European Committee of the Regions

COP31 TÜRKİYE ANTALYA

We deliver climate action

EU cities and regions at COP31

Antalya, Türkiye
9 – 20 November 2026



#EUGreenDeal

Green Deal Going Local

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“Europe has just lived through one of its hottest summers on record, with wildfires and extreme heat taking lives and putting communities under severe pressure. It is local and regional authorities who coordinate evacuations when wildfire threatens communities, keep emergency services and hospitals operating during heatwaves and restore essential infrastructure after disasters. Yet cities and regions have no formal seat at climate negotiations. Antalya must be the COP where mere recognition turns into structural involvement. Cities and regions are not stakeholders to be consulted, they are governments that deliver the Paris Agreement.”

Kata Tüttő,
President of the European Committee of the Regions (CoR)

As the European Union's political assembly of local and regional governments, representing more than one million elected politicians in the 27 Member States, and as part of the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency to the United Nations, the European Committee of the Regions:

1. **warns that global climate governance is facing multiple and overlapping crises, driven by weakening multilateral cooperation**; calls on the EU to strengthen its role as a leading force for a rules-based international order and ensure that its climate and energy targets reinforce European competitiveness, security, energy sovereignty and territorial cohesion;

2. **is alarmed by the human and economic cost of climate change already visible in Europe's territories.** Climate change has become a matter of health security and economic security, with local and regional authorities acting as first responders, service providers and rebuilders;

3. **calls on the Parties to the UNFCCC to move on from recognition to meaningful inclusion by establishing a mandated Multilevel Climate Dialogue.** Stresses that the outcomes of this dialogue must feed directly into negotiations, nationally determined contributions, national allocation plans and long-term strategies, with clear accountability, transparency and measurable outputs;

4. **urges the Parties to close the finance gap for cities and regions.** Calls for simplified and predictable access to climate finance for local and regional authorities, transparent tracking of finance reaching the local level and the mobilisation of private investment. Calls for these priorities to be reflected in the next EU multiannual financial framework (MFF);

5. **calls for the implementation of the COP28 commitments to transition away from fossil fuels, triple renewable energy capacity and double energy efficiency by 2030.** Emphasises that accelerating the clean energy transition is the most effective response to the energy crisis, while supporting industrial competitiveness and territorial cohesion;

6. **calls for COP31 to accelerate adaptation action and resilience-building.** Supports the commitment to triple adaptation finance and to meeting the global goal on adaptation through indicators that incorporate subnational data and reflect local realities;

7. **highlights the interconnected nature of the climate, biodiversity and water crises.** Calls for greater coherence between the UN climate, biodiversity and desertification agendas. Underlines the importance of nature-based solutions, ecosystem restoration and sustainable water management as essential tools for building resilient territories;

8. **welcomes the establishment of the just transition mechanism and stresses that subnational governments must be represented within its governance body.** Underlines that a just transition must address energy poverty, support vulnerable territories and advance a gender-responsive climate policy;

9. **expresses concern about growing disinformation and polarisation undermining public support for climate action.** Stresses that local and regional authorities rebuild trust by linking global commitments to local results and welcomes the forthcoming Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on Climate Change and Cities;

10. **welcomes the role of the LGMA Constituency as the collective voice of subnational governments within the UNFCCC.** Encourages the Parties and future COP presidencies to strengthen engagement with cities and regions and ensure continuity between negotiated outcomes and implementation on the ground.

Read the CoR opinion 'EU global climate and energy vision. Towards more inclusive climate and environment global negotiations'.

Read the LGMA COP31 position paper.

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Created in 1994, the European Committee of the Regions is the EU's political assembly of 329 regional and local representatives such as regional presidents or city-mayors from all 27 Member States, representing over 452 million Europeans.

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