



DECLARATIONS AT THE NORTH SEA SUMMIT

At the North Sea Summit in Esbjerg on 18 May, Heads of Governments and Energy Ministers from Denmark, Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands will sign separate declarations.

The Esbjerg Declaration

The declaration by the Heads of Government, *the Esbjerg Declaration*, will set out the overall vision of a green European leadership, independence of Russian energy and regional cooperation for the build-out of offshore renewable energy. Therefore, a joint target is set to increase the total capacity of offshore wind 10-fold to a minimum of 150 GW by 2050, which corresponds to more than half of the offshore wind capacity needed for the EU to achieve climate neutrality according to the European Commission's *Strategy on Offshore Renewable Energy*. In addition, the countries have set a target to quadruple the total capacity of offshore wind to at least 65 GW in 2030.

Declaration by energy ministers

The statement by the energy ministers indicates how the vision of the Esbjerg Declaration can be realised. The energy ministers declare that they will:

- Increase the national build out of offshore wind and green hydrogen.
- Cooperate on interconnections to the first energy island.
- Maximise the capacity of the first energy island to 10 GW by 2040 the latest.
- Plan the establishment of another energy hub or island in the North Sea.
- Screen the North Sea in order to establish more energy hubs or islands in the North Sea in the future.
- Work for faster procedures for approving new energy projects nationally and in the EU.
- Prioritise offshore wind as an important offshore activity.
- Ensure more EU-funds for offshore wind projects to reduce investor risks.