



Lecture

## »The EU's International Climate Policy and Transatlantic Relations«

Wednesday, 3 November, 2021

7 p.m. (Central European Time), 2 p.m. (U.S. Eastern Standard Time)

Zoom meeting

**Artur Runge-Metzger**

(Former Director, DG CLIMA, European Commission)

**Darrel Moellendorf**

(Chair, International Political Theory, Goethe University)

Global climate change can only be tackled at the international level. The European Union and the United States both carry a major historic responsibility in terms of cumulative greenhouse gas emissions since the beginning of the industrial revolution. Thus, since the early 90's the EU and the US have played prominent roles in developing solutions to this global challenge and in the international negotiations on climate change. Both negotiated and signed the UN Convention on Climate Change, the Kyoto Protocol the Paris Agreement. Most recently, both announced to reach net zero greenhouse emissions by 2050.

However, both have pursued quite different domestic policy approaches. While the EU has been a rather reliable international partner, the record of US engagement and implementation of the international climate agreements has been rather mixed.

It strongly depended on the political will of the actual administration in Washington.

What unites and what divides the two players? How did climate change feature in the transatlantic relationship over the past decades? How does the rise of China as an economic and geopolitical power influence the respective roles of the EU and the US? What promises do transatlantic relations hold for international climate change in the coming years?

## The speaker

**Artur Runge-Metzger** is a former Director of the European Commission, Brussels. Until his retirement in early 2021, his responsibilities covered developing climate neutrality strategies and the governance of EU climate policy, regulating emissions from non-ETS sectors and supporting innovation in the EU's energy and industrial sectors. He served on the Boards of the European Environment Agency and the European Fund for Strategic Investments. Until the conclusion of the Paris agreement in 2015, he led the international climate negotiations for the EU. He co-chaired the working group preparing the Paris agreement in 2013/14 and was a Member of the UNFCCC Bureau from 2010 to 2012.

## Chair

**Darrel Moellendorf** is Professor of International Political Theory and Professor of Philosophy at Johann Wolfgang Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main. On the subject of the lecture he authored *The Moral Challenge of Dangerous Climate Change: Values, Poverty, and Policy* (2014), and *Mobilizing Hope: Climate Change and Poverty* (forthcoming).

## »Democratic Vistas«

The lecture is part of the research focus »Democratic Vistas. Reflections on the Atlantic World«, hosted by the Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften, an IAS of Goethe University. The interdisciplinary group of Goethe University scholars and international and regional affiliates addresses the potentials and limits of Atlantic cooperation with regard to the future of democracy from various perspectives and disciplines.

## Heads of program

### Johannes Voelz

Professor of American Studies

### Gunther Hellmann

Professor of Political Science

## Registration | Lecture

Please register in advance at [anmeldung@forschungskolleg-humanwissenschaften.de](mailto:anmeldung@forschungskolleg-humanwissenschaften.de).

You will receive the link to the Zoom meeting a few days prior to the event.

## FORSCHUNGSKOLLEG HUMANWISSENSCHAFTEN

der Goethe-Universität in Kooperation  
mit der Werner Reimers Stiftung

## An event hosted by

Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften der Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main / Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities of Goethe University Frankfurt am Main

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