



## **Contribution**

In response to the call from the COP30 presidency for contributions to the Roadmap for the Just, Orderly and Equitable Phase-out of Fossil Fuels (“transitioning away from fossil fuels in a just, orderly and equitable manner”, paragraph 28.d/GST1), the Institute for Strategic Studies on Oil, Natural Gas and Biofuels address its suggestions to the question (d) How can a just, orderly and equitable transition best reflect the diverse realities of countries at different stages of development and with different degrees of dependence on fossil fuels?

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### **Ineep – Institute for Strategic Studies on Oil, Natural Gas and Biofuels**

#### **Oil and Gas Observatory: energy sovereignty and just transition in Brazil**

Founded in 2018, the Institute for Strategic Studies on Oil, Natural Gas and Biofuels Oil and Gas promotes research and provides advisory services on issues related to the oil, gas, and biofuels sector’s agenda in Brazil and worldwide. Its Observatory is an initiative to stimulate debate on Brazil’s Oil and Gas sector from the perspective of a just energy transition, monitoring the sector’s response to ongoing changes. By promoting studies, research, and events, the Observatory aims to contribute to the formulation of a State agenda through which Brazil participates in international coordination to address the climate crisis, building its own pathway for the energy transition that considers the Oil and Gas sector from the standpoint of its emissions profile, its importance for national development, and its workers.

***Promoting the just energy transition to overcome fossil fuel dependency. A change of perspective for climate action in Brazil.***

The final declaration of COP30, held in November 2025 in the city of Belém, capital of the state of Pará, Brazil, made no mention of the phase-out of fossil fuel use by the signatory countries of the Paris Agreement, whether gradual or immediate.<sup>1</sup> Nevertheless, the issue is debated both inside and outside the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the UN body that governs global climate action within the multilateral system.

The designated President of COP30, Ambassador André Corrêa do Lago, committed to developing by November 2026 a ‘roadmap’ for phasing out the use of fossil fuels.<sup>2</sup> In a letter, he explained that the proposal would be designed to mobilize States and non-State actors in national and international planning, so that markets, institutions, and societies can adjust to the resulting changes without disruption.<sup>3</sup> In response, more than a hundred Brazilian and foreign civil society organizations expressed support for the initiative and advocated for an inclusive and participatory process in the development of this proposal.<sup>4</sup>

Through its Observatory, the Institute for Strategic Studies on Oil, Natural Gas and Biofuels – Ineep presents its contribution to the conference and to the roadmap under discussion. Acknowledging the role of the Oil and Gas sector in the climate crisis and in addressing it, the Institute proposes shifting the perspective from ‘phasing out fossil fuels’ to ‘promoting a just energy transition’. This is because, whereas the first perspective addresses the restriction of the oil, natural gas and derivatives sector in isolation, the second perspective addresses the construction of national agendas for changing energy matrices, taking into account the current role of that sector in the supply of primary energy and non-energy raw materials, the differences in greenhouse

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<sup>1</sup> UNFCCC. Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement. Belém, 10-21 November 2025. Glocal mutirão: unifying humanity in a global mobilization against climate change.

<sup>2</sup> COP30 Executive Report. UNFCCC - United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Belém, 2026, March. <https://cop30.br/search?Subject=Relat%C3%B3rio%20Executivo%20COP30>

<sup>3</sup> Twelfth Letter of the Brazilian Presidency of COP30, signed by Ambassador André Aranha Corrêa do Lago, Designated President of COP30, released on 27 January 2026.

<sup>4</sup> Letter to President André Corrêa do Lago brings together groups from around the world and calls for transparency and science-based leadership. Observatório do Clima. Accessed at: [https://oc.eco.br/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Carta-Mapa-Caminho-030226-Andre-Correa-do-Lago\\_Final.pdf](https://oc.eco.br/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Carta-Mapa-Caminho-030226-Andre-Correa-do-Lago_Final.pdf) Date: 04 Mar. 2026

gas emission profiles among countries, as well as the sector's contribution to national economies and to employment and income generation.

A concept with contested definitions, Ineep understands the just energy transition as an initiative led by national States in the coordination of their industrial and energy policies, so that the process becomes a vector of sustainable, sovereign, and inclusive development, attentive to workers and to the political, economic, social, and technological dynamics that influence and are influenced by this transition.<sup>5</sup>

Ineep argues that reducing climate action to the phase-out of fossil fuels in isolation, disconnected from national specificities and the international geopolitical context, is not only insufficient to address the climate crisis but may also risk exacerbating other crises, as the current geopolitical situation demonstrates.

Hence, the importance of the multilateral system investing in the construction of integrated agendas for the climate crisis, without, however, imposing a single way of thinking about how countries should participate in this effort that overrides each country's own reality. This position is aligned with the Paris Agreement, in its Article 2, paragraph 2º, which establishes that climate action must reflect equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Mahatma Ramos dos Santos, Ticiania de Oliveira Alvares, Rodrigo Pimentel Ferreira Leão, et al. (Eds.) Energy transition: geopolitics, corporations, finance and labour. Rio de Janeiro: Telha, 2024.

<sup>6</sup> UNFCCC. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2015). *Paris Agreement*. [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english\\_paris\\_agreement.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf)

## Contributions

1. **Promoting the just energy transition to overcome fossil fuel dependency:** The climate crisis is real. Similarly, the Oil and Gas sector's contribution to this crisis and its efforts to address it are also noteworthy. However, it is necessary to shift the perspective of the international and national debate from 'phasing out fossil fuels' to 'promoting the just energy transition', because, whereas the first perspective addresses the restriction of the oil, natural gas and derivatives sector in isolation, the second addresses the construction of processes for changing countries' energy matrices, taking into account the factors that influence and will be influenced by these changes. The promotion of the just energy transition is necessary, given the current role of the Oil and Gas sector in the global supply of primary energy and non-energy raw materials; given the heterogeneity of national greenhouse gas emission profiles, as well as the sector's contribution to these economies and to employment and income generation. Therefore, orienting the debate towards the just energy transition enables national States to take the lead in building sovereign strategies aligned with each country's structural specificities, so that climate action becomes international coordination grounded in the principles of equity, common but differentiated responsibilities, and the national pathways enshrined in the Paris Agreement;
2. **Just energy transition strengthens the promotion of global peace:** The global geopolitical crisis demonstrates not only the need for restructuring Capitalism, but also the crisis of multilateralism. The weakening of global governance in recent decades has intensified the competitive race among the great powers in the face of organizational, technological, economic, and, above all, military innovation processes. This deepens geoeconomic uncertainties and social costs in the present, and simultaneously creates obstacles to promoting dialogue and consensus around a powerful energy, industrial, and climate agenda. For us, peace and the elimination of violence as instruments of energy diplomacy are fundamental to promoting a just energy transition and climate justice.
3. **The centrality of Brazilian sovereignty in energy transition planning:** Brazil is a historic leader of the global environmental and climate agenda, engaging in the multilateral environment without compromising national sovereignty. In light of Brazil's emissions profile, this form of participation is expressed in its NDC – Nationally Determined Contribution – and in the National Climate Policy, the Plano Clima (2024–2035), in which the country sets targets for reducing total net greenhouse gas emissions while at the same time projecting an increase in emissions from its energy sector. However, the deepening of this sovereign perspective must broaden the focus on reducing emissions in the Oil and Gas

sector from the supply side to the demand side, where the bulk of the emissions associated with the sector are found. This broadening of focus on the sector's emissions reinforces the greater effectiveness of just energy transition planning compared to the isolated phase-out of fossil fuel use in Brazil;

4. **Labour, employment, and social justice as a structural axis of the energy transition:** In Brazil, the energy transition is referenced across Brazil's international climate commitments, intersectoral policies, and sector-specific energy policies. However, none of these policies includes a set of targets, objectives, and monitoring indicators related to labour and employment, so that changes in the national energy matrix become drivers for the creation of decent green jobs and for guaranteeing the rights and opportunities of workers in the non-renewable energy sector during this transition. To reverse this situation, Brazil must increase the role of the Ministry of Labour and Employment and trade union forces in the construction of the State agenda for the energy transition in general, as well as incorporate the labour dimension into the National Energy Transition Policy, making it the structural policy that underpins and guides this transition in the country.



Institute for Strategic Studies on Oil, Natural Gas and Biofuels – Ineep

**Technical Direction**

Mahatma Ramos

Ticiana Alvares

**Technical Coordination**

**Editorial Coordination**

Davi Bonela

**Observatory Researchers**

Mauricio Bemfica de Oliveira

Miguel Huertas Neto

**Research Coordination**

Francismar Ferreira

**Associate Researchers**

**for this publication**

Alessandra Leal

André Tokarski

Fernanda Brozoski

Francismar Ferreira

Iago Montalvão

Leonardo Mosimann Estrella

**Data Scientists**

Caio Mescouto

Maria Clara Arouca

**Communications Coordination**

Lídia Michelle Azevedo

**Communications Team**

Laura Cardoso

Luis Fernando Manso

**Administration**

Letícia Wolowski

Pedro Borba