

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between France Hydrogène (FH2) and Deutscher Wasserstoff-Verband DWV (German Hydrogen Association)

Advancing Clean Hydrogen through Franco-German Leadership, Synchronisation and Resilience

Building on the spirit and principles of the Cooperation Charter for European Associations Advancing Clean Hydrogen signed in Rotterdam on 14 May 2024, as well as the Joint Call for Stimulating Clean Hydrogen Supply & Demand by National Hydrogen Associations of Belgium, France, Germany and the Netherlands signed in September 2024, FH2 and DWV hereby agree to deepen and structure their bilateral cooperation through this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). While the Charter reaffirmed hydrogen's essential contribution to Europe's climate objectives, the signatories recognise that the European agenda has further evolved: energy security, strategic autonomy, industrial resilience and competitiveness have become equally decisive drivers for hydrogen deployment in Europe.

France and Germany carry a particular responsibility in European integration and industrial leadership. FH2 and DWV share the conclusions of the 25th Franco-German Council of Ministers on 29 August 2025, that the Delegated Act for Low-carbon Hydrogen and the RFNBO Delegated Act should facilitate a pragmatic and cost-efficient ramp up of these types of hydrogen, leveraging the strengths of our respective European economies, as well as the joint focus and long-term commitment to support the timely realization of the Southwestern Hydrogen Corridor. In this context, FH2 and DWV strive for a coordinating and enabling role within the community of national associations in coordination with Hydrogen Europe. This leadership is not a matter of institutional representation, but of strategic necessity: accelerating hydrogen markets now requires that Europe's two largest industrial economies synchronise the entire hydrogen value chain - production, transport and distribution infrastructure, as well as demand creation and offtake - to provide certainty to investors, industry and policymakers across Europe.

In particular, the signatories agree to cooperate closely to support the effective and coherent transposition of EU legislation, notably RED III, into national frameworks. They will promote enabling regulation that is predictable, investment-friendly, and aligned across borders - reducing fragmentation and strengthening Europe's ability to scale hydrogen technologies at speed. This includes coordinated policy dialogue with national authorities, joint contributions to European consultations, and consistent advocacy for harmonised approaches that allow markets to function across Member States.

Through this MoU, FH2 and DWV strive to coordinate in the following areas:

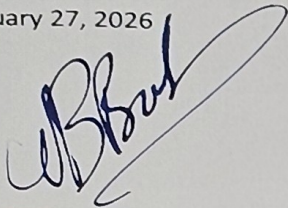
- Advocating for robust policy backing for hydrogen as a pillar of decarbonisation and of European energy sovereignty, resilience and industrial competitiveness;
- Synchronising Franco-German market development, by aligning infrastructure planning, permitting timelines, certification practices, investment signals and industrial offtake strategies;
- De-risking investment and accelerating deployment, including joint proposals to improve bankability, reduce administrative barriers, and strengthen cross-border project pipelines;
- Supporting a thriving hydrogen market and skills base, grounded in a technology-open approach and focused on scalable industrial implementation;
- Sharing best practices and coordinating outreach, including active participation in the European Hydrogen Week and key hydrogen events in France and Germany, and joint engagement with business federations, chambers of commerce, and relevant sectoral organisations to advance hydrogen as a key tool to cut emissions while strengthening Europe's industrial base.

The signatories agree to communicate and coordinate in an appropriate manner with Hydrogen Europe, contributing to a more unified European approach and reinforcing the collective strength of the national association network. They underline that synchronisation - of regulation, investment conditions, infrastructure roll-out and demand creation - must become a guiding principle for hydrogen policy and market design, especially as Member States implement sector-defining targets under RED III.

FH2 and DWV consider this non-binding MoU a practical and strategic step towards a more coherent European hydrogen ecosystem - one that delivers on climate ambition while securing Europe's energy future, industrial strength and competitiveness.

Signed on behalf of France Hydrogène (FH2):

Name: Nicolas BRAHY
Title: President
Date: January 27, 2026



Signed on behalf of Deutscher Wasserstoff-Verband (DWV):

Name: Silke FRANK
Title: President
Date: January 27, 2026

