

I4C Italy for Climate

STATI GENERALI della Green Economy

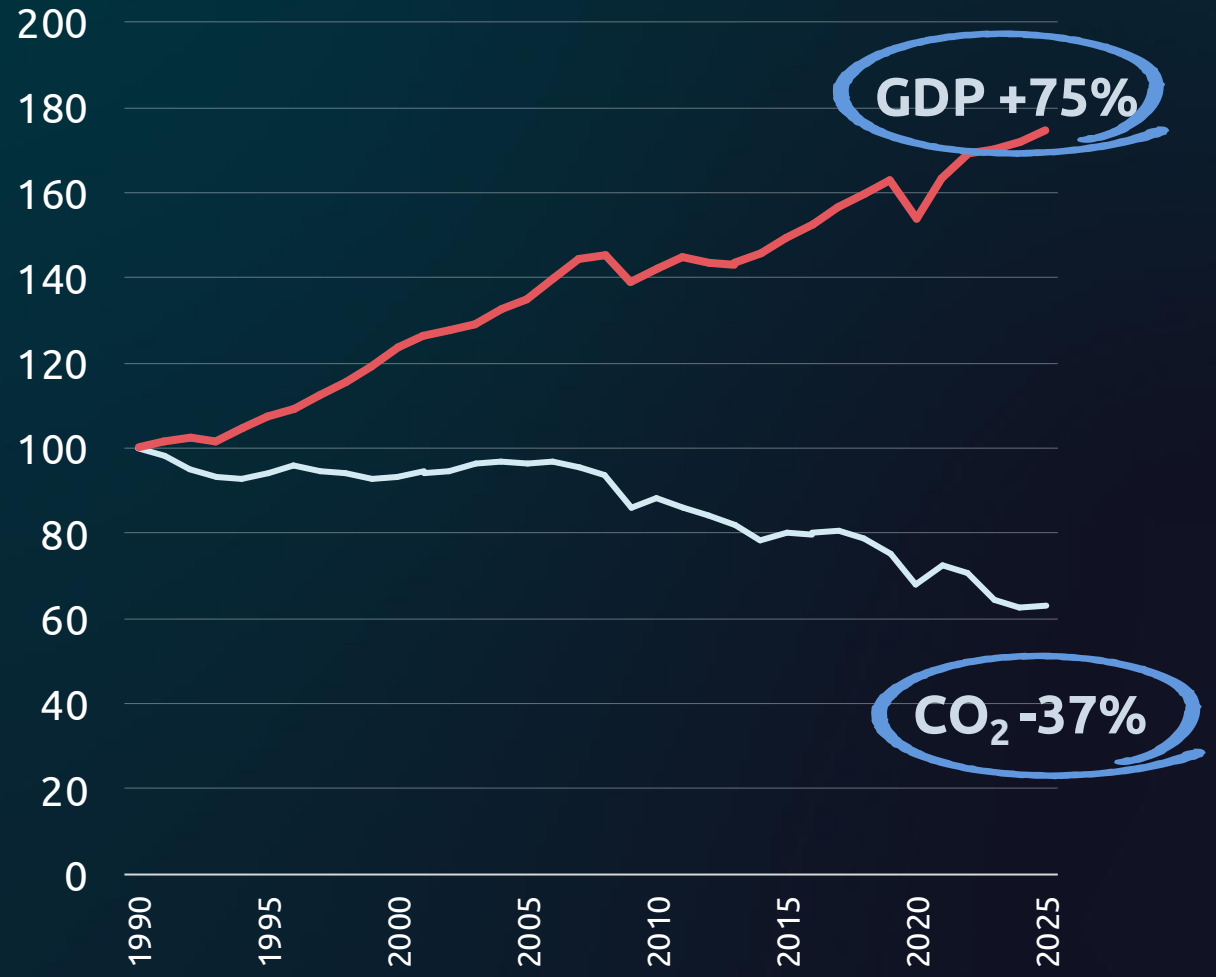
EUROPE

Political green leadership, industrial challenge

*insight*COP31

CO_2 emissions and GDP in the EU

(100 = 1990 base year levels)



GOOD NEWS

-37% GHG emissions since 1990: the EU is the only big emitters to achieve consistent emissions and +75% GDP at the same time.

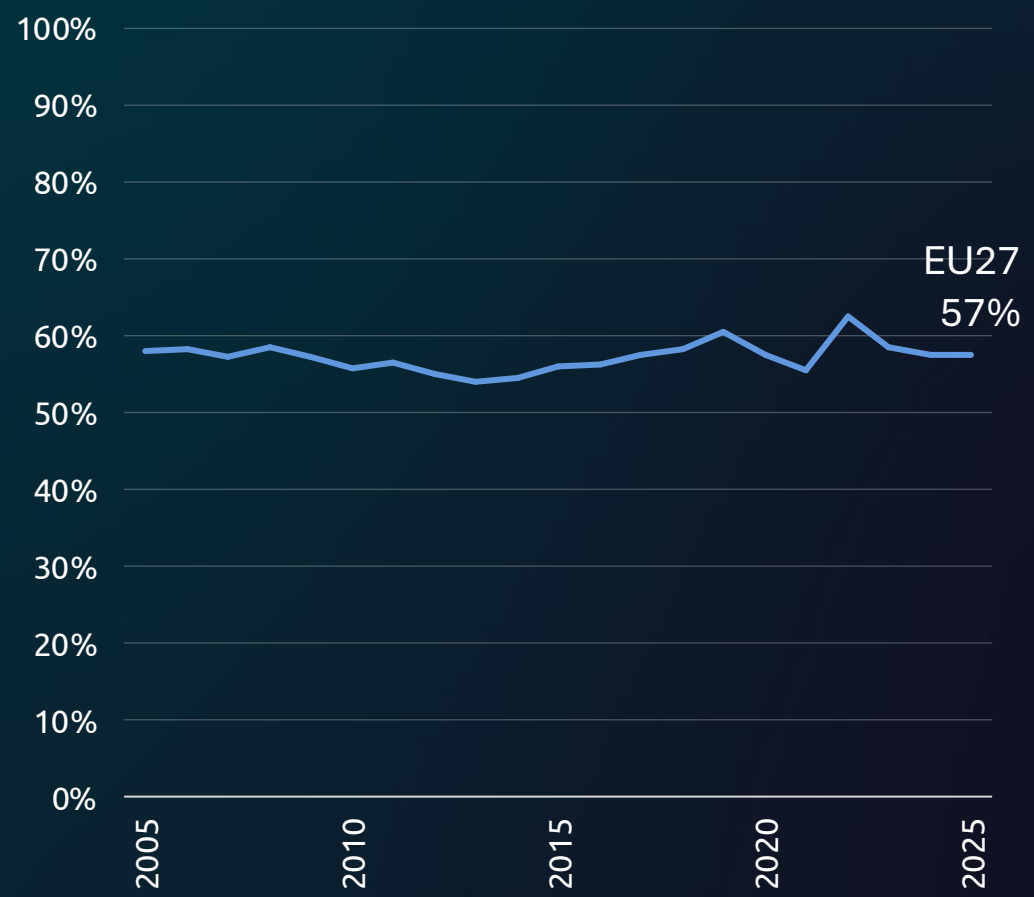
+32% electric cars in 2025: 1 in 4 cars sold in the EU was electric and the average stock size (27/1000 inh.) is not so far from China (31).

48% of electricity generation from renewables in 2025 and twice the capacity since the Paris Agreement.

10-12% of Circular Material Use Rate in the EU (compared to 7% in China and 5% in the USA), thanks to its leadership on circular economy.

Data sources: IEA, World Bank, Eurostat, Ember, Circle Economy

Energy dependency from imports in the EU



BUT…

337 billion € spent to import fossil fuels in 2025: the EU has the lowest proved reserves and struggles to reduce its energy dependency (57%), the highest among the big players.

+1% GHG growth in 2025: emissions' cut has slowed down for the 2nd year in a row.

23% of electrification rate in 2025: in line with the global average and it has not increased in the last 10 years.

Stop the clock: environmental reporting requirements have been eased in 2025 and this is expected to have impacts on the business sectors' investments in the ecological transition.

Data sources: IEA, World Bank, Global Carbon Budget, Eurostat, Ember



«As long as Europe depends on imported oil and gas, our prosperity remains exposed to events beyond our control. This is why it is so important to stay the course of the transition»

Ursula Von Der Leyen

President of the European Commission, 16th October 2026