

The impact of EU climate policy on global energy diplomacy

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The climate policy of the European Union (EU) occupies an important place in foreign economic strategy, as well as energy diplomacy. In the context of global challenges related to climate change, the EU strives not only to achieve domestic sustainable development goals, but also to form international norms and standards in the field of climate policy. This article aims to analyze the impact of EU climate policy on global energy diplomacy, as well as to identify the main mechanisms through which this influence manifests itself.

The EU's climate policy includes a number of initiatives aimed at reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, developing renewable energy sources (RES), and improving energy efficiency. One of the key documents is the European Green Deal, adopted in 2019, which sets an ambitious goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050, which means that all GHG emissions must be offset by measures to reduce or absorb them [Honkonen 2025: 305-328].

The Green Deal defines the EU's internal priorities and also serves as the basis for foreign economic policy, including energy. These ambitious goals serve as an example for other countries and regions, encouraging them to develop their own plans for reducing emissions and switching to clean energy [Paleari 2022: 196-220].

An important aspect of the Green Deal is the development of renewable energy sources (RES), which also has global implications. The EU intends to increase the share of renewable energy sources to 32% of the total energy mix by 2030, which requires significant investments and innovations [Miłek 2022: 5576]. These efforts not only contribute to reducing dependence on fossil fuels within Europe, but also create demand for clean energy technologies and solutions in international markets. For example, financing programs for solar and wind energy projects can inspire other countries to take similar initiatives, contributing to the global transition to sustainable energy sources.

In addition, the Green Course includes international cooperation and knowledge exchange, which contributes to the formation of a unified global energy policy. The EU actively participates in international climate forums and agreements, such as the Paris Agreement, promoting ideas on the need for joint action to combat climate change. The creation of the Fair Transition Fund, which allocates 17.5 billion euros to support regions dependent on the coal industry, is an example of how rich countries can help less developed regions adapt to new conditions [Bremberg 2025:1-15]. This highlights the importance of a global approach to energy policy and sustainable development.

The EU's energy diplomacy is aimed at ensuring energy security, diversifying energy sources and developing sustainable energy systems in partner countries. In the context of climate change, EU energy diplomacy is becoming an important tool for promoting the principles of sustainable development outside Europe. The main directions of this diplomacy include: partnership with states through attracting investments in green energy.

European companies and financial institutions are actively investing in renewable energy projects in developing countries, which not only contributes to the economic development of these countries, but also plays a key role in reducing global carbon emissions. These investments help countries adapt to climate change and adopt more sustainable energy production models,

which in turn creates new jobs and improves the quality of life of local populations. However, with the growth of ambitious EU environmental initiatives, there is a need to establish a unified approach to environmental standards in the international arena. Europe's desire to become a global legislator of "green" standards is expressed in the introduction of mechanisms such as the carbon tax on imports (CBAM), which should help balance the competitive environment for European producers [Bremberg 2024: 506-535]. This tax, which came into force in 2026, is aimed at preventing a "carbon drain" when production facilities are moved outside the EU due to high energy prices and the abolition of free emission quotas. However, critics point to potential imbalances arising from the introduction of CBAM. For example, the new tax may increase the cost of raw materials such as steel for European factories, while imports of finished products such as Chinese electric vehicles may remain untaxed. This creates unequal conditions for local producers and puts them at a disadvantage compared to their foreign competitors.

In addition to financial investments, the EU is actively promoting its technologies and standards in the field of clean energy in the international arena. This includes both the direct supply of technology and the transfer of knowledge and experience, which makes it possible to set new rules of the game in the global energy sector. Thus, the European Union not only supports sustainable development in developing countries, but also forms international norms and standards that can have a significant impact on the future of the energy sector worldwide.

So, the EU's climate policy has a significant impact on international relations, forming new alliances and redistributing forces in the global energy system through deepening cooperation with environmentally oriented countries. Countries that share the EU's climate goals are becoming natural partners in energy diplomacy. This creates opportunities for joint projects and initiatives aimed at reducing carbon emissions and developing sustainable energy systems.

The EU's climate policy is influencing global energy diplomacy by shaping new approaches to international relations and cooperation. Through initiatives and strategies, the EU not only solves internal problems, but also becomes an active player on the global stage, contributing to the dissemination of the principles of sustainable development and a low-carbon economy. In the context of global challenges related to climate change, such a policy is becoming not only a necessity, but also an important tool for achieving long-term goals in the field of energy security and sustainable development at the international level.

Thus, the impact of the EU's climate policy on global energy diplomacy highlights the need for an integrated approach to addressing climate change and demonstrates the importance of international cooperation to achieve common goals.

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