



Think 2030

Science-policy
solutions for a more
sustainable Europe

20.04.2023 Policy Session 2.

Climate security and trade in times of multiple crisis

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Session 2. Climate security and trade in times of multiple crisis

Co-leads: Mistra – The Swedish Foundation for Strategic Environmental Research and the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

Countries are attempting to decrease their climate-changing emissions, while facing the immediate and removed effects of wars, economic downturns, increasing impacts of climate change, and growing challenges to accessing food, natural resources and energy. They are doing so despite the changing geopolitical situation and the global arena, while working with clear frustration regarding responsibility and fairness in managing climate adaptation and a fair and just climate transition.

Despite facing other challenges, governments are responding to the urgency of the climate crisis, which requires immediate action to reduce carbon emissions and stop the effects of climate change. Development is in progress of trade policy tools that support climate ambitions and address the challenges of international competition. The design of these regulatory frameworks requires a balance between protecting the environment, stimulating a sustainable transition of industries, and safeguarding global relationships and trade chains.

One of these tools in the EU's Green Deal is the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). The mechanism is criticized by countries that think it entails unfair costs for producers in countries that are not responsible for the climate crisis.

How should international environmental and climate work be kept alive in times of war and crisis? How does the geopolitical situation affect the climate transition in various parts of the world? What are the advantages and challenges of trade policy tools for reducing emissions? And how can policies be drawn up in such a way that they avoid heightening current geopolitical tensions? The panel will discuss these outstanding questions, while focusing on CBAM.

Agenda

Session 2. 11:15-12:30

11:15: Welcome and introduction

- Moderator Nathalie Bernasconi-Osterwalder, Vice-President, Global Strategies and Managing Director, Europe, IISD

Keynote Speaker:

- Henrik Carlsen, Senior Research Fellow SEI and Co-Director, Mistra Geopolitics
- Ieva Baršauskaitė, Senior Policy Advisor, IISD

Policy Panel

- Rashid S. Kaukab, International Trade, Development and Environment Expert
- Marc Vanheukelen, former EU Ambassador Climate Diplomacy, former EU Ambassador to the World Trade Organization, WTO
- Helena Hansson, Professor of Agricultural and Food Economics, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, and Programme Director, Mistra Food Futures

Q&A – open to audience

- Moderator Nathalie Bernasconi-Osterwalder, Vice-President, Global Strategies and Managing Director, Europe, IISD

Closing

- Rapporteur: Antoine Oger, Head of programme, Global Challenges and SDGs, IEEP

About Think2030

Launched by IEEP and its partners in 2018, Think2030 is an evidence-based, non-partisan platform of leading policy experts from European think tanks, civil society, the private sector and local authorities.

By focusing on producing relevant, timely and concrete policy recommendations, Think2030's key objective is to identify science-policy solutions for a more sustainable Europe.

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