

-Preliminary Draft-

Session I: EU 2040 Climate Targets

15.05.2024, 09:30-10:30

Background:

In 2024, the European Union is discussing its climate targets for 2040 to reach the milestones relevant for climate neutrality. These climate targets can bridge the gap between the 55% emission reduction until 2030 and the aim of reaching net-zero emissions by 2050. In times of change and in the face of the upcoming European elections, the 2040 targets are still being considered and will determine the course of the European Green Deal.

While there is certainly discussion, perhaps controversy, around the implications of increased ambitions, analyses show that Europe is lagging behind on its net-zero goal and needs to provide a strong framework for reducing greenhouse gas emissions beyond 2030. Although we are yet to see how the European Parliament positions itself on this issue, the European Commission has taken a clear stance. In the recently published [communication](#) and [impact assessment](#), the Commission recommends a 90% reduction of emissions compared to 1990 levels by the year 2040. This session will dive into the background of this consideration, and its ramifications for different CEE countries and sectors.

Speakers:

Keynote: **Yvon Slingenberg**, Deputy Director-General, Directorate-General Climate Action of the European Commission

- **Dr. Nils Meyer-Ohlendorf**, Head of International and European Governance, Senior Fellow, Ecologic Institute
- **Christophe Jost**, Senior EU Policy Officer, CEE Bankwatch Network
- **Martin Vladimirov**, Director, Energy & Climate Program, Center for the Study of Democracy (CSD)