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HOW CAN EU CLIMATE AND ENERGY POLICIES SUPPORT EU REFORM – AND VICE VERSA?

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Workshop: "Reforming the EU: What Role for Climate and Energy Policies in a Reformed EU?"

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The EU can do a lot, but not everything!

- ▶ EU = an international organisation with a broad but limited mandate
- ▶ EU = primarily a tool to solve problems, not only an end in itself
- ▶ **What should EU reform address?**
 - Migration
 - Euro
 - Security
 - Rule of law
 - Unemployment and inequality
 - Trust in (European) institutions
 - Environmental degradation and climate change

EU Reform: New framing and vision?

- ▶ Does successful EU reform require **a new framing** and **a new vision** ?
- ▶ New framing: **EU ≠ crisis**
- ▶ What should be part of this **vision and narrative**?
 - International cooperation (migration, security, climate action)
 - Innovation (employment, education, science, competitiveness, climate action)
 - sustainability and climate action (= core element)

In concrete terms, what could an **EU of different speeds** look like for energy and climate policies?

In reality: No one size fits all

- ▶ Euro and Schengen
- ▶ Enhanced Cooperation
- ▶ Treaty protocols
- ▶ Secondary law: Equal treatment in employment and occupation directive

Different speeds already a guiding principle of EU climate action

- ▶ MS may adopt more stringent measures (Article 193 of the Treaty)
- ▶ ETS Directive (Auctioning revenues)
- ▶ Non ETS
 - National Targets
 - Flexibilities

What could EU climate action of more different speeds look like?

- ▶ Enhanced cooperation in climate and energy policies
- ▶ More flexibility in acquis?
- ▶ Are these good ideas?
 - Energy markets
 - Energy security
 - ETS
 - Competitiveness

Ideas how EU reform could strengthen EU climate action

- ▶ **Environment:** special legislative process in
 - Primarily fiscal measures
 - Measures affecting land use
 - Measures significantly affecting energy sources and supply
- ▶ **Energy:** EU policies shall not affect general structure of energy supply (194 of the Treaty)
- ▶ Reforms through **passarell clause**: Ordinary legislative process in environmental policies
- ▶ Reforms that require **treaty changes**: energy

Conclusions

- ▶ Climate action = key element of a reformed EU and a central feature of a new narrative
- ▶ Different speeds are already part of EU climate action
- ▶ Climate action not among the policies where the EU should do less
- ▶ EU reform can help improve climate action
- ▶ Climate action can support EU reform

Thank you!

Further readings:

- ▶ ["The EU in Turbulence: What are the Implications for EU Climate and Energy Policy?"](#)
- ▶ Xxx
- ▶ xxx

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