

**Climate change and the commitments under the  
Paris Agreement: the context for cooperation  
between EU and Ukraine**

**Plamen Peev, BlueLink Foundation**

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# Different contexts – one story

1. Geophysical
2. Legal
3. Political
4. Cooperation EU- Ukraine
5. Civil society's role



# The climate is changing

North Atlantic hurricanes, major monsoon floods in India, continuing severe droughts in east Africa

WMO: 2017 was one of the three warmest years on record

The global mean temperature in 2017 approximately 1.1 °C above the pre- industrial era, half way towards the limit of temperature of 2°C sought through the Paris Agreement



## Legal boundaries

### - UNFCCC – Rio Conventions (1992)

Aims at stabilizing greenhouse gas concentrations "at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic (human induced) interference with the climate system."

### - The Paris Agreement (2015)

Aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century **well below 2 degrees** Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius (Art.2)

## Some important points of the Paris Agreement

**Mitigation (Art. 4):** all the Parties prepare, communicate and maintain a nationally determined contribution (NDC) and to introduce domestic measures to achieve them; communicate their NDCs every 5 years and provide information necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding

**Voluntary cooperation (Art. 6):** possibility of voluntary cooperation among Parties engaging on a voluntary basis in cooperative approaches that involve the use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes towards NDC, promote sustainable development and ensure environmental integrity and transparency

**Adaptation (Art. 7)** – The Paris Agreement establishes a global goal on adaptation of enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change, development or enhancement of relevant plans, policies and/or contributions, including by formulating and implementing National Adaptation Plans.

# Ukraine's commitments under the Paris Agreement

- It will not exceed 60% of 1990 GHG emissions level in 2030.
- In 2012, emissions were 43% of 1990 levels.
- The Pledge will be revised after the country's territorial integrity is restored;
- The implementation period of the INDC is set from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2030;
- Economic sector/source: industrial processes and product use; agriculture, land use, land-use change and forestry and waste;

## **EU's commitments under the Paris Agreement – INDC**

- The EU and its Member States have committed to a binding target of an at least 40% domestic reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990;
- The 2030 climate and energy framework sets three key targets for the year 2030:
  - At least 40% cuts in greenhouse gas emissions (from 1990 levels);
  - At least 27% share for renewable energy;
  - At least 27% improvement in energy efficiency

# The EU-Ukraine Association Agreement

- 10 years of negotiations
- 1 September 2017 – entry into force
- visa-free regime for Ukrainian citizens travelling to the European Union was came into effect – 11 June 2017

## The Luxembourg Declaration

- Declaration on cooperation on environment and climate change in the Eastern Partnership (18.10.2016)
- emphasises the need for full implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change
- stresses the importance of ensuring the integrity of all ecosystems and the protection of biodiversity, when taking action to address climate change
- stresses the financial contribution of EU, IFIs, and international organisations (UN, OECD and others) to support project such as EaP GREEN and CLIMA East;
- strategic partnership with civil society organisations

## **20 Deliverables for 2020: Bringing tangible results for citizens**

**Deliverable 15:** Enhance energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy; reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions

**Deliverable 16:** Support the environment and adaptation to climate change

“over 300 municipalities covering 20 million people in the Eastern partner countries signed up to the EU’s Covenant of Mayors to reduce their CO2 emissions by almost 20 million tonnes by 2020, = planting almost 500 million trees” (20 Deliverables for 2020 fact sheet)

## **EU-Ukraine Association Agreement: environment/climate change**

- a cooperation framework for convergence of national legislation and policies, including climate change and environment
- Chapter 6 Environment, Annexes XXX and XXXI
- Art. 360: to develop and strengthen cooperation on environmental issues with a long-term objective of sustainable development and green economy;
- Art.361: environmental protection, human health, natural resources management: recognizing global environmental problems, climate change;
- Annex XXX: gradually approximation with the EU legislation within the stipulated timeframes: 2 years for the implementation of Directive 2003/87/EC on the scheme for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading

## Other cooperation contexts

- Energy Community (2011) - to extend the EU internal energy market rules
- Clima East project – pilot projects, new level of support for regional project on climate action, twinning projects
- mid-century, long-term low GHG emission development strategies

## The Civil society context

The Luxembourg Declaration: strategic role of CSOs in environmental protection, in the regional dialogue, advocacy, ensuring responsibility and commitments of governments, contribution of EaP CSF to the work of the Panel on Environment and Climate Change

EU-Ukraine Association Agreement: chapter 26 on the civil society cooperation: implementation, monitoring

SBI to the Paris Agreement: Action for Climate Empowerment – education, training, public awareness, public participation, public access to information and international cooperation

EaP CSF (March 2018): comments to the Work Plans of the Eastern Partnership Platforms and Panels 2020 Deliverables Put to Work

## Recommendations

- The environmental and climate challenges are transboundary and interdependent by nature
- is a need for cooperation among, and the active engagement of, governments, local administrations, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders
- effective integration of environment/climate change policies into other policies
- less bureaucracy for project preparation and implementation – focus on the monitoring of the results and follow-up
- the local expertise is important
- anti-corruption measures with the support of the civil society
- green procurements

Thank you for your attention!

