binding targets. Current policy is carbon neutrality by 2040, https://perma.cc/3ZK3-Y6G8 .) Not an EU member state but has a 2019 Climate Agreement with the European Union, https://perma.cc/RJW5-ADLZ .		

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Ireland	Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015, No. 46/2015, s 3(1), https://perma.cc/6Y4S-7KYN , as amended by the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021, No. 32/2021, https://perma.cc/KTM6-FVNS (climate neutrality by 2050)		
Isle of Man	Climate Change Act 2021, AT 20/2021, s 9(1), https://perma.cc/HT7Z-DLDN (net zero emissions by 2050)		
Israel			<p>Climate Law Bill 5782-2022 (Government Bill No. 1551, p. 1042, https://perma.cc/S48B-M76S (net zero by 2050))</p> <p>This bill was introduced June 1, 2022, and forwarded to the Knesset Committee for Interior and Environmental Protection for preparation for second and third readings. The Knesset (parliament) dissolved itself on June 30, 2022, and set Nov. 1, 2022, as a date of national election. It is unknown when and if a similar bill will be introduced in the next Knesset.</p>
Italy	EU legislation applies		
Japan	Amendment (Act No. 54 of 2021) of Act on Promotion of Global Warming Countermeasures, Act No. 117 of 1998, art. 2-2,		

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	https://perma.cc/7NLD-WPC8 (in Japanese) (net zero by 2050)		
Latvia	EU legislation applies		
Liechtenstein	Emissionshandelsgesetz [EHG], Sept. 19, 2012, Landesgesetzblatt-Nummer [LGBL.-Nr.] 2012.346, as amended, art. 4, para. 4, https://perma.cc/LZL3-HW64 (climate neutrality by 2050) Note: The climate neutrality goal might get codified in the CO2 Act instead when an amended version of the CO2 Act is passed		
Lithuania	EU legislation applies		
Luxembourg	Loi du 15 décembre 2020 relative au climat et modifiant la loi modifiée du 31 mai 1999 portant institution d'un fonds pour la protection de l'environnement, art. 4, Dec. 15, 2020, https://perma.cc/MWH3-9TFJ (net zero by 2050)		
Maldives	Climate Emergency Act, Law No. 9/2021, https://www.gazette.gov.mv/ (net zero by 2030) (Press Release, President's Office, President Ratifies Climate Emergency Act (May 18, 2021), https://perma.cc/W8WD-9WNJ)		
Malta	EU legislation applies		

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	See also Climate Action Act, cap. 543, https://perma.cc/QWQ4-Y4GH		
Netherlands	EU legislation applies		
New Zealand	Climate Change Response Act 2002 s 5Q, https://perma.cc/8PT9-EXVP , inserted by Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019 s 8, https://perma.cc/F7JU-XCJV (net zero by 2050; except biogenic methane)		
Norway	Lov om klimamål (klimaloven) (LOV-2017-06-16-60) § 4, https://perma.cc/47QH-6R3B (reduce emissions by 90-95% compared to 1990 by 2050) Not an EU member state but has a 2019 Climate Agreement with the European Union, https://perma.cc/RJW5-ADLZ		
Poland	EU legislation applies		
Portugal	EU legislation applies		
Romania	EU legislation applies		
Russia	Federal Law No. 296 of July 2, 2021, on Limiting Greenhouse Gas Emission, https://perma.cc/GHT6-8T8J (in Russian) entered into force as of January 1, 2022 (carbon neutrality goal is not declared)	Federal Law No. 34 of Feb. 16, 2022, on Conducting an Experiment in Limiting the Emission of Greenhouse Gases in Selected Regions	

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		of the Russian Federation, https://perma.cc/6X9N-RYBL (in Russian) (carbon neutrality by 2025 in one of the provinces)	
Slovakia	EU legislation applies		
Slovenia	EU legislation applies See also Resolution on Slovenia's Long-Term Climate Strategy Until 2050, No. 801-08/21-5/, adopted by National Assembly on July 13, 2021, art. 3.2.2, https://perma.cc/2RL8-UG39		
South Korea	Framework Act on Carbon Neutral and Green Growth to Respond to Climate Crisis, Act No. 18469, Sept. 24, 2021, art. 7(1), https://perma.cc/ZQ4A-9CP5 (in Korean) (carbon neutrality by 2050)		
Spain	Ley 7/2021, de 20 de mayo, de Cambio Climático y Transición Energética, arts. 3-2, Boletín Oficial del Estado, May 21, 2021, https://perma.cc/53XX-LSPE (climate neutrality by 2050)		
Sweden	Klimatlag (SFS 2017:720), § 3, https://perma.cc/V5HA-A333 (unofficial English translation), https://perma.cc/R4C5-WJPW (original Swedish version) (does not set specific timelines for		

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	<p>emissions reductions, but government must review and set targets every four years. Official policy as of March 2021 is net zero emissions by 2045 (85% reduction compared to 1990), https://perma.cc/NS4A-ZVGB).</p>		
<p>Switzerland Federal level State level: Canton Appenzell Ausserrhoden Canton Bern Canton Zurich</p>	<p>Federal level: Bundesgesetz über die Ziele im Klimaschutz, die Innovation und die Stärkung der Energiesicherheit [KIG], Sept. 30, 2022, Bundesblatt [BBl.] 2022, 2403, art. 3, para. 2, https://perma.cc/KW9Q-27Z2 (climate neutrality by 2050) Note: Act will only enter into force after expiration of referendum deadline on Jan. 19, 2023.</p> <p>State level: Verfassung des Kantons Bern [KV], June 6, 1993, Bernische Systematische Gesetzessammlung [BSG] 101.1, as amended, art. 31a, para. 2, https://perma.cc/P6RA-4MP9 (climate neutrality by 2050) Verfassung des Kantons Zürich [KV], Feb. 27, 2005, Zürcher Loseblattsammlung [LS] 101, as amended, art. 102a, para. 1, https://perma.cc/2R4X-UUCU; Auszug aus dem Protokoll des Regierungsrates des</p>		<p>State-level: Canton Appenzell Ausserrhoden: Entwurf der Verfassungskommission vom 16. Dezember 2021. Verfassung des Kantons Appenzell Ausserrhoden, art. 39, para. 2, https://perma.cc/4CTU-4J2N (constitutional goal of climate neutrality, no specific date)</p> <p>Canton Zurich: Vorentwurf mit erläuterndem Bericht. Teilrevision des Energiegesetzes bezüglich Klimaschutz und Anpassung an den Klimawandel, at 7, § 1a, para. 2, https://perma.cc/T5RC-RX2H (implementation of constitutional goal; climate neutrality by 2040, at the latest by 2050)</p>

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	<p>Kantons Zürich, Aug. 31, 2022, Regierungsratsbeschluss No. 1131/2022 [RRB No.] 1131/2022, https://perma.cc/P5ZG-PKPB (goal of climate neutrality; entry into force Nov. 1, 2022)</p>		
Taiwan			<p>On April 21, 2022, the Executive Yuan passed the draft revision of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Management Act. The draft revision was reviewed by the Legislative Yuan committees in May 2022. The revision will rename the act to “Climate Change Response Act” and incorporate the goal of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. (<i>Change from Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Management Act to Climate Change Response Act Approved</i>, Environmental Protection Administration (July 19, 2022), https://perma.cc/F2MN-8ZKG.)</p>
Ukraine	<p>Law of Ukraine on the Principles of Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification of Greenhouse Gas Emissions, No. 377-IX, adopted Dec. 12, 2019, in force since Jan. 1, 2021, (BBP), 2020, No. 22, p. 150, pmb1., https://perma.cc/8GN8-KEY2 (harmonizes Ukrainian legislation with</p>		

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	standards of EU law (an obligation for Ukraine under the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement) and implements the provisions of Directives No. 2003/87/EC and No. 2004/101/EC)		
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	<p>United Kingdom: Climate Change Act 2008, c. 27, s 1(1), https://perma.cc/2HJ4-KNRJ, as amended by the Climate Change Act 2008 (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019, SI 2019/1056, https://perma.cc/43EM-ADDK (net zero by 2050)</p> <p>Northern Ireland: Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022, c. 31, https://perma.cc/TE9Z-L7MY (Northern Ireland to have 100% lower emissions by 2050 from 1990 or 1995 baselines)</p> <p>Scotland: Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, asp 12, https://perma.cc/748L-CXP8, as amended by Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019, asp 15, https://perma.cc/C9PS-4XLA (Scotland to achieve net zero by 2045)</p>		