

U.S. climate and energy policy in the second Obama administration: What are the prospects for new transatlantic cooperation?

Monday, 6 May 2013, 12:30 - 14:00

Venue: GMF, 8th floor, Résidence Palace, Rue de la Loi 155, Brussels 1050

Lunch will be served from 12pm. Event begins at 12:30 sharp.

This event takes place under the Chatham House Rule.

Welcome: **Thomas Legge**, Senior Program Officer, GMF

Speakers: **Andrew Light**, Senior Fellow, GMF, and Director of International Climate Policy, Center for American Progress
Jacob Werksman, Principal Adviser, Directorate-General for Climate Action, European Commission

Respondents: **Constanze Picking**, Senior Advisor, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Europe Office
Ulriikka Aarnio, Senior Policy Officer, Climate Action Network Europe

Moderator: **Bastian Hermisson**, Director, Heinrich Böll Foundation European Union Office

The German Marshall Fund of the United States and the Heinrich Böll Foundation EU office are pleased to invite you to a panel discussion on the opportunities for transatlantic cooperation on climate and energy in the second Obama administration.

The past few years have seen a rise and fall in ambitions for transatlantic cooperation on climate and energy policy. Following several difficult years – characterized by economic uncertainty and political disagreement in both continents – there might be grounds for cautious optimism. U.S. emissions are dropping and President Obama has called climate change a priority for his second term. Europe, meanwhile, is considering new targets for 2030 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, cut energy use, and further promote renewable energy, while some EU member states are accelerating the transition to a more sustainable energy system. But the world is still not on track to avoid dangerous climate change and the level of ambition on both sides of the Atlantic is still short of what is needed.

How much of a priority is President Obama likely to afford climate change in his second term? Will falling U.S. emissions change the way the U.S. public and political system deals with climate change? What steps does Europe have to take that revive EU climate leadership, especially given the continuing weakness of the EU Emissions Trading System, the EU's flagship climate policy instrument? What are the prospects for U.S. and European cooperation in the lead up to the UN conference on climate change in Paris in 2015?

To register, please send an email to Simon Tosserams: STosserams@gmfus.org

For more information, contact Silvia Brugger (Silvia.Brugger@eu.boell.org), Heinrich Böll Foundation, or Simon Tosserams (STosserams@gmfus.org), GMF.