

"The US climate debate and the prospects for Copenhagen"

ENERGY AND CLIMATE EXCHANGE

with Cathleen Kelly

Director, Climate and Energy Programme, German Marshall Fund of the United States

9 November 2009, 13:00 sandwiches, 13.15-14.15 seminar at Bruegel, Rue de la Charité, 33, Brussels

The UN negotiations in Copenhagen in December are an important opportunity to secure a framework for a new global agreement on climate change. The participation and leadership of the United States will be essential to the success of the negotiations. The U.S. climate debate has been transformed by the election and leadership of President Barack Obama and the historic passing of comprehensive climate legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives. However, there are significant political and technical obstacles that could complicate U.S. ambitions to enact strong domestic climate policy and agree to an international deal. Cathleen Kelly, Director of GMF's Climate & Energy Program, will discuss the current status of the U.S. policy debate, assess the outcome of the recent rounds of negotiations in Bangkok and Barcelona, and look forward to the negotiations in Copenhagen. The meeting will be chaired by Reinhilde Veugelers.

Cathleen Kelly is the Director of the Climate and Energy Program at the German Marshall Fund of the United States and overseas GMF's work to accelerate and inform the U.S. climate and energy debate by sharing best practices from Europe and to support transatlantic dialogue on key elements of a global climate deal. Before joining GMF she was the Director of Climate Change Policy at the Nature Conservancy, and previously served as Senior Policy Advisor at the Center for Clean Air Policy, where she developed and presented recommendations to climate negotiators from more than 30 countries on options to design an international climate agreement. She holds an M.A. in International Relations with a focus in Energy and Environmental Policy from the Johns Hopkins University Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies and a B.A. in Political Science and Music from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The Bruegel Energy and Climate Exchange (ECE) is a discussion forum for professionals, academics, policy-makers, business, NGOs, selected members of the press and other interested parties in the field. Participation is by invitation only, please contact Matt Dann at matt.dann@bruegel.org if you wish to add someone to the invitation list.

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