Sustainability Workshop

Rolling back sustainability in Europe

Date: Thursday and Friday, 15 and 16 October 2026

Convenors: EU*Asia Institute at ESSCA School of Management, France and University of Warsaw

Venue: University of Warsaw, Main Campus, Faculty of Political Science and International Studies & Online via Google Meet

Day 1: Thursday 15th of October

Meeting link: Click here to join the meeting via Google Meet

Venue: University of Warsaw, Faculty of Political Science and International Studies, Room 223

09:00-09:30 CET **Welcome by the organisers**

Dr Tomasz Braun, University of Warsaw

Dr Dominika Harasimiuk, University of Warsaw

Prof. Vadym Zheltovskyy, University of Warsaw

Prof. Thomas Hoerber, EU*Asia Institute – ESSCA

09 :00-12 :30 CET **Panel 1- EU Politics and Climate Governance**

Chair: Dr. Dominika Harasimiuk

- **Helen Kavvadia, University of Luxembourg,** *"A Planned Retreat? The European Investment Bank's Climate Pivot".*
- **Paweł Borkowski, Lazarski University,** ***"****Shaking Cordon Sanitaire – EPP and Eurosceptics Finding Common Ground in Rejection of Ambitious Green Transformation".*

10:30-11:00 CET **Coffee Break**

- **Balázs Horváthy & László Knapp, University of Warsaw,** *"Rolling Back Sustainability in EU External Trade Policy? The Future of Environmental Non-Trade Concerns in EU Trade Agreements".*
- **Wojciech Walczak, University of Warsaw,** ***"****Towards "Green State of Law"? Jurisprudence of Selected Constitutional Courts in the EU on Sustainability".*

12:30-14:00 CET **Lunch Break**

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14:00-16:30 CET **Panel 2- The EU and the World**

Chair: Prof. Vadym Zheltovskyy

- **Gabriel Weber, EU*Asia Institute, ESSCA School of Management, & Leonardo Talero, UNAB** *"Green Integration by Contradiction: EU Trade Policy and Latin America".*
- **Pasquale Marcello Falcone, University of Naples, "***Lobbying the Circular Economy: Stakeholder Influence and the Recalibration of EU Sustainability Policies in a Time of Geopolitical Risk".*

15:00-15:30 CET **Coffee Break**

- **Olena Shevchenko, University of Kyiv, "***Sustainability under Geopolitical Pressure: Ukraine as a Stress Test for the EU's Green Transition and Regulatory Commitments".*
- **Tomasz M. Napiórkowski & Magdalena M. Wysocka, University of Warsaw, "***The Search for the Innovation and Environmental Sustainability Nexus in the EU".*

Day 2: Friday 16th of October

Meeting link: Click here to join the meeting via Google Meet

Venue: University of Warsaw, Faculty of Political Science and International Studies, Room 223

09:00-09:30 CET **Welcome Coffee and Attendees Presentation**

09:30 -12:30 CET **Panel 3 – Europe and Business Transition**

Chair: Dr. Tomasz Braun

- **Rosa M. Fernandez Martin, Keele University,** *"The Challenges of the Omnibus Regulation for the EU Corporate Sector: SMEs and Social Enterprises".*
- **Daniel Feser, Darmstadt University, "***Shifting Risk Perceptions: How Intermediaries Shape Construction Sector Transitions Toward Net Zero***".**

10:00-10:30 CET **Coffee Break**

- **Katarzyna Jerominek**, *"Between Competitiveness and Responsibility: The Deregulation of Sustainability in the EU and the Future of the European Development Model".*
- **Sonia Chikh M'hamed**, **EU*Asia Institute, ESSCA School of Management**, *Sustainability and Competitiveness in the European Union: Structural Trade-Offs under Crisis Dynamics".*

12:30-14:00 CET **Lunch Break**

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14:00-16:30 CET **Panel 4 – European Innovation and Transition**

Chair: Prof. Thomas Hoerber

- **Oskar Stefański, Nicolaus Copernicus University,** *"Leading Country in the EU Sustainable Energy Transition: Case Study of the Swedish Sustainable Energy Transition".*
- **Davide Esposito, Patrizio Giganti & Pasquale Marcello Falcone, University of Naples,** *"Mapping the Circular Blue Economy: A Bibliometric and Topic Modeling Analysis".*

15:00-15:30 CET **Coffee Break**

- **Meryem Raissi, Abdelhadi Darkaoui & Fatna Nakkaze, Sultan Moulay Slimane University,** *"Sustainable Investments as Drivers of Innovation and Sustainable Entrepreneurship: The Role of Policy Alignment and Governance Efficiency".*
- **Irma Slomczynska, Maria Curie-Sklodowska University**, *"The EU in space – between comprehensive regulation and global space economy requirements"*

16:30 CET **Concluding remarks by the organisers**

Dr Tomasz Braun

Dr Dominika Harasimiuk

Prof. Vadim Zheltovskyy

Prof. Thomas Hoerber

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