

OPEN LETTER FROM THE SCIENTISTS FOR FUTURE SALZBURG TO THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF SALZBURG



Dear Governor Mag. Karoline Edtstadler,
Dear Deputy Governor Marlene Svazek, BA,

The Scientists for Future are committed to evidence-based climate and biodiversity protection. As the regional group for Salzburg, and in light of recent developments, we take the liberty of setting out the following points and bringing them to your attention.

1. As Scientists for Future, we welcome the Salzburg Provincial Government's repeated commitment to the Master Plan Climate+Energy 2030, for example in the [letter of 10 June 2024](#) and during [Governor Edtstadler's hearing](#) in the Salzburg Provincial Parliament on 30 June 2025 (from approximately minute 20 onward).

2. In July 2025, the [report of the Salzburg Provincial Court of Audit](#) entitled "*Climate Protection and Climate Change Adaptation of the Province of Salzburg*" reached a central finding: "The Province of Salzburg's goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030 compared to 2005 does not appear to be achievable with the measures taken to date" (p. 4). Furthermore, the report states that at the halfway point of the Master Plan Climate+Energy 2030, "for nearly half of the intended greenhouse gas emission reductions, no measures had even been developed" (p. 34). Finally, it emphasizes that "achieving the target appears unlikely without additional and more effective measures" (p. 85).

3. We therefore kindly request information on which measures the Salzburg Provincial Government plans to implement in 2026 and 2027 in order to verifiably reduce emissions to 2,158 kt CO₂ equivalent by 2030, as legally bindingly agreed in the Master Plan Climate+Energy 2030. This applies in particular to the sectors that must make the greatest contribution to achieving the target: transport (including the e-mobility strategy), buildings (replacement of oil-fired heating systems), as well as the "difference/gap" or "other potentials" identified in the Master Plan Climate+Energy 2030, which to date have not been explicitly operationalized.

4. As Scientists for Future, we would like to reiterate how important it is to implement effective measures to combat climate change. The Alpine region is particularly affected by climate change – and precisely for this reason, it is, in our view, in Salzburg's own best interest to act decisively now. Regardless of international obligations or possible financial penalties, the primary concern is to preserve the unique landscape and quality of life of our province for future generations. In addition, it is essential to proactively seize the economic opportunities of a post-fossil economy in our region and thereby also contribute to social sustainability.

We trust that the Salzburg Provincial Government will make decisions today that make this possible.

Salzburg, February/March 2026

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