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Commission Reviews Progress of Clean Transition Dialogues with Industry and Social Partners

Key policies: *European Green Deal, Fit for 55 Package, Renewable Energy Directive (RED), Energy Taxation Directive, EU Emissions Trading System (ETS), European Hydrogen Bank, Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP), Social Climate Fund, Single Market Strategy*

The European Commission has published a **Communication** summarizing the outcomes of the **Clean Transition Dialogues**, an initiative launched to foster collaboration between the EU, industry, and social partners in implementing the European Green Deal. These dialogues aim to transform Europe into a clean, resource-efficient, fair, and competitive economy. The findings will inform upcoming discussions among EU leaders at the European Council.

Strengthening Industry's Role in the Green Transition

First announced in the 2023 **State of the Union** speech by Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, the dialogues have served as a platform to ensure that European industry and social partners actively contribute to delivering on the Green Deal's objectives.

"The European Green Deal is, and always has been, Europe's growth strategy," said President von der Leyen. "The Clean Transition Dialogues have shown that our partners are committed to delivering on our ambitious and essential targets. This partnership is crucial for building a decarbonized, competitive economy."

Key Findings from the Dialogues

The nine dialogues held so far have focused on critical sectors, including **hydrogen, clean tech, energy-intensive industries, critical raw materials, clean mobility, and cities**. Participants expressed strong support for the Green Deal while emphasizing the importance of social fairness, job creation, and structured social dialogue.

The report highlights five key building blocks for strengthening the industrial approach to the clean transition:

1. **Effective and Simplified Regulatory Framework**

A predictable regulatory environment is vital for ensuring stability and enabling industries to align their operations with climate goals. The Commission committed to reducing administrative burdens and publishing key indicators to track progress on the transition.

2. **Affordable Clean Energy**

Access to abundant and cost-effective clean energy was identified as a critical factor for decarbonizing energy-intensive industries. Participants called for industrial clusters that connect manufacturing facilities with renewable energy sources, as well as the elimination of fossil fuel subsidies and updated energy taxation.

3. **Modern Infrastructure**

The development of modern, resilient infrastructure is essential for advancing the clean

energy transition. The Commission proposed closer coordination among stakeholders and plans to support standardization for energy grids, pipelines, and other technologies.

4. **Unlocking Finance**

While private investment plays a key role in funding the green transition, participants noted challenges in securing sufficient funds. Innovative financial tools, cross-border investments, and the use of revenues from mechanisms like the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) and the European Hydrogen Bank were highlighted as potential solutions.

5. **Leveraging the Single Market**

The Single Market remains a cornerstone of Europe's competitiveness, providing scale and promoting high standards globally. The Commission is considering joint purchasing initiatives for hydrogen and critical raw materials to enhance supply chain resilience and ensure a level playing field.

Supporting a Just and Inclusive Transition

Social partners emphasized the importance of ensuring fairness in the transition, particularly for vulnerable workers and communities. The Commission pledged to continue collaborating with cities, regional authorities, and industry to equip employees with the skills needed for the transition and create quality jobs.

Next Steps

The Communication underscores the need for effective implementation of existing legislation and the continuation of Clean Transition Dialogues to address emerging challenges. The findings will guide discussions on accelerating the clean transition at the European Council and inform future Green Deal initiatives.

By working closely with industry and social partners, the EU aims to ensure that the Green Deal remains a powerful driver of sustainable growth, resilience, and global competitiveness.

For more information, visit the [European Green Deal page](#).

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