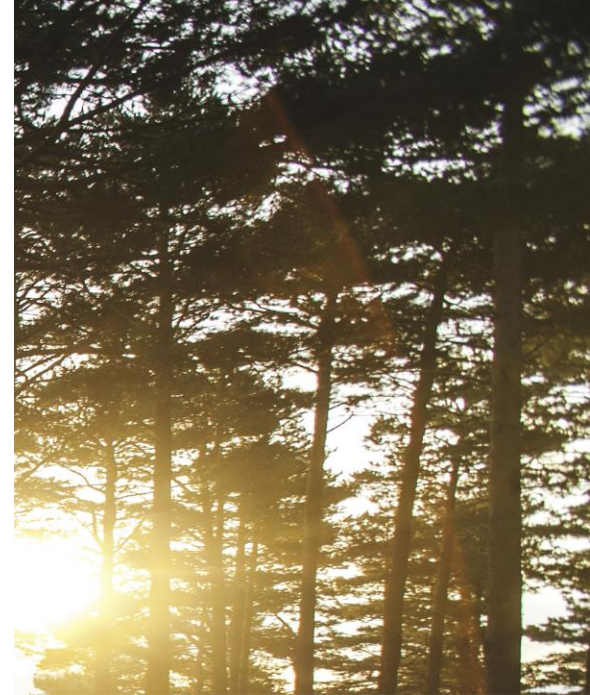




ESG Digest #3

September 2022





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Extreme heat makes people angrier online

According to a new research at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, online hate speech increases across all socio-economic groups in the US when daily maximum temperatures exceed 30°C.

Researchers analyzed a sample of 4 billion tweets between 2014 and 2020 from users based in the US. They used artificial intelligence to identify about 75 million hate messages in English, using the United Nations' definition of online hate, which includes racial discrimination, misogyny and homophobia. They then analyzed how the number of tweets changed when local temperatures increased or decreased. The research revealed that hate messages went up by 22% as daily maximum temperatures went about 21 °C. Online tensions increased even more when the temperature went about 30 °C. However, the research didn't really show what kind of hate it was or on what topics or whether it was tied to political issues.

Last year, a study by the same researchers focusing on Europe reached similar results.

[Read more](#)

75 m.

hate messages
using the United
Nations' definition
of online hate



Russia hit with first climate lawsuit

The first-ever climate lawsuit in Russia has been filed by a group of activists. It calls on the government to take stronger action over the climate crisis and reduce the country's greenhouse gas emissions in line with the 2015 Paris climate accords, which aim to keep warming within 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

Russia is the fourth biggest producer of carbon emissions worldwide, and its average temperatures have risen twice as fast as the global average. According to various forecasts, the country's emissions are predicted to reach 2,212m tons of carbon dioxide by 2030. However, to meet Paris climate goal, Russia needs to reduce its greenhouse emissions to 968 m tons of CO2 by 2030

[Read more](#)

2,212 m.

tons of carbon dioxide emissions are predicted to be reached by 2030

968 m.

tons of CO2 need to be reduced to by 2030

Europe toughened the rules on deforestation-free products

The European Parliament voted to implement rules to ensure that products imported and sold within the EU are 'deforestation-free' – that is, goods do not contribute to deforestation anywhere along the value chain and are produced in accordance with human rights provisions. 453 MEPs voted in favor, while 57 voted against the clampdown.

In addition, the MEPs also voted to extend the rules to financial institutions to ensure that they do not support projects linked to deforestation.

Global deforestation was identified as one of the most significant threats driving climate change and biodiversity loss. According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), an estimated 420 million hectares of forest, representing an area larger than the EU, were lost to deforestation between 1990 and 2020, with EU consumption responsible for approximately 10% of global deforestation.

[Read more](#)



453

MEPs voted
in favor of the
clampdown



57

MEPs voted
against the
clampdown



Australia has legislated emission reduction targets:

net zero emissions by 2050

On Thursday, September 8, 2022, Australia's parliament passed legislation for cutting carbon emissions by 43% by 2030 and to net zero by 2050. The new goals represent a 15%-point increase from the country's previous 2030 target.

The new legislation will also require government bodies such as clean energy and infrastructure financing agencies to take emissions targets into account in their decisions.

Currently, the country is one of the world's biggest emitters per capita, and the target brings it more in line with other developed countries.

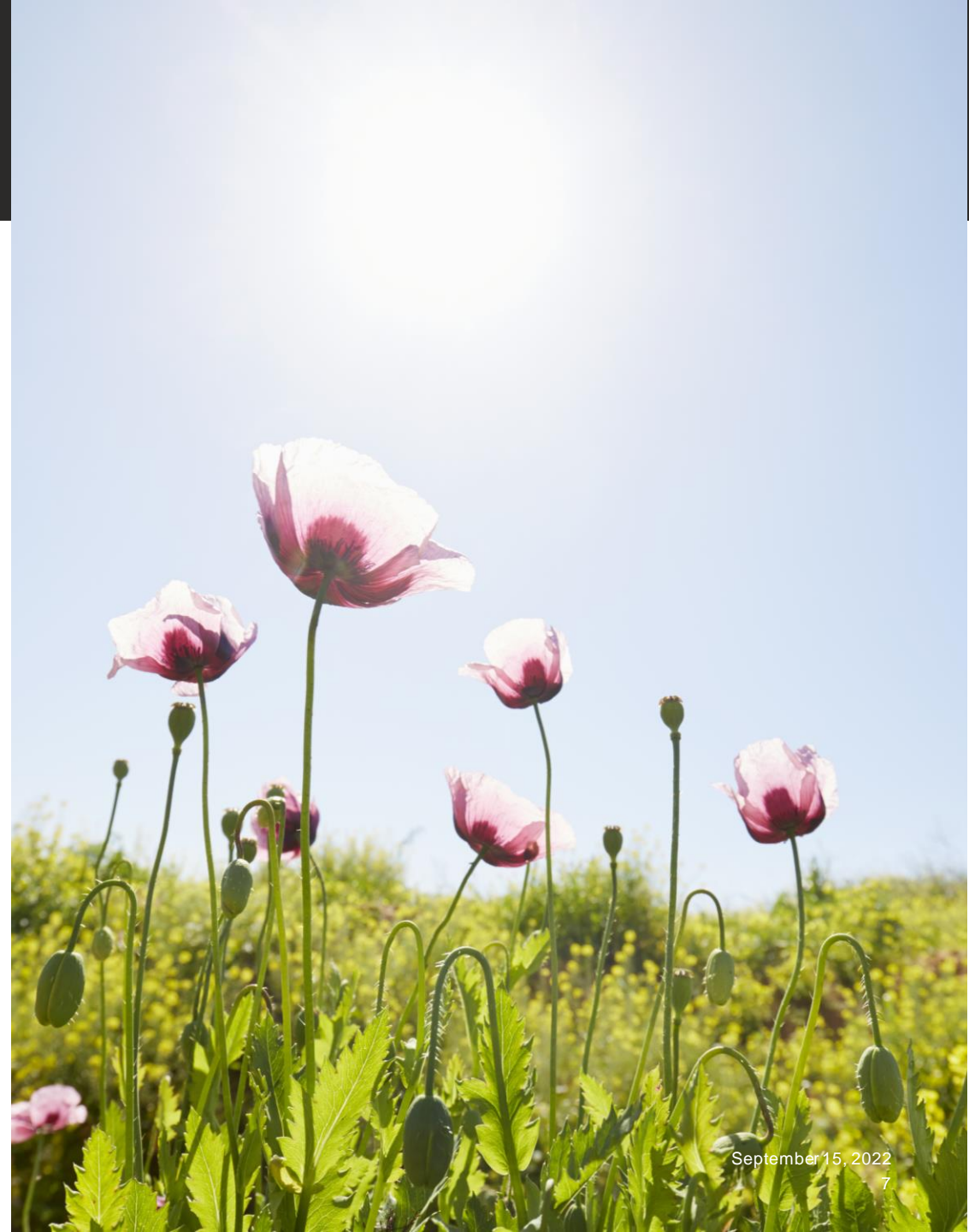
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GRI celebrates 25th anniversary

This month Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), provider of the world's most widely used sustainability reporting standards, reaches its 25 year anniversary. GRI Sustainability Reporting Standards help companies identify and disclose their impact on issues such as climate change, human rights, inequality, governance, as well as social well-being.

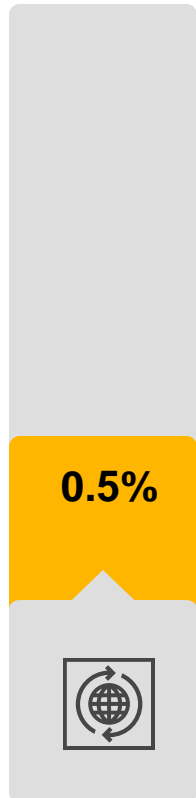
GRI introduced standards back in 1997, when a vast majority of companies didn't produce any sustainability reports. Now, in 2022, almost all multinational companies report on ESG topics.

[Read more](#)

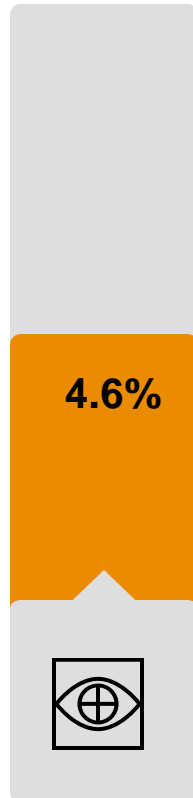


PwC published Net Zero Economy Index 2022

The lowest global rate of decarbonization



The highest level of improvement



An average required year-on-year global decarbonization rate to be achieved



Net Zero Economy Index (NZEI) is an indicator of the progress G20 members are making in reducing energy-related CO2 emissions and decarbonizing their economies.

At just 0.5%, the global rate of decarbonization in 2021 was at its lowest level in over a decade.

Across the G20 – who collectively account for around 80% of global energy-related emissions – the highest level of improvement was 4.6% and none achieved more than a 5% reduction in carbon intensity in 2021.

An average year-on-year global decarbonization rate of 15.2% is required to achieve the 1.5°C target and meet the climate goals adopted in the Paris Agreement. This equates to a 77% reduction in carbon intensity by the end of the decade.

[Read more](#)

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