

JOINT STATEMENT ON THE NEW NORWAY-CALIFORNIA MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Globally, the past 12 months were the hottest 12 consecutive months on record, highlighting the urgent threats of the climate crisis. Tackling the climate crisis requires unmatched and catalytic collaboration and innovation. In response to this crisis, Norway and California signed a climate and clean energy Memorandum of Understanding today. This Memorandum of Understanding is a critical step forward to deliver clean energy, clean transportation, and aggressive decarbonization strategies, healthy ecosystems, and a sustainable and thriving economy for Norwegians and Californians.

In 2021, our governments agreed to work together on economic and workforce development, working closely with industry and businesses to spur innovation as we race towards our climate change goals with the development of zero emissions vehicles, clean technology, and renewable energy. This new Partnership builds on these successes, outlining four years of cooperation on clean energy; transportation decarbonization; clean ports; circular economy; climate smart agriculture and forestry; carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration; and critical minerals.

Both Norway and California are committed to ensuring access to affordable, reliable, clean energy and supporting the transition to a net zero economy. Our jurisdictions have individually committed to strengthening reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, and we welcome opportunities to strengthen climate-related cooperation and enhance the promotion of clean, renewable energy innovation and technologies. Norway and California both have ambitious offshore wind goals by 2040 and 2045, respectively, and are driving towards solutions to sustainably speed offshore wind development and deployment, underscoring our shared commitments to building a clean energy economy through innovation, technology, and knowledge sharing.

Norway and California have much to offer each other to best address the climate crisis, and this Memorandum of Understanding will pave the way for swift sharing of information and best practices, collaborating on policy and regulation, and pursuing joint workshops and initiatives with other partners. The Partnership will accelerate climate action and deliver for our citizens. Together, we can fight climate change while building inclusive, thriving economies and communities.

In addition to the Memorandum of Understanding signed today that outlines areas of shared work and collaboration, Norway and California reaffirmed our work together to advance our shared interest in both improving public safety and fostering correctional systems that focus on rehabilitation and safe and successful reintegration of the formerly incarcerated. This collaboration highlighted today is the continuation of a significant, long-term, and dynamic partnership.

Addressing our most important global challenges requires collaboration in education, research and innovation. Norway and California enjoy longstanding, strong collaborations in education and research, including through the frequent exchanges of students and researchers between universities in Norway and California. Furthermore, technology innovation in Norway and California mutually strengthens and supports the industries of both Parties and contribute to the development of climate solutions.


In all our work, we acknowledge the important role of the many key partners across our two jurisdictions. California and Norway recognize the ongoing processes of reconciliation with California Native American tribes and the Sámi people, respectively, and the importance of full and meaningful representation and participation of Indigenous peoples in climate action and decision-making. By working together, we will fight climate change as we continue to create jobs and thriving businesses, and flourishing communities and places. Our partnership across Norway and California is an example to the world of the collaboration that will build a bright future for people everywhere.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Newsom', written over a horizontal line.

Gavin Newsom
Governor of California

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
NORWAY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jan Christian Vestre', written over a horizontal line.

Jan Christian Vestre
Minister of Trade and Industry