

# VISION OR DIVISION?

**EMBER**  
COAL TO CLEAN ENERGY POLICY

What do National Energy and Climate Plans tell us about the EU power sector in 2030?



## Poland: Falling Behind in the Electricity Transition

EU-wide analysis of National Climate and Energy Plans reveals that Poland is one of seven EU countries falling furthest behind in decarbonising its electricity by 2030.

### Why is Poland falling behind?

- In 2030, Poland will have the dirtiest electricity grid in the EU, due to a high reliance on fossil fuels especially coal.
- In 2030, Poland will be responsible for over 40% of the EU's remaining electricity generation from coal.
- Poland's deployment of renewable electricity in the coming decade is below the EU average and overly reliant on bioenergy - a riskier source of renewable electricity than other sources such as wind and solar.
- Poland's deployment of wind and solar to 2030 is therefore significantly below the EU average.
- Planned new nuclear reactors will not start in the coming decade and so will make no contribution to electricity decarbonisation in the 2020s.
- In 2030, Poland will be responsible for ~ 22% of the EU-27's power sector emissions and will be the 2nd biggest power sector emitter.



### Charles Moore, Ember's European Programme Lead, said:

“Poland's dependence on coal is blocking the EU electricity transition. It is on track to have the EU's dirtiest electricity by 2030, accounting for nearly a quarter of all EU power sector emissions. Poland already has the most expensive electricity in Europe because of its reliance on coal and below-average deployment of low-cost wind and solar. Poland's government is committing itself to the dirtiest and costliest electricity in Europe this decade and beyond if it fails to change course.”

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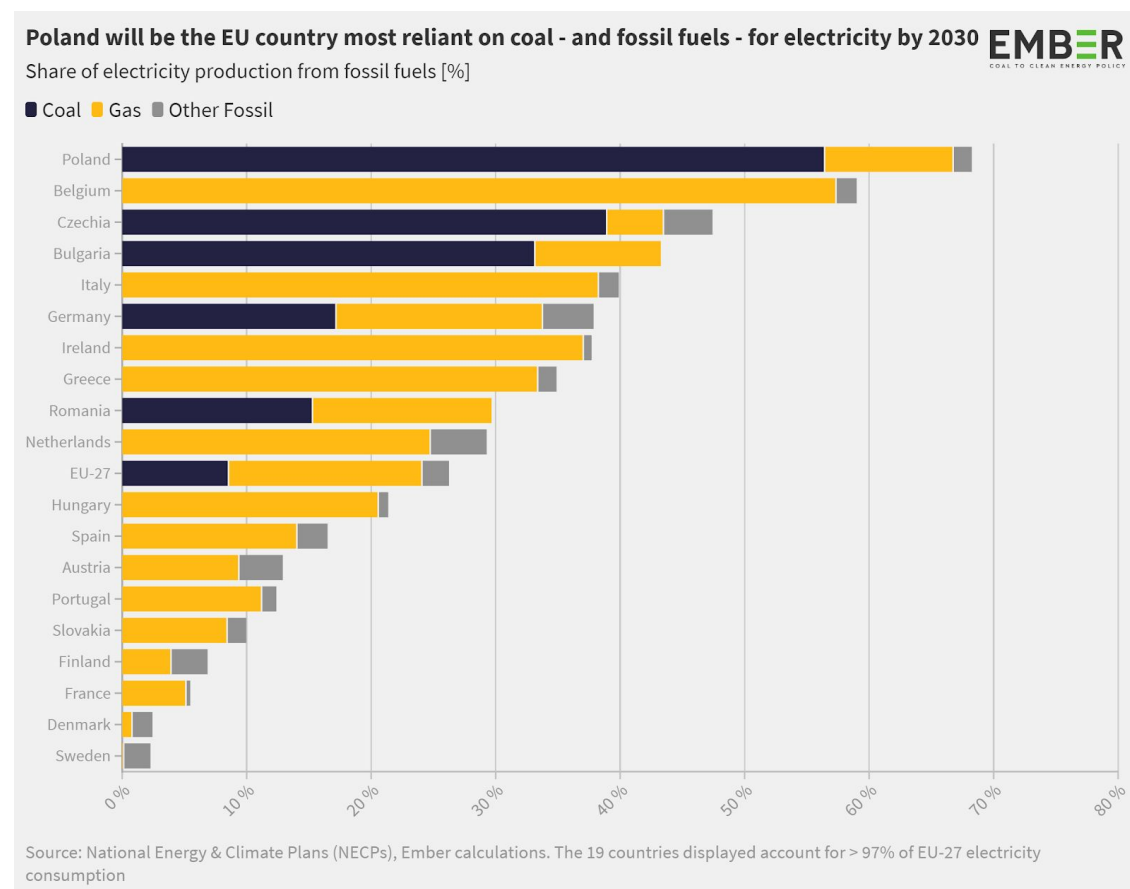
## Methodology

Ember published a [report](#) analysing the National Energy and Climate Plans of all EU countries. This analysis revealed seven countries that are falling behind in decarbonising the electricity sector: Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Germany, Italy, Romania and Poland.

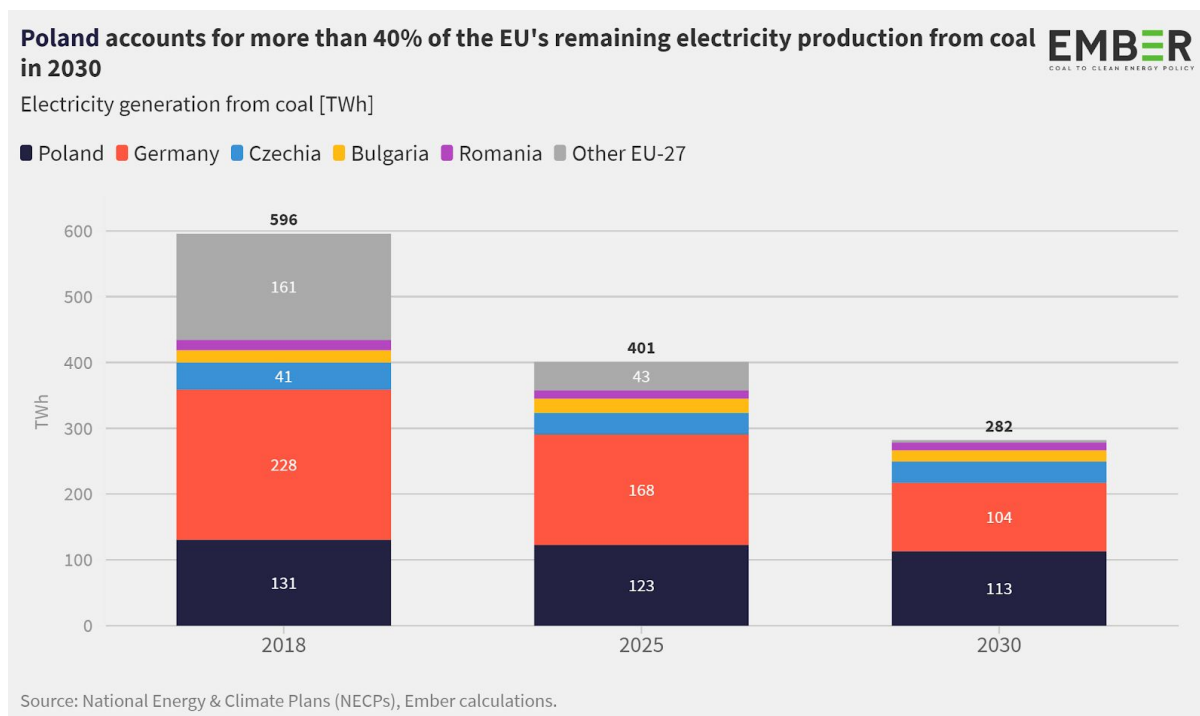
## Key findings in Poland

### Fossil fuels

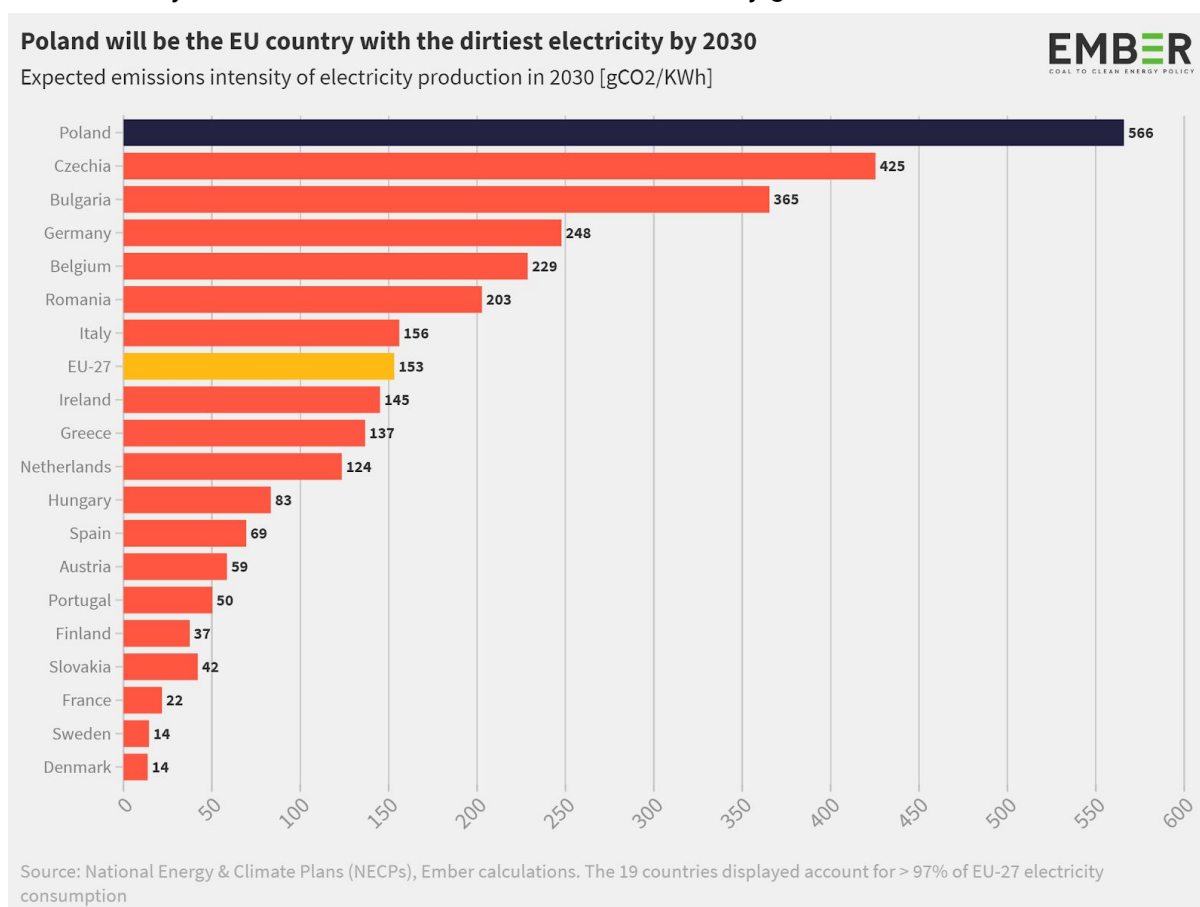
By 2030, Poland will be the EU country most reliant on coal - and fossil fuels in general - for electricity production by a considerable margin. Over half of Polish electricity is expected to be generated from coal in 2030 - and nearly 70% from fossil fuels.



By 2030, Poland will account for more than 40% of total EU electricity generation from coal.



As a result, by 2030, Poland will have the dirtiest electricity grid in the EU.



## Renewables

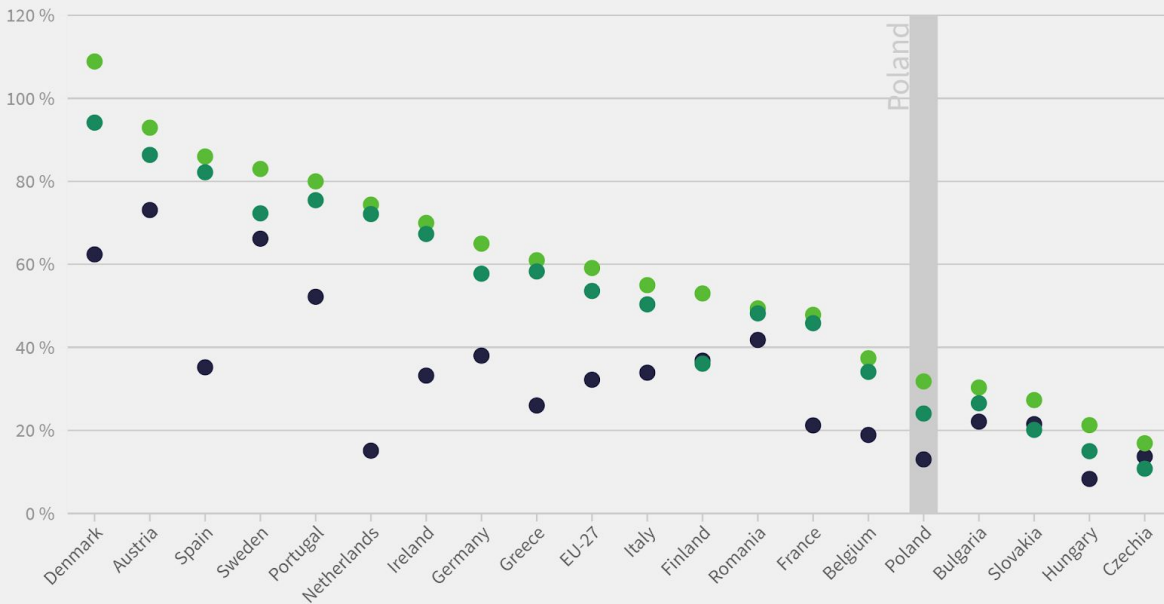
**All renewables:** Poland's deployment of renewable electricity in the coming decade is below average and is overly reliant on bioenergy - a higher risk source of renewable electricity than other sources such as wind and solar. Poland's planned 2030 share of renewables in electricity generation is well below EU average levels.

### Poland's 2030 share of renewable electricity is significantly below average

Renewable energy sources (RES) share of electricity consumption [%]



■ 2018 ■ 2030 ■ 2030 Exc. bioenergy



Source: National Energy & Climate Plans (NECPs), Ember calculations. The 19 countries displayed account for > 97% of EU-27 electricity consumption

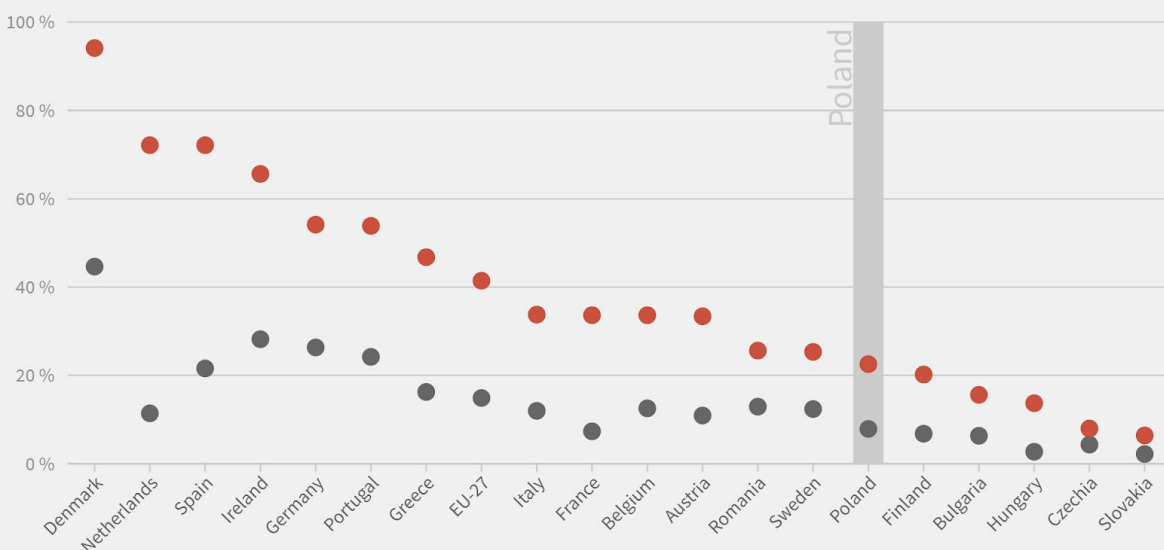
**Wind and solar power:** Poland's deployment of wind and solar to 2030 is well below the EU average. The planned share of wind and solar power in the electricity mix for 2030 is half the EU average and lower than the leading EU countries are already achieving today.

### Poland's share of wind and solar will be about half the EU average in 2030

Wind and solar's combined share of electricity consumption [%]



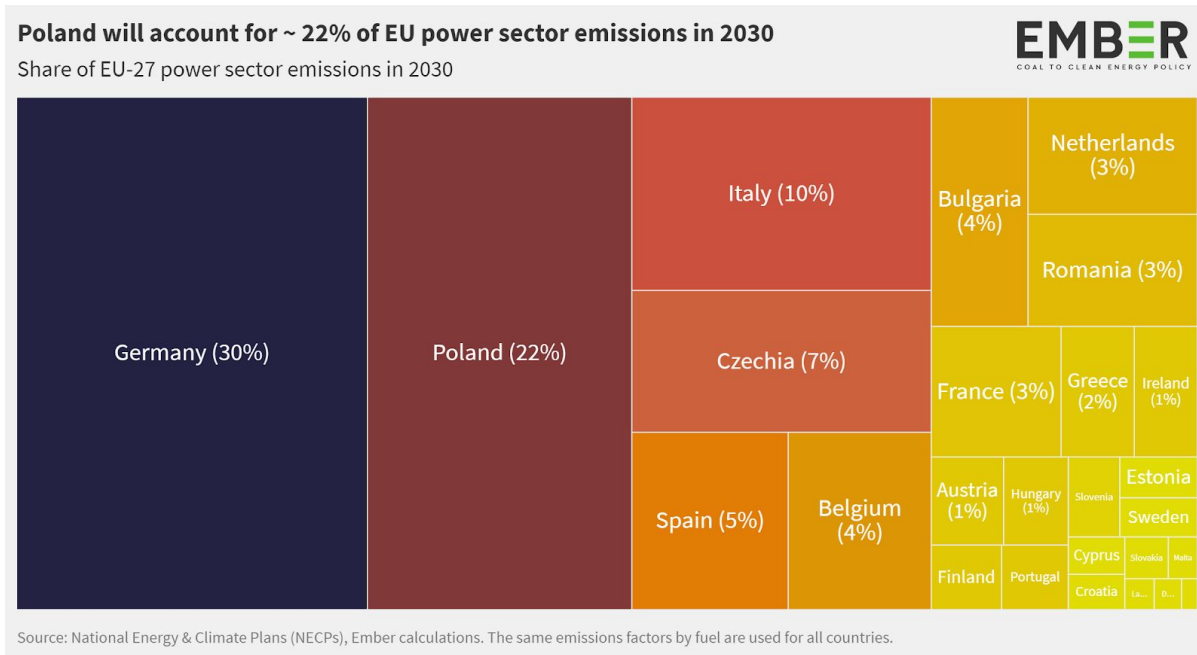
■ 2018 ■ 2030



Source: National Energy & Climate Plans (NECPs), Ember calculations. The 19 countries displayed account for > 97% of EU-27 electricity consumption

## Power sector emissions

By 2030 Poland will be responsible for ~22% of the EU-27's power sector emissions and will be the 2nd biggest power sector emitter.



## Electricity Mix

