

PRESENTATION

Speech
Climate
Global Environment
Governance
Environmental Law
Public Diplomacy

Options and Proposals for the International Governance of Climate Engineering

TimeLoc

28 June 2013

Brussels

Belgium

Sebastian Oberthür

[Dr. Ralph Bodle, LL.M](#) [1]



[2]

We
rec
om
men
d a
gen
eral
pro
hibi
tion
of
geo
engi
nee
ring
acti
vitie
s
that
ent
ail
sign
ifica

nt
tran
sbo
und
ary
risk
s,
com
bine
d
with
the
pos
sibil
ity
of
exe
mpt
ions
, in
part
icul
ar
in
ord
er
to
allo
w
legi
tim
ate
rese
arc
h

The Institute for European Studies in Brussels held a Policy Forum on 28 June 2013 which presented and discussed options and proposals for developing arrangements for the international governance of climate engineering. Based on a study for the German Federal Environment Agency (UBA) led by Ecologic Institute, the proposals were presented by Dr. Ralph Bodle, Senior Fellow at Ecologic Institute, and Prof. Dr. Sebastian Oberthür, Academic Director of the IES at the Free University of Brussels. The presentation slides are available for download.

Climate engineering or 'geoengineering' refers to the deliberate intervention in the climate system to counter the effects of climate change without reducing emissions, e.g. by blocking/reducing solar radiation in the upper atmosphere or by enhancing the uptake of

carbon dioxide through 'ocean fertilization'. With global efforts to mitigate greenhouse gases still insufficient, options for climate engineering are receiving increasing attention. Possible drawbacks include uncertainty about environmental impacts (e.g. changing rainfall patterns) and a considerable potential for international conflict since a unilateral deployment of climate engineering technologies may affect other countries.

Jake Werksman, Principal Adviser, European Commission, DG Climate Action, commented and discussed how governance elements of international governance may be further developed and complemented in order to minimize the potential for international conflict and environmental side-effects. Key questions were transparency of underlying assumptions regarding governance proposals as well as how and to what extent climate engineering research should be controlled.

Source URL (modified on 08/21/2018 - 13:26): <https://www.ecologic.eu/9001>

Links

[1] <https://www.ecologic.eu/2244>

[2] https://www.ecologic.eu/sites/files/presentation/2013/Bodle_Ralph_007_25632_0.jpg