

The Foreign Policy Dimension of Clean Energy Transitions

- **Panel Chair:** Sonja Thielges, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies Potsdam
- **Discussant:** Rainer Quitzow, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies Potsdam

Abstract

(Panel is part of Section 44: Political Economy of the Global Energy Transition: A Multi-scalar Perspective)

Transitions to clean energy are taking place in different forms and at different speeds in countries around the globe. Efforts to tackle climate change represent only one driver behind a changing global energy landscape. Rapidly decreasing costs for renewable energy technologies and industrial policy ambitions within an emerging “clean energy race” represent other important forces. While the global dimension of these developments is widely acknowledged, little empirical research has been conducted on implications from a foreign policy perspective. In this panel, we start from the assumption that domestic energy transitions have important implications for foreign policy and, vice-versa, a global energy transition has important implications for domestic energy transition policy. A domestic energy transition may, for instance, change strategic foreign policy interests, while global trends impact domestic policy and investment choices. The panel provides a comparative perspective on foreign energy policy in key countries in the context of global and national energy transition processes. It invites papers that study the foreign policy dimension of energy transitions from different theoretical angles and through different methodological approaches including both single case studies and comparative cases. Relevant questions could include, but are not limited to:

- How is foreign energy policy enabling or constraining energy transition processes / a global energy transition?
- What kind of foreign energy policy priorities and strategies are different countries pursuing? How do these approaches differ across countries?
- How are domestic energy transitions shaping interests and strategies in the field of foreign energy policy? To what extent are domestic and foreign energy policy goals aligned?
- How are energy transitions influencing the geopolitics of energy?

To submit a proposal, you will need to create a MyECPD account (if you don't already have one) and submit the following information to the Panel Chair by **14 February**:

- Your name, academic affiliation and email address
- The title of your paper
- An abstract of up to 500 words.

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