

The Future of the EU – the Role of Climate and Energy Policies – Recommendations

Conclusions

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In response to Brexit, the EU embarked on a process of reflection and possibly reform, the so-called Bratislava Process or the Process on the Future of Europe. At its meeting on 9 May 2019, the European Council was expected to draw first conclusions. As a contribution to this process, the Ecologic Institute, the Istituto Affari Internazionali, the Institute of European Environment Policies and the Climate Strategy Institute 2050 offered a number of recommendations to EU policy makers on how EU climate policies can support this process, and on how climate policies can benefit from it. The recommendations are available for download.

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1. How climate and energy policies can support the Process on the Future of the EU

Conclusion 1: In times of tension, EU climate and energy policies build bridges between EU Member States.

Conclusion 2: Climate and energy policies help reframe the debate on the Future of the EU towards solving real problems together.

Conclusion 3: Climate and energy policies are a role model for a more transparent and participatory EU.

Conclusion 4: Climate and energy policies provide lessons that can help strengthen EU foreign policy.

Conclusion 5: EU climate and energy policies show that the EU is flexible and able to address the different needs and circumstances of Member States.

2. How climate and energy policies can benefit from the Process on the Future of the EU

Conclusion 6: The Process on the Future of the EU could help make climate and energy policies a hallmark of the EU.

Conclusion 7: The Process on the Future of the EU can help make EU funding, state aid, and the financial sector more beneficial for climate and energy policies.

Conclusion 8: Using the Treaty's passerelle clause, the Process on the Future of the EU could help expand the ordinary legislative process in EU climate policies.

Conclusion 9: Strengthening the European Parliament is good for both democracy in the EU and effective climate policies.

Conclusion 10: The European Council has at times engaged in the details of climate and energy legislation; the Process on the Future of the EU can help clarify the mandate of the European Council.

Keywords

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