

Thierry Cornillet

Député au Parlement européen

Mr Donald TUSK
President of the European Council
Rue de la Loi, 175
Brussels

Object: Collective action for the climate

Strasbourg, 23th October 2018,

Dear President TUSK,

On 6th October 2018 the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), an organ of the United Nations responsible for reviewing and assessing scientific information related to climate change, published a Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C. This publication once again warns societies of the consequences of global warming and on the need for "rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society".

On this occasion, the IPCC's scientists are particularly concerned and believe that, given the current global warming of 1°C, limiting this increase to 1.5°C, rather than 2°C, could have an impact on the intensity of heat waves, torrential rains or ice melts, as well as on the protection of biodiversity, natural habitats and coral reefs, on cereal yields and fish stocks, or even on the rising sea level.

Our habits have to change and given the urgency of the situation, a broad, **global and ambitious consensus is now essential**.

On Monday 8th October a "*Summary for Policymakers*", concerning this Special Report, has been published and approved by a number of governments. For example, in France MPs from across the political spectrum have exceptionally decided to set-up a cross-party working group in order to make progress, which reflects the urgency of the current situation.

Despite the fact that the European elections are approaching, we believe that the climate is a too important issue to be subjected to electoral quarrels. This is why we, MEPs from different political groups, add our voice to the call of over 100 jurists from around the world (<http://pactenvironment.org/>) calling for the adoption of a Global Pact for the Environment. Such an international treaty, as supported by a large majority in the United Nations General Assembly on 10th May last year, regrouping in one text the broad legal principals which guide environmental action, would represent an important step in the international response to climate change.

As President of the European Council, you can play a crucial role so that the Heads of State or Government ensure that their ministers quickly agree on an ambitious position for the Council of the European Union and unanimously declare their will to remain major actors in this struggle.

We call on you to do everything in your power so that ambitious negotiating directives are undertaken and allow the European Union to continue to be on the front line of fighting against climate disruption.

Yours sincerely,

Brando BENIFEI - S&D, Italy
Klaus BUCHNER - Greens/EFA, Germany
Jean-Marie CAVADA - ALDE, France
Thierry CORNILLET - ALDE, France
Mireille D'ORNANO - ELDD, France
Pascal DURAND - Greens/EFA, France
Jose Inacio FARIA - EPP, Portugal
Nathalie GRIESBECK - ALDE, France
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Rebecca HARMS - Greens/EFA, Germany
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