



THINK 2030

Science-policy
solutions for a more
sustainable Europe

**Think2030: Harnessing the European Green Deal to address the Climate Crisis: Anticipating Risks,
Fostering Resilience**
16 – 17 November 2020

SESSION

EU environmental sovereignty and security under the Green Deal

Date: 17 Nov 2020

Time: 10.30 – 12.00 CET

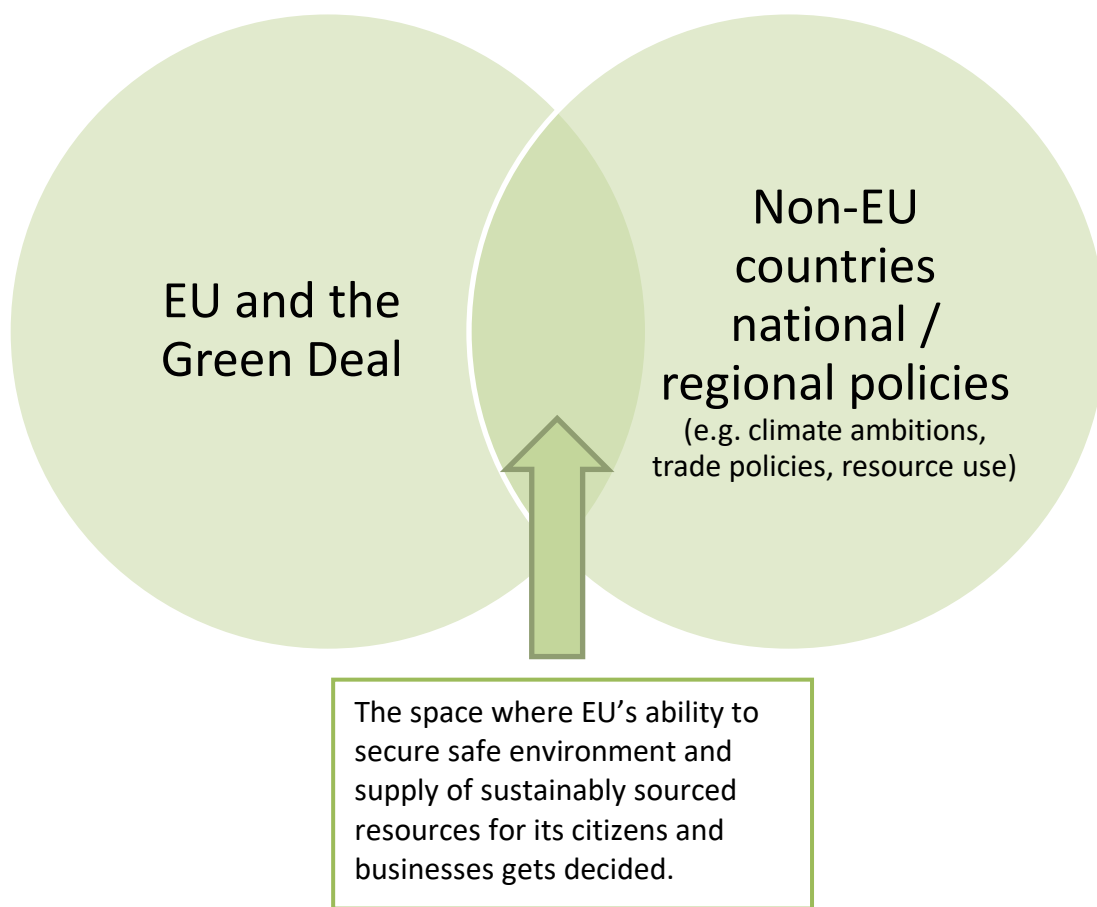
Think 2030: Launched by IEEP and its partners in 2018, [Think2030](#) is an evidence-based, non-partisan platform of leading policy experts from European think tanks, civil society, the private sector and local authorities. The platform meets at least once every two years for a high-level conference to discuss and present the outcomes of the collaborative work. The first Think2030 conference took place in Brussels on 17-18 October 2018. The [2020 edition](#) “Harnessing the European Green Deal to address the Climate Crisis: Anticipating Risks, Fostering Resilience” will take place online 16 – 17 November, co-organised by the Ecologic Institute, IEEP and the TMG Think Tank.

Session concept: EU and its Member States are increasingly vulnerable to external pressure that challenge their ability to uphold European socio-economic interests and values. This is equally true when it comes to the European climate and other environmental ambitions, including securing a safe environment in and supply of resources for the EU. For example, while the EU can unilaterally set its emission reduction targets these targets will yield to concrete improvements for the climate only if they are reciprocated globally. Countries can also exert influence over EU’s climate and other environmental ambitions through trade, with lower environmental standards of imported goods risking to undermine higher standards for production in the EU. In other words, considerable part of the decision-making powers responsible for determining the environmental quality and stability in the EU reside outside the EU and its Member States.

The EU Green Deal sets a sustainability driven agenda for the EU, putting forward a fleet of internal and external policy initiatives to reform EU’s sectoral policies from greening agricultural production to decarbonising the industry sector and, overall, shifting to circular economy decoupled from continuous resource extraction. As such the EU Green Deal also forms a basis for the future EU foreign policy, both restructuring European domestic policies – thus changing how Europe interacts

with the outside world – and also by foreseeing the EU to use its market and diplomatic powers to deliver the Deal’s ambitions.

This session explores the concept of EU “strategic sovereignty” with a particular focus on EU’s ability to secure a safe environment and a supply of sustainably sourced resources for its citizens and businesses (see figure below). It maps out the key geopolitical implications of the Green Deal and, building on that, discusses how these geopolitical implications might have a “feedback” effect on the EU’s ability to deliver the objectives of the Green Deal, with particular focus on the Deal’s climate and environmental objectives.



Moderator: Mats Engström (IEEP Associate)

Presentation: Jeremy Shapiro (European Council on Foreign Relations – ECFR) and TBC (Bruegel)

Panellists:

- Anne Bergenfelt (Senior Advisor in Cabinet of Josep Borrell Fontelles, High Representative and Vice President of the EU Commission) [TBC]
- Jos Delbeke (Professor in Leuven and Florence Universities, former director of DG CLIMA)
- Marianne Kettunen (Head of Global Programme, IEEP)

Agenda

- **Welcome + intro:** 5mins
- **Presentation of key insights of the paper:** 10mins
- **Panel discussion:** 40mins
- **QA:** 30mins
- **Key conclusions:** 5 mins