

## Countries with Net-Zero Commitments and Climate Accountability Legislation

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## Highlights and Summary Table

Net-zero commitments can take the form of legislation, a submission to the UN, a policy statement, a coalition agreement, other credible public proclamations, or any combination thereof. It is important to note that net-zero commitments and climate accountability legislation are different, though there is some overlap. A country can have a commitment without legislation, or they can have a commitment that was made recently that is not reflected in older legislation. Finland, for example, has a coalition agreement as of 2019 to reach net-zero by 2035, however, their 2015 Climate Change Act only requires an 80% reduction by 2050. We also acknowledge the 121 countries, of which there is also overlap, who are participants in the [Climate Ambition Alliance](#). Their commitment involves “working towards achieving net-zero CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2050”, however, the nature of this commitment, its terms, and specific requirements aren’t clear at this time and are therefore included here for information rather than the tables below.

### Highlights:

- Two nations have already achieved net net-zero emission and now claim to be carbon negative.
- Thirty-three other countries have made commitments to achieve carbon neutrality before or by 2050.
- There are five OECD countries that have net-zero commitments earlier than 2050.
- At least 15 countries have enshrined some system of climate accountability in legislation. Because there is no international standard of “accountability”, this category could be expanded significantly, depending on what criteria is used. The ones listed are either recent, comprehensive or easy to find (none were intentionally excluded).

No. Countries	Criteria
2	Already carbon-negative
7	Commitment – before 2050
26	Commitment – by 2050
3	Commitment – after 2050
11	Legislation – before/by 2050
4	Legislation – after 2050

These lists are meant to be illustrative rather than exhaustive and are valid as of March 2021.

## Countries with Net-Zero Commitments

### Net-zero already achieved or before 2050

Country	Source	Net-Zero Date
Suriname	<a href="#">UN News</a> (2020)	Achieved 2014
Bhutan	<a href="#">Policy Brief</a> (2021)	Achieved...Always
Maldives	<a href="#">Submission to UN</a> (2020)	2030
Norway	<a href="#">Policy Position</a> (2015)	2030 (2050 without intl offsets)
Uruguay	<a href="#">Submission to UN</a> (2020)	2030
Finland	<a href="#">Coalition Agreement</a> (2019)	2035
Iceland	<a href="#">Climate Strategy</a> (2020)	2040
Austria	<a href="#">Policy Position</a> (2020)	2040
Sweden	<a href="#">Climate Policy Framework</a> (2017)	2045

## Net-zero by 2050

Country	Source	Net-Zero Date
<b>EUROPE</b>		
UK	<a href="#">UK becomes first major economy to pass net zero emissions law (2019)</a>	2050
France	<a href="#">Loi relative à l'énergie et au climat (2019)</a>	2050
Denmark	<a href="#">Climate Act (2020)</a>	2050
Germany	<a href="#">Germany's Climate Action Law (2020)</a>	2050
New Zealand	<a href="#">Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act (2019)</a>	2050
Hungary	<a href="#">Bill on the Declaration of the Climate Emergency (2020) (Hungarian)</a>	2050
Japan	<a href="#">Japan net zero emissions pledge puts coal in the spotlight (2020)</a>	2050
South Korea	<a href="#">Submission to UN (2020)</a>	2050
Switzerland	<a href="#">Submission to UN (2020)</a>	2050
Slovakia	<a href="#">Submission to UN (2020)</a>	2050
Spain	<a href="#">Policy Position (2020)</a> and Draft Law...can't find it	2050
Portugal	<a href="#">Policy Position (2018)</a>	2050
EU	<a href="#">Green Deal (2019)</a>	2050
Ireland	<a href="#">Coalition Agreement (2020)</a>	2050
<b>AMERICAS</b>		
Argentina	<a href="#">Updated Plan to UN (2020)</a>	2050
Chile	<a href="#">Policy Position (2019)</a> and <a href="#">Submission to UN (2020)</a>	2050
Colombia	<a href="#">Submission to UN (2020)</a>	2050
Costa Rica	<a href="#">Policy Position (2019)</a> and <a href="#">Submission to UN (2020)</a>	2050
Panama	<a href="#">Submission to UN (2020)</a>	2050
Grenada	<a href="#">Submission to UN (2020)</a>	2050
US	<a href="#">Election Promise (2020)</a>	2050
Canada	Policy Position (2020)	2050
<b>ALL OTHER</b>		
Fiji	<a href="#">Submission to UN (2018)</a>	2050
Marshall Islands	<a href="#">Submission to UN (2018)</a>	2050
Nepal	<a href="#">Submission to UN (2020)</a>	2050
South Africa	<a href="#">Policy Position (2020)</a>	2050

## Net-zero after 2050

Country	Source	Net-Zero Date
China	<a href="#">Announcement to UN</a> (2020)	2060
Brazil	<a href="#">Submission to UN</a> (2020)	2060
Singapore	<a href="#">Submission to UN</a> (2020)	“As soon as viable in the second half of the century”

## Countries with Climate Accountability Legislation

## Net-zero by 2050

Country	Law	Target(s)
Sweden	<a href="#">Climate Policy Framework</a> (2017)	Net-zero by 2045
UK	<a href="#">Climate Change Act</a> (2008)	Net-zero by 2050
France	<a href="#">Loi relative à l'énergie et au climat</a> (2019)	Net-zero by 2050
Denmark	<a href="#">Climate Act</a> (2020)	70% in 2030 compared to 1990 and net-zero by 2050
Norway	<a href="#">Climate Change Act</a> (2018)	
Fiji	Climate Change Act (2019) ( <a href="#">Draft</a> )	Net-zero by 2050
New Zealand	<a href="#">Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act</a> (2019)	Net-zero by 2050
Hungary	<a href="#">Bill on the Declaration of the Climate Emergency</a> (2020) (Hungarian)	55% by 2030, net-zero by 2050
Spain	<a href="#">Bill on Climate Change and the Energy Transition</a> (2020)	Net-zero by 2050 at the latest
Germany	<a href="#">Climate Action Law</a> (2020)	Net-zero by 2050
Ireland	<a href="#">Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Bill</a> (2021)	Net-zero by 2050

## Net-zero after 2050, or not at all

Country	Law	Target
Mexico	<a href="#">General Law on Climate Change</a> (2012)	50% below 2000 levels by 2050
Algeria	<a href="#">The National Climate Plan</a> (2013)	7 to 22% by 2030 against a 2013 baseline
Netherlands	<a href="#">Climate Act</a> (2019)	49% by 2030 and 95% by 2050, 100% clean electricity by 2050
Finland	<a href="#">Climate Change Act</a> (2015) (The act will be <a href="#">amended</a> in 2021)	80% by 2050