

Writing Area

Motion

Question: Should we set a strict deadline for ceasing the use of all fossil fuels?

| | For | Against |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Delays / readiness | Setting a deadline can accelerate the transition to renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, hydro, and geothermal. Without a deadline, countries will just continue to delay weaning off fossil fuels. | Some have pointed out that the technology for a complete transition to renewable energy may not be fully developed or economically viable yet. Without adequate technological alternatives, setting a strict deadline is not realistic. |
| Climate / economy | We are not achieving our current climate targets and scientists are warning of dire consequences. With fossil fuels being a major contributor to global warming, we simply have no choice but to set a deadline to eliminate their use. | The abrupt cessation of fossil fuel use can have significant economic repercussions, especially in regions heavily dependent on the fossil fuel industry. It can result in job losses, economic downturns, and potential energy shortages. |
| Innovation / infrastructure | A strict deadline can drive research and development of cleaner technologies and alternative energy sources. This can foster innovation in the energy sector. | The existing infrastructure is heavily reliant on fossil fuels, from transportation to energy production. Without governments committing to putting in substantial investment required for new infrastructures, setting a deadline is meaningless. |