
EU goes to work on solar panels

How does Europe support solar power expansion?

Together with the European Data Journalism Network, DW has analyzed how Europe's governments support the continent's solar power expansion. How did solar become so popular so fast? Today, several EU countries host a capacity of around a kilowatt -- roughly two solar panels -- per person.

How do European countries support solar energy savings?

Countries across Europe support solar energy savings through a patchwork of net metering and feed-in tariff (FiT) programs. Each comes with its own credit duration, eligibility rules, and rate structure--making localized modeling essential.

Where do solar panels come from in Europe?

However, the bulk of the demand for solar modules in Europe is covered by imports. Currently, 97% of the solar panels imported into the EU come from China. The charter sets out a series of voluntary actions to be undertaken to support the EU photovoltaic sector.

How can the EU improve solar energy production?

1. Binding local production targets: Member states must ensure that 30% of their annual solar module, battery and heat pump installations are produced in the EU by 2026. This addresses a critical vulnerability: 90% of EU solar components are currently imported, 80% from a single country.

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In solar, the regulations could potentially create a market for products that meet resilience requirements of up 9 gigawatts of capacity as early as 2026, reckons trade body SolarPower Europe.

The EU is working to reduce its dependence on China in solar markets, but is in some cases only shifting to other non-EU suppliers such as India and Southeast Asia. Member ...

The European Solar Charter, signed on 15 April 2024, sets out a series of voluntary actions to be undertaken to support the EU photovoltaic sector.

Discover the latest solar energy policies in Europe, key incentives, and compliance tips to keep your business ahead in 2025.

Discover the state of solar panel manufacturing in Europe, the challenges posed by imports, and what EU countries are doing to rebuild local production. Learn how European-made solar can ...

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