

**EU PARLIAMENTARY PRESS RELEASE:**

**Oil Shock prompts EU parliamentarians to boost the transition towards a green hydrogen society**

**A group of MEPs representing a cross-section of all major political parties in the EU Parliament issue a sweeping declaration calling for a fundamental shift out of fossil fuels into a fully integrated green hydrogen economy in the world by 2025.**

**This broad bipartisan political initiative heralds a "Third industrial revolution", with the prospect of millions of new jobs and a resurrection of the European economy, along with the vision put forward by Prof. Jeremy Rifkin, who will also attend the press conference.**

European Parliament  
September 12, 2005  
press room PHS ground floor, 2 p.m.

A group of MEPs representing a cross-section of all major political parties in the EU Parliament will hold a press conference on Monday September 12 at 2 p.m. to launch the Hydrogen manifesto, a broad bipartisan political initiative to wean Europe off a fossil fuels dependency by creating a fully integrated green hydrogen economy in the shortest possible time.

The dramatic rise in the price of oil, increasing CO2 emissions and global warming, rising geo-political tension in the Middle East, and the dangerous escalation of Third World debt, say MEPs, make the shift to renewable energy and a hydrogen economy the most essential political task facing the EU in the years ahead.

The shift to hydrogen powered fuel cells, according to the MEPs, will usher in a third industrial revolution, the impact of which will be every bit as significant to the European and global economy as the introduction of steam power and coal in the 19th century and the internal combustion engine and oil in the 20th century.

The MEPs signatories of the hydrogen manifesto will discuss plans for floating a European wide hydrogen bond to raise billions of euros for building a hydrogen economy infrastructure, that will represent the backbone of a totally new energy system across the 25 Member States of the EU. They will also unveil plans for establishing a public private partnership - a green hydrogen stakeholders group - involving the European Union, Member States, the regions, the business community, organized labour and civil society organizations, initiative made all the more necessary by the structural increase of oil price.

Members of the Parliament who will speak:

Vittorio Prodi ALDE

Alejo Vidal Quadras PPE  
Claude Turmes VERTS/ALE  
Umberto Guidoni GUE/NGL  
Jo Leinen PSE

Q&A with MEPs and Professor Jeremy Rifkin

The press conference will be broadcast by EbS on Eutelsat hotbird, orbit 13 East,  
frequency 12, 47550GHz, polarization horizontal, footprint widebeam.