

Brussels, 11 March 2021

## Dear Petitioners,

Many thanks for the postcard and the very important message you shared. Like you, I am very concerned about the way climate change is affecting our planet and the future of life on it. I would like to tell you about what we are doing and how you can get involved.

The European Union has made commitments to take action to protect the planet under the Paris Agreement. We have made it our goal to make Europe the world's first ever climate-neutral continent by 2050. That means that in 30 years' time, all 27 countries in the European Union will – overall - have stopped releasing harmful greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide and methane into the atmosphere.

Since a lot can happen in 30 years, we want to make sure we take the right path now to become climate-neutral by 2050. We need to be more ambitious and start making changes right away. So in 10 years, by 2030, EU countries will cut their greenhouse gases by more than half - 55% - compared to 1990. My team at the European Commission is working hard to review and update all the legislation that will help us get there.

How we reach both these important targets is set out in the **European Green Deal**. This is our action plan to make sure the EU's economy stays healthy as we take on these challenges together. By following the plan, we are going to transform the way we do things to protect the climate, biodiversity and the environment – from how we build our homes and generate energy, to the way we travel or grow the food we eat.

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But to do this properly, we need to make sure we bring everyone along with us. The European Green Deal will only work if people across Europe get involved and take action too. That is why we launched the **European Climate Pact**. The pact is an exciting new EU-wide project that brings together people who are passionate about the climate. The pact will help those people to work and learn together, to find solutions to climate-related problems and to meet like-minded people who also want to make real change. By sharing ideas and experiences, we can make our own impact much stronger.

The Pact is still very new, but there are already several ways you can get involved:

- Become a Climate Pact Ambassador
- Take climate-friendly action and make a pledge
- Register a climate event that you're organizing

To learn more about the work we are doing, I would encourage you to check out our <u>website</u>, and keep track of the latest climate <u>news</u> and <u>events</u>. You can also follow us on our social media channels on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Twitter</u> for the latest updates about the Climate Pact and future opportunities to get involved.

Many thanks once again for getting in touch. I am counting on your continued support in fighting the climate crisis together.

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Mauro PETRICCIONE