21/10/2026

Subject: Your government not bringing fossil fuel lobbyists into COP30

Dear Minister Gilberto Pichetto Fratin,

We are writing to express concern over the outsized influence of the fossil fuel industry in climate policy and to urge your government not to grant privileged access to oil and gas companies at the upcoming UN climate negotiations, COP31.

Europe's negotiators will be heading to Antalya in the midst of a prolonged energy crisis, even if the Strait of Hormuz is fully reopened. The cost of Europe's exposure to fossil fuels has been exposed once more, with the price being borne through rising energy bills as others profit. The six largest oil and gas companies registered profits of almost $80 billion in the second quarter of this year as a result of the US-Israeli conflict.[1] In the third quarter Shell forecasts its refineries to almost double the profit earned on each barrel compared to the previous quarter.[2]

While your government states its determination to move away from fossil fuels, the industry's clear commercial incentive sees it lobbying to maintain dependence.[3] The same pattern appears at the UN climate talks: one in every 25 participants at COP30 in Belém was a fossil fuel lobbyist, according to research by the Kick Big Polluters Out coalition.[4] They significantly outnumbered all country delegations, bar the host Brazil. This pattern of privileged access undermines public trust and the integrity of climate and energy decision-making.

In Antalya, championing a phase-out of fossil fuels to keep the 1.5°C limit within reach goes hand in hand with ensuring fossil fuel interests do not block or weaken that transition. As the recent UNEP report Limiting overshoot makes clear, every fraction of a degree avoided will save lives, protect ecosystems and reduce economic losses.[5]

This summer's record heat waves provide a renewed sense of urgency in addressing the transition. Soaring temperatures saw tens of thousands die across Europe, adding to last summer's fatalities when Italy accounted for a third of all heat-related deaths.[6] This is not an unexplainable event but the direct result of decades of delay and obstruction by those profiting from fossil fuels.

New research from Fossil Free Politics found that over the past three years, EU member states brought more than three hundred fossil fuel executives to the UN climate talks. Your own government was the worst offender, bringing 52. Eni alone benefited from 14 of its executives being brought into the negotiations on your official delegation.[7]

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[1] https://www.indexbox.io/blog/big-oil-q2-2026-results-794b-profit-amid-iran-war-disruption/
[2] https://www.theguardian.com/business/2026/oct/07/shell-refineries-forecast-to-make-double-the-profit-from-every-barrel-of-fuel
[3] https://fossilfreepolitics.org/news/europe-cant-let-us-fossil-fuel-lobbyists-exploit-another-war-for-profit-methane-regulation-eumr/
[4] https://kickbigpollutersout.org/Release-Kick-Out-The-Suits-COP30
[5] https://www.unep.org/resources/limiting-overshoot-navigating-exceedance
[6] There were an estimated 16,469 excess deaths during summer 2025 due to climate change, according to research by the Imperial Grantham Institute, with Italy accounting for a third.
See https://spiral.imperial.ac.uk/server/api/core/bitstreams/4d5b1a8a-c5ed-47fd-894c-f05ae31ae69d/content#page=28
[7] This research is based on existing data analysis from the Kick Big Polluters Out coalition, and will be published on 2nd November, available at https://fossilfreepolitics.org/

The fossil fuel industry's business model conflicts with the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C target. Allowing their representatives into climate negotiations undermines public trust and delays the phase-out of fossil fuels. But proven solutions exist.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has long recognised the risk of undue influence by the tobacco lobbyists on vital health measures to curb tobacco use. In 2003, it adopted the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), acknowledging the irreconcilable conflict between the interests of the industry and public health officials, with guidelines on how to protect public health policy making from the undue influence of the industry.[8] This includes not bringing its lobbyists to international WHO negotiations. We believe it is vital to take a comparable approach to the fossil fuel industry.

We, the undersigned, call on you to support strong measures to safeguard public policy-making from fossil fuel industry influence.

a) **Do not grant UN climate summit accreditation (including overflow badges) to fossil fuel lobbyists or executives**, and exclude them from your national delegation to COP30 and future talks—building on the European Commission's positive example at COP29.

b) **Advocate for a UNFCCC Accountability Framework to shield negotiations from undue influence**, including robust conflict-of-interest disclosure rules for all participants,[9] building on the general agreement expressed by many Parties during the "Open Dialogue on Enhancing transparency of participation and integrity in the UNFCCC process" during SB64 for the need to address conflicts of interest.

Yours sincerely,

Nathan Stewart,
Fossil Free Politics coordinator

Elena Gerebizza,
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[8] https://fctc.who.int/publications/m/item/guidelines-for-implementation-of-article-5.3
[9] From now on, all participants in UNFCCC processes have to disclose their affiliation prior to participation. It is the first of many needed steps towards transparency and accountability measures.
https://kickbigpollutersout.org/articles/release-un-climate-treaty-participants-required-disclose-industry-ties