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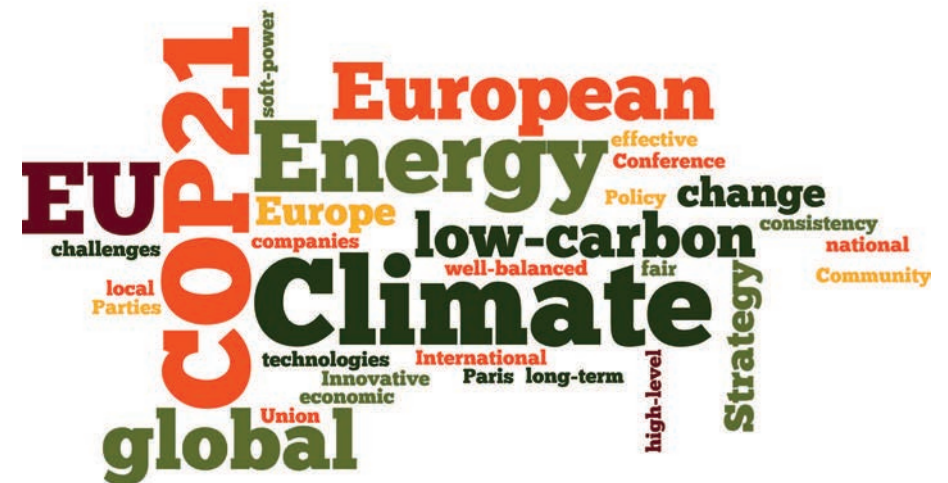
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Energy Transition: A Multifaceted Challenge for Europe

High-Level Conference  
What are the European stakes towards COP21 and beyond?

10 November 2015, 9:00 to 13:30, Egmont Palace, 8bis, Place du Petit Sablon, Brussels



## Background

2015 has been a year of important decisions for EU energy policy. Therefore, Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations and the Development Group are convening a series of three EU Energy Symposia followed by a High Level Energy Conference in Brussels in order to explore the 'Energy Transition: A Multifaceted Challenge for Europe' project they initiated three years ago.

This forward-thinking project aims to foster an intense debate at EU level by bringing together the views of EU decision-makers with those of industry and other energy stakeholders active in Europe.

As there are much more aspects of the transition to a low-carbon economy worth to be discussed, we're going to continue this series of events in 2016.

## Programme

The stakes for the European Union and the International Community to reach a global climate agreement at the COP21 Conference in Paris could not be higher. Indeed, the overall objective is not only to achieve an effective and fair response to global climate change, but also to ensure that the implementation of the European Climate and Energy Strategy fits into this new global climate agreement.

So far, the EU's strategy is in line with the commitments expected in Paris. The 1<sup>st</sup> Session will thus analyse the different bargaining chips for obtaining a well-balanced global climate agreement, such as the targets adopted in the EU Climate and Energy Framework, the commitment to long-term finance, the research and development of low-carbon technologies, as well as the EU's soft-power approach with respect to its partners.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Session will analyse the stakes for Europe in the aftermath of COP21. As enshrined in EU's Climate and Energy Strategy, the transition towards a low-carbon economy represents a unique opportunity for the EU to become more sustainable, competitive and secure. The challenge is how the EU will ensure a high-level of consistency between the different local, national, European and global levels for meaningful change to occur.

The Conference will address the following key questions:

- What role does the EU have to play to reach a well-balanced global climate agreement at the COP21?
- To what extent will the future global climate agreement allow for flexibility between the various top-down and bottom-up approaches?
- Can we expect changes to the EU climate and energy objectives by 2030, in the event an ambitious global climate agreement is concluded?
- What challenges and opportunities could a new global climate agreement bring to the EU?
- How will the energy and climate policies interact at a global, EU, national and local level? Will these climate policies be sufficiently coherent and predictable for companies?

**09:00 – 09:15** **Welcome address**  
**Claudia HERING**, Head of Public Affairs, Development Group  
**Visc. Etienne DAVIGNON**, President, Egmont Institute

**09:15 – 09:30** **Keynote address: The EU strategy in regards to COP21**  
**Jos DELBEKE**, Director-General, DG Climate Action, European Commission

**09:30 – 11:00** **Session 1: What are the stakes of the EU towards COP21?**

- **Vincent DE RIVAZ**, CEO of EDF Energy and member of the EDF Group's Executive Committee
- **Andrey ROZHDESTVIN** – Regional Vice-President Western Europe, Director of Rosatom France
- **Stephanie PFEIFER**, Chief Executive, The Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC) (tbc)  
**Discussant: Johannes MEIER**, CEO of the European Climate Foundation  
**Moderator: Etienne DAVIGNON**, President, Egmont Institute

**11:00 – 11:30** **Coffee break**

**11:30 – 13:00** **Session 2: What are the stakes of the EU beyond COP21?**

- **Jean-Pierre KEMPENEERS**, Head of the Royal Philips European Affairs Office Brussels
- **Holger GASSNER**, Head of Strategy & Regulatory Affairs, RWE Innogy
- **Dr Roberto RIDOLFI**, Director for Sustainable Growth and Development, DG Development and Cooperation, European Commission  
**Discussant: Dr Stephan SINGER**, Global Energy Policy Director, WWF International  
**Moderator: Clémentine d'OULTREMONT**, Senior Research Fellow, Egmont Institute

**13:00 – 14:00** **Lunch**