



# PACT

## CO<sub>2</sub>, INDUSTRIES AND TERRITORIES

### Towards an industrial and territorial Pact for carbon neutrality

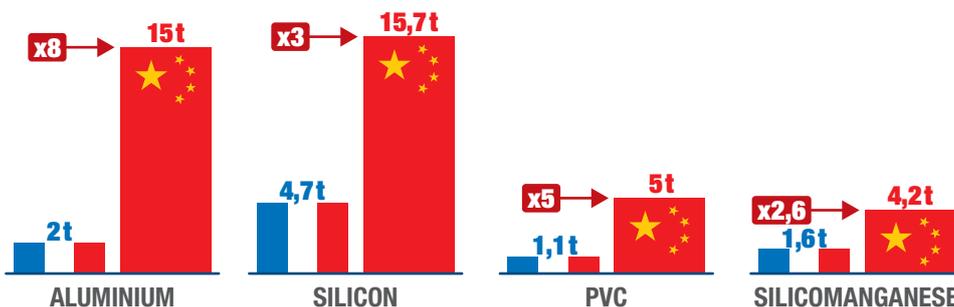
Today the urgency of climate change no longer needs to be demonstrated. The latest report of the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) estimates that human activities have caused a global warming of 1°C compared with the pre-industrial levels. At the current rate, this will rise to 1.5 °C between 2030 and 2052 with significant impacts particularly on biodiversity, health or again water resources and agricultural productivity. Greenhouse gas emissions and especially carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) produced by human activity, contribute greatly to global warming.

The European Union and France intend to provide world leadership with the setting place of carbon quotas and the asserting of an ambitious target of carbon neutrality by 2050.

The 5-fold increase between 2018 and 2019 of the price of the tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> is part of this approach as it encourages people to reduce emissions, but it also impacts the economic performance of the industrial areas and constitutes a big threat to employment.

The effects on the competitiveness of French industry are all the greater given the fact that imported products are not subject to the same requirements thus creating a competitive imbalance between European firms and the rest. However, the CO<sub>2</sub> generated by human activity in the world has global effects, whether the emissions are in Europe, Asia, Africa or on the American continent.

#### EMISSIONS IN TONNES OF CO<sub>2</sub>, FOR THE PRODUCTION OF A TONNE OF FINISHED PRODUCT IN THE HYPER ELECTRICITY-INTENSIVE INDUSTRIES



**PRODUCING IN FRANCE  
ENABLES  
OUR ECONOMY  
TO BE FREED  
OF CARBON**



*This data takes into account the direct and indirect emissions of the production processes.*

**The European, and particularly French, production generates considerably fewer emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> than in other countries in the world.**

In the past, our economy has experienced a high level of relocation linked to labour cost differentials.

Today we need to avoid further relocation and de-industrialization due to excessive carbon constraints resulting in a veritable carbon "leakage" to geographical sectors less committed to the fight against global warming. This represents a major issue and threatens even the existence of a European industry which is capable of combining an increase in volumes, a saving in energy and a reduction in emissions per tonne produced.

In addition to a possible tax on products imported from countries that do not have such ambitious targets as the European Union for combatting climate change, massive support for innovation could make European industry the world leader for carbon neutrality.

An industrial port platform, the Dunkirk area is engaged in a veritable territorial symbiosis supported and speeded up by programmes such as Innovation Areas and Industrial Areas. All its players are more than ever mobilized to build tomorrow's industrial port conurbation.

Many industrial, port and academic projects are based on innovations in terms of reducing emissions at source, capture, storage or upgrade of CO<sub>2</sub>, transfer and exchange of energy flows, hydrogenation for the production of green fuels, methanation, recovery of residual heat...

A veritable industrial and territorial pact has been set up with all the local players, who are prepared to commit themselves fully to it, their contribution being vital if the national targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions are to be attained by 2030, and ultimately carbon neutrality by 2050.

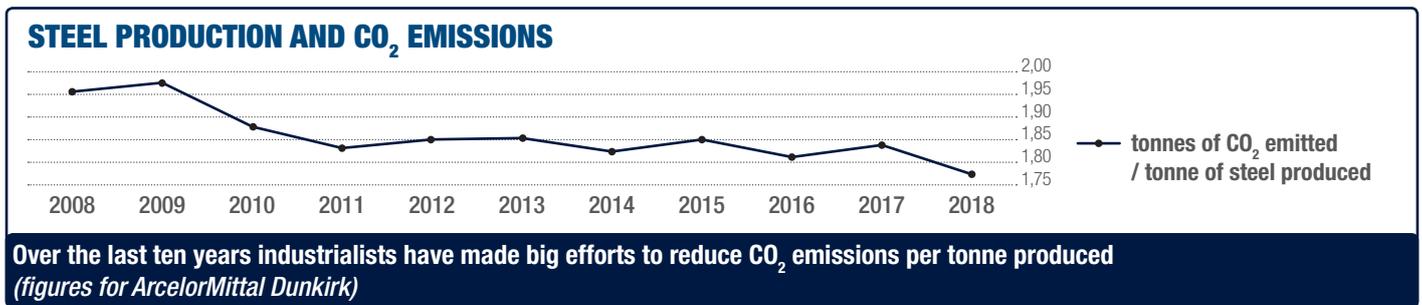
It is not a question of challenging the carbon quotas, but of asking for a significant part of the amounts of money collected by the State to be redirected to supporting the innovative projects of the industrialists and industrial areas. In point of fact, to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, considerable means and time are required in order to innovate, experiment and invest in efficient, novel and replicable solutions.

This is an essential precondition if France is to keep and develop its industrial infrastructures, while at the same time limiting their impacts.

Several courses of action can contribute to attaining the objective of carbon neutrality:

- **Support** the supply of carbon-free energy
- **Aid** investment in innovative processes for reducing emissions at source
- **Back** pilot projects and demonstrators for capture, upgrade and storage
- **Upgrade** the CO<sub>2</sub> that has not been emitted thanks to the development of circular economy logics like residual heat recovery or increasing recycled content

All the partners want the Dunkirk area to become an experimental area and are therefore putting forward a proposal for speeding up ecological transition: that the State should put its focus on the industrial areas and help them to build the industry and economy of the future and thereby avoid relocations and preserve jobs, the environment and the future of the planet.



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