

PRISMA - BRUEGEL Workshop on Electrification and the EU climate architecture: pathways to 2040 target

Tuesday 30 June - 13:00-14:30 - in person closed-door roundtable

Brussels, [Rue de la Charité 33 - 4th floor](#)

[Register Here](#)

Concept

Bruegel is pleased to host a closed-door roundtable workshop bringing together stakeholders from academia, policymaking and civil society to discuss the important role of electrification for the 2040/2050 climate targets. This workshop will address two key themes:

- 1) Sector-specific decarbonisation pathways and their challenges
- 2) Resulting recommendations for the post 2030 climate architecture

Background

As the EU advances toward deeper decarbonisation - with a 90% emissions reduction target by 2040 and climate neutrality by 2050 - the debate is intensifying around the appropriate climate target architecture. Ahead of the European Commission's Electrification Action Plan, expected by summer 2026 and likely to include an ambitious electrification target, shedding light on the important role of electrification for decarbonisation will help informing the debate on achieving the EU's ambitious climate targets.

The current "efficiency – renewables – emissions" architecture was designed for an earlier phase of the energy transition. As electrification becomes the primary driver of decarbonisation across buildings, transport and industry, the question arises whether this framework remains fit for purpose or whether alternatives should be considered.

Alternative target architectures could introduce new targets or update existing targets, for example, dropping energy efficiency and/or renewable energy supply (RES) target; and/or introducing a clean electricity and/or electrification target.

Key questions underpinning the discussion:

1. Does the energy efficiency target remain the right instrument for the next phase of the transition, or has electrification now become the more meaningful measure of decarbonisation progress?
2. What could an electrification target look like?

Time	Workshop element	Speaker / moderator
13:00 – 13:10	Welcome and extended introduction by Bruegel	Georg Zachmann Bruegel Senior Fellow
13:10 - 13:30	Presentation #1 - insights from full decarbonisation pathways - levers to achieve 2040 targets	Robert Pietzcker (PIK) Senior Scientist &Deputy Lab Leader

13:30 - 13:50	Response discussants (up to 3x 7 min)	1. Jan Rosenow – Professor Energy and Climate Policy at University of Oxford (remote) 2. Ignacio Asenjo – Team Leader System Integration at DG ENER 3. Monica Frassoni – President of EU-ASE
13:50 - 14:25	Roundtable discussion	Presenters, discussants, participants
14:25 - 14:30	Closing	Georg Zachmann Bruegel Senior Fellow