

CEMENT EUROPE COMMENTS ON RECENT MEDIA COVERAGE OF EU ETS REFORM DISCUSSIONS

Brussels, 5 February 2026

Cement Europe reacts to information circulated in the press suggesting that the European Commission intends to significantly weaken the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS), including through an increase in free allowances or a modification of their annual reduction rate. The impression was created that such interventions might be announced in the short term.

The European Commission is expected to adopt a legislative proposal in Q3 this year. Cement Europe has been, and continues to be, a strong supporter of the ETS, and its directly associated Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), as market-based instruments that are essential drivers of the decarbonisation efforts of our industry. We would like to reiterate that any changes to the existing regulatory framework need to focus on the long-term functioning of the ETS and CBAM and follow an orderly and transparent review process.

The competitiveness of the cement industry is impacted by increasing carbon costs, alongside broader fundamental issues of structurally high energy prices and unnecessary regulatory burdens. Cement Europe actively engages with the European Commission on the long-term future of the ETS, where the running out of allocations by 2039-2040 is a key issue for its members. Cement Europe will continue to advocate for support measures that enable the full and complete decarbonisation of the industry within a realistic timeframe, while safeguarding the competitiveness and long-term viability of this essential European industry. In addition, Cement Europe remains closely engaged in discussions concerning the CBAM review proposals of 17 December to ensure an effective implementation that works for both imports and exports.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

Cement Europe is the voice of the cement industry in Europe. Based in Brussels, we represent national cement associations and companies across the European Union (except Malta), as well as Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Serbia is an Associate Member, and we cooperate closely with partners in Cyprus and Ukraine.

Please click to view the [Cement Europe's Net Zero Roadmap](#), the [Cement Action Plan](#) and the [map of innovation projects](#).

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