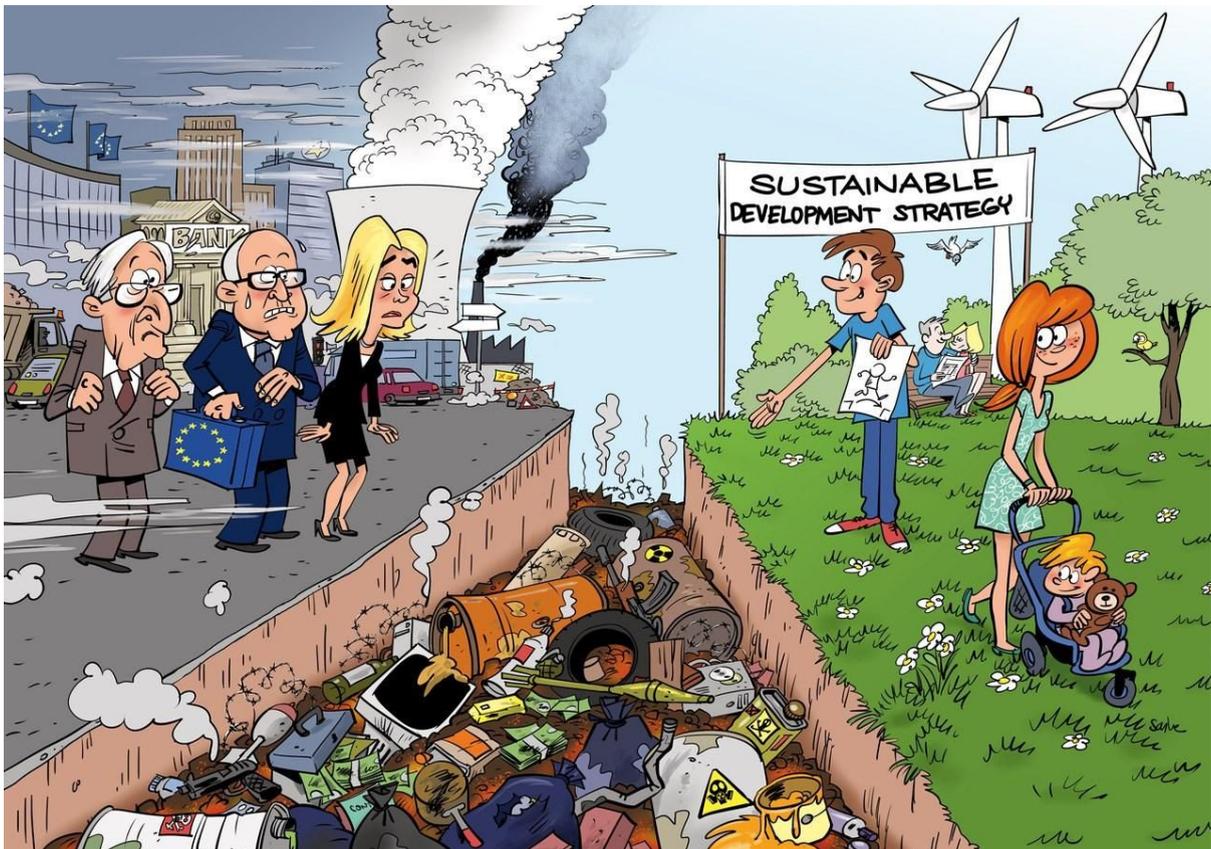


A big leap *Towards A Sustainable EU by 2030* Do we have the courage?

BRUSSELS, January 30, 2019

In the wake of the European Commission's newly launched Reflection Paper on Sustainable Development, CONCORD, on behalf of the over 2,600 NGOs it represents, asks current and future EU leaders to adopt an overarching EU SDG strategy.



Today, the European Commission released its long awaited reflection paper '[Towards a sustainable EU by 2030](#)'. First-Vice President Timmermans and Vice-President Katainen set out 3 possible scenarios that could guide the European Union in operating a just environmental, social and economic transition to become sustainable by 2030. Over three years after the EU's endorsement of the SDGs and the Paris climate agreement, a critical reflection to speed up their implementation was more than overdue.

In this context, CONCORD's president **Johannes Trimmel** comments on the outcome of the Commission's reflection paper:

"We welcome the fact that the Commission acknowledges there is still a lot to be done. The paper includes a number of important insights going in the right direction: it recognizes that Europe is consuming more than its fair share, it promotes a transition towards a sustainable food system, and it acknowledges that internal policies must not negatively impact sustainable development beyond our borders."

CONCORD looks forward to developing the Sustainable Europe 2030 strategy, including major shifts yet to be proposed in other key areas, like corporate accountability, people-centered trade and investment, and moving beyond the current economic growth obsession. Only this way we can deliver on a much needed transition for people and planet."

CONCORD, the European NGO confederation for relief and development, is an active member of the [EU multi-stakeholder platform on the SDGs](#) and pen-holder of the [common proposals from civil society, private and public sector representatives](#) annexed to the reflection paper.

END

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Notes to Editors

1. CONCORD is the European confederation of Relief and Development NGOs, made up of 28 national associations, made up of 28 national associations, 24 international networks and 3 associate members that represent over 2.600 NGOs, supported by millions of citizens across Europe. www.concordeurope.org

More on Sustainable Development:

[EU crystal ball campaign](#)

[EU SDG Multi-stakeholder Platform proposals](#)

[CONCORD report 'Sustainable Development. The Stakes could not be higher'](#)

CONCORD

European NGO confederation for relief and development



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