

Course Syllabus

OSCE Academy in Bishkek

European Climate Policy

Semester: Spring 2023

Course Instructor: *Rahat Sabyrbekov*

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Office hours: by appointment

Course Description:

The course introduces students to the European Union (EU) climate policy. EU has a comprehensive climate policy aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, adapting to the impacts of climate change, and fostering the transition to a low-carbon, climate-resilient economy. As part of its climate policy, the EU has set ambitious targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, including a commitment to reduce emissions by at least 40% below 1990 levels by 2030.

The EU has also implemented a range of policy measures to support the transition to a low-carbon economy, including the establishment of an emissions trading system, the promotion of renewable energy, and the development of energy efficiency standards. In addition to its domestic efforts, the EU is also active in international climate negotiations and has played a leading role in securing the Paris Agreement on climate change. The EU's climate policy is seen as a model for other regions and countries around the world, and the EU is consistently ranked as one of the top performers in international rankings of climate action.

Course objective:

To provide students with a broad understanding of the key issues and challenges related to EU climate policy in Europe, as well as the skills and knowledge needed to analyse and evaluate policy options and communicate effectively about these issues. The second objective is to compare the climate policy in Central Asia and what the region can learn from EU experience.

Learning Outcomes:

- Explain the key components of the EU's comprehensive climate policy, including its targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and its measures for promoting a low-carbon, climate-resilient economy.

- Analyze the effectiveness of specific policy measures implemented by the EU to support the transition to a low-carbon economy, such as the emissions trading system and the promotion of renewable energy.
- Evaluate the EU's role in international climate negotiations, including its contributions to securing the Paris Agreement and its ongoing efforts to encourage other countries to take action on climate change.
- Compare and contrast the EU's climate policy with the policies of other regions and countries, considering factors such as the level of ambition, the effectiveness of policy measures, and the political and economic context.
- Demonstrate effective communication skills by presenting and defending a position on a controversial aspect of the EU's climate policy, using evidence and analysis to support arguments.

Course prerequisites: no formal prerequisites.

Assessment Criteria

- I. Participation 50%
- II. Final paper submission 50 %

GRADING

Letter Grades	Grade	Grade Points	Grade Percentages
A	Excellent	4.00	Above 92.49%
A-	Excellent	3.67	89.50% – 92.49%
B+	Good	3.33	85.50% – 89.49%
B	Good	3.0	82.50% – 85.49%
B-	Good	2.67	79.50% – 82.49%
C+	Average	2.33	75.50% – 79.49%
C	Average	2.0	72.50% – 75.49%
C-	Average	1.67	69.50% – 72.49%
D+	Poor	1.33	65.50% – 69.49%
D	Poor	1.0	62.50% – 65.49%
D-	Poor	0.67	59.50% – 62.49%
F	Fail	0.0	Below 59.50%
I	Incomplete	Not used in computation of GPA	
P	Passed for a degree credit, only on a pass/fail basis	Not used in computation of GPA	

Final Paper Requirements

- Papers must be submitted via email in two weeks after the course ends, i.e. in 14 days after the course – May 27 2023
- The document must be between 1,000- and 1.500-word limit including references; double or 1.5- spaced, the Calibri font and 11 size. Choose ONE of the topics below for your final paper:

Topics:

1. Based on the course reading what lessons can Central Asia learn and apply for its climate policy? Feel free to use sector or general policy examples and be specific referring to the programs or policies.
2. What did you learn about the EU climate policy and which aspect of the climate policy you found the most interesting and why?
3. Compare the climate policies of Central Asia or individual country of your choice with EU policy. What lessons we can learn from the contrast? Feel free to use sector-, nation- or regionwide examples.
4. Looking at the EU ETS how can Central Asia developing its own emission trading and what steps are needed to be taken?
5. Your topic. Discuss at the last day.

Reading materials: all course materials are available at the e-course resources and are updated as needed.

Course plan

Day	Topic	Required reading
May 10 9:00 – 10:30	Introduction: course description History of EU climate policy	Andrew Jordan and Tim Rayner. “The evolution of climate policy in the European Union: an historical overview”, in Climate Change Policy in the European Union eds. Andrew Jordan, Dave Huitema, Harro van Asselt, Tim Rayner and Frans Berkhout.(Cambridge: University Press, 2010), p.61
11:00 – 12:30	EU Climate policy EU Green Deal	Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions the European Green Deal, 2019

		Siddi, Marco. "The European Green Deal: Assessing its current state and future implementation." (2020).
13:30 – 15:00	Society and energy transition	Hainsch, Karlo & Löffler, Konstantin & Burandt, Thorsten & Auer, Hans & Crespo del Granado, Pedro & Pisciella, Paolo & Zwickl-Bernhard, Sebastian, 2022. "Energy transition scenarios: What policies, societal attitudes, and technology developments will realize the EU Green Deal?," Energy, Elsevier, vol. 239(PC). Documentary : The EU Climate Deal DW Documentary https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZbl99x_kV8
May 11 9:00 – 10:30 & 11: 00 – 12:30	Sectors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy • Cities • Agriculture • Transport • Air quality (If time allows Nature-based solutions in Europe, waste management)	EU Climate and Energy Policy Beyond 2020: Are Additional Targets and Instruments for Renewables Economically Reasonable? Paul Lehmann, Erik Gawel, and Sebastian Strunz, 2019 Ingmar von Homeyer, Sebastian Oberthür & Andrew J. Jordan (2021) EU climate and energy governance in times of crisis: towards a new agenda, Journal of European Public Policy, 28:7, 959-979, DOI: 10.1080/13501763.2021.1918221 Meyer-Ohlendorf, Nils; Matthias Duwe; Katharina Umpfenbach and Keighley McFarland 2014: The Next EU Climate and Energy Package – EU Climate Policies after 2020, Ecologic Institute, Berlin. Supply of renewable energy sources and the cost of EU climate policy. Stefan Boeters , Joris Koornneef, 2011 Review of 50 years of EU energy efficiency policies for buildings. M. Economidou, V. Todeschi, P. Bertoldi, D. D’Agostino, P. Zangheri, L. Castellazzi, 2022 Nature-Based Solutions in the EU: Innovating with nature to address social, economic and environmental challenges Nicolas Faivre, Marco Fritz, Tiago Freitas, Birgit de Boissezon, Sofie Vandewoestijne, 2017 Linking EU climate and energy policies: policy-making, implementation and reform

		<p>Jon Birger Skjærseth, 2014</p> <p>Assessing the European Union’s energy efficiency policy: Will the winter package deliver on ‘Efficiency First’? Jan Rosenow, Richard Cowart, Edith Bayer, Mariangiola Fabbrid, 2017</p>
13:30 – 15:00	Group discussion: “In context of climate change which sectors are priority in Central Asia? Discuss policy options”	<p>Mirzabaev, A. (2023). Climate Change Science and Policy in Central Asia: Current Situation and Future Perspectives. In: Sabyrbekov, R., Overland, I., Vakulchuk, R. (eds) Climate Change in Central Asia. SpringerBriefs in Climate Studies. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-29831-8_3</p> <p>Sabyrbekov, R., Overland, I., Vakulchuk, R. (2023). Central Asian Climate Policy Pledges Under the Paris Agreement: Can They Be Fulfilled?. In: Sabyrbekov, R., Overland, I., Vakulchuk, R. (eds) Climate Change in Central Asia. SpringerBriefs in Climate Studies. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-29831-8_4</p>
<p>May 12</p> <p>9:00 – 10:30</p>	<p>Instruments:</p> <p>Environmental Taxation</p>	<p>Environmental taxation in the European Union: Are there common trends? IFrancisco J.Delgado JaumeFreire-González Maria J.Presno, 2022</p> <p>Environmental taxation in Europe: What does it depend on? Castiglione et al., Cogent Economics & Finance (2014), 2: 967362http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/23322039.2014.967362</p>
11: 00 – 12:30	Emission Trading Scheme	<p>Convery, F. J. (2009). Origins and Development of the EU ETS. Environmental and Resource Economics, 43(3), 391–412. doi:10.1007/s10640-009-9275-7</p> <p>Teixidó, J., Verde, S. F., & Nicolli, F. (2019). The impact of the EU Emissions Trading System on low-carbon technological change: The empirical evidence. Ecological Economics, 164, 106347. doi:10.1016/j.ecolecon.2019.06.002 10.1016/j.ecolecon.2019.06.002</p> <p>Verde, S. F. (2020). THE IMPACT OF THE EU EMISSIONS TRADING SYSTEM ON COMPETITIVENESS AND CARBON</p>

		<p>LEAKAGE: THE ECONOMETRIC EVIDENCE. Journal of Economic Surveys. doi:10.1111/joes.12356</p> <p>Rosendahl, K. E. (2019). EU ETS and the waterbed effect. Nature Climate Change, 9(10), 734–735. doi:10.1038/s41558-019-0579-5</p>
13:30 – 15:00	Group Discussion: What lessons can Central Asia learn from EU ETS experience? What is required to succeed?	<p>Abdi, G., Zhakiyev, N., Toilybayeva, S. (2023). Decarbonisation Opportunities and Emerging Carbon Pricing Instruments in Central Asia. In: Sabyrbekov, R., Overland, I., Vakulchuk, R. (eds) Climate Change in Central Asia. SpringerBriefs in Climate Studies. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-29831-8_5</p>
<p>May 13</p> <p>9:00 – 10:30</p> <p>&</p> <p>11:00 – 12:30</p>	<p>Future of EU Climate policy Challenges Opportunities</p>	<p>Matthias Weitzel, Toon Vandyck, Luis Rey Los Santos, Marie Tamba, Umed Temursho, Krzysztof Wojtowicz, A comprehensive socio-economic assessment of EU climate policy pathways, Ecological Economics, Volume 204, Part A, 2023, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2022.107660.</p> <p>Two Decades of European Climate Policy: A Critical Appraisal Christoph Böhringer Review of Environmental Economics and Policy 2014 8:1, 1-17</p>
	EU global leadership	<p>Sebastian Oberthür & Claire Dupont (2021) The European Union’s international climate leadership: towards a grand climate strategy?, Journal of European Public Policy, 28:7, 1095-1114, DOI: 10.1080/13501763.2021.1918218</p>
13:30 – 15:00	Summary and discussion Discussion of paper topics	

The OSCE Academy’s Policies:

- **Changes to the schedule:** The OSCE Academy organizes various ad hoc guest lectures, talks or meeting with a number of international guests (academics, diplomats, experts,

representatives of the donor community etc.) visiting Bishkek. If necessary, the Academy *reschedules* some classes although advance notice will be given in due time.

- **Plagiarism:** Students are expected to think for themselves. Their work should be original and *must not be plagiarized*. Plagiarism is the appropriation of another person's thoughts or words without attribution. Plagiarism is an offence against OSCE Academy's Rules and any attempt to plagiarize will lead to the *expulsion* from the MA Programme *at any stage* of the academic year.
- **Attendance:** All students enrolled for the course are required to attend all classes. Any absence should be notified to the Course Instructor and Programme Assistant, preferably via email.
- **Concerns about progress:** Students worried about progress in individual subjects may discuss their work (in broad terms, or how they went wrong in units of assessment) with the Course Instructor. If students are concerned about their progress in any aspect of the course, they should approach the Course Instructor and Programme Manager.
- **Special needs:** Students with special needs are encouraged to bring the issue to the attention (in confidence) of the Course Instructor and Programme Manager.