

Brussels, 7 December 2023

CHARTING THE COURSE: FORESIGHT WORKSHOP ON PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL



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AGENDA

› Part I: Introduction to the Workshop

Breakout Groups

› Part II: Familiarise with the Scenario

› Part III: What future for the EGD under this scenario?

› Part IV: Opportunities and risks for the transition to climate neutrality

--- Coffee break ---

› Part V: Reporting back from the four groups

› Part VI: Discussion on Policy Implications

THE FUTURE IS UNCERTAIN – BUT SOME DARK CLOUDS ON THE HORIZON

- › Key elements of transformative EU climate policy in place
- › Continued high public support (and demand) for climate action
- › Increasing clarity on the way to decarbonization in key sectors
- › Falling cost of key technologies (renewables, batteries, heat pumps...)
- › Increasing perception of a “green race” with global competitors
- › Fiscal tightening, rising capital costs, uncertain macroeconomic outlook
- › Increased competition for shrinking public budgets from other spending priorities
- › Rise of political parties peddling to anti-EU and/or climate-sceptic viewpoints
- › Deteriorating quality of public discourse, rise of post-factual & identity politics
- › Social cohesion under threat, increased polarization, eroding trust in government
- › Transformation fatigue in an ageing society
- › Hostile geopolitical environment, autocracies challenging the rule-based multilateral order, EU soft power and the European model of liberal democracy
- › Globalisation under pressure (vulnerable supply chains, weaponized interdependence, risk of protectionism)
- › Unfolding climate crisis turning into a personal risk and economic burden

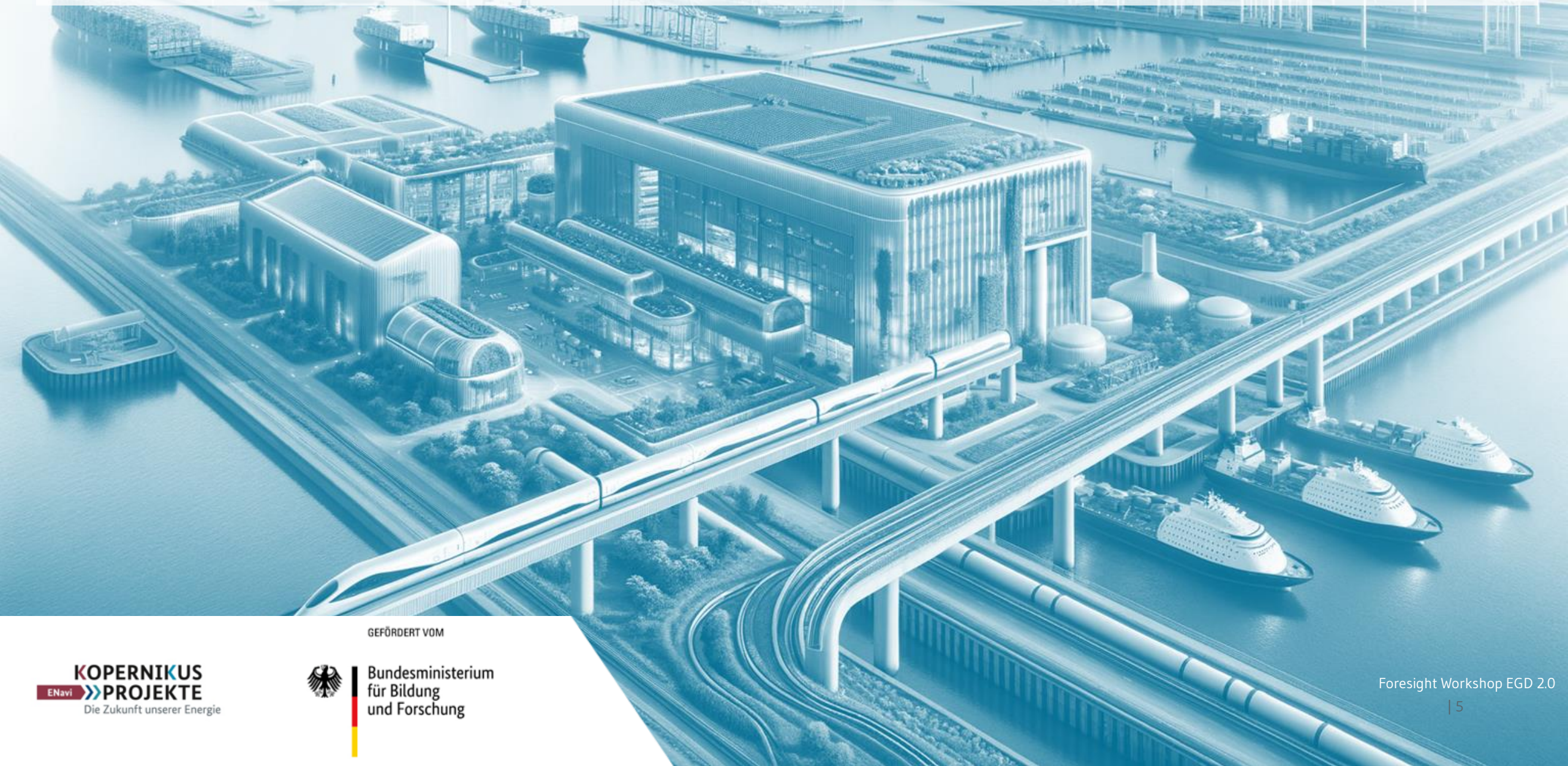
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STRATEGIC FORESIGHT

- › Scenarios as a tool to explore possible futures for EU climate and energy policy in a structured way
- › **What if ...?** If this is the world we find ourselves living in – what does that mean for EU climate and energy policy?
- › Scenario descriptions are meant to **distill key drivers** that shape the political space in which EU (climate) policy operates, including societal trends, developments in Member States and broader issues of EU governance (economic & fiscal policy). Scenarios aim to be plausible, provoke thinking, trigger discussion – not project the most likely outcome.
- › Specific interest: **What future(s) for the European Green Deal in the next legislative cycle under different conditions** – to inform research priorities in Ariadne, and to identify policy options that are robust / resilient across scenarios
- › Some things remain constant: EU remains in place and operational, and stays (formally) committed to climate neutrality
- › Structure of this exercise builds on a similar effort with the European Environment Agency (Sustainability Transitions Outlook)

Group 1: Competitiveness and Green Growth



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Group 2: Security and Strategic Autonomy



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Group 3: A Just and Inclusive Transition



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Group 4: The EU's Ecological Moment



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DISCUSSION IN FOUR SCENARIO WORKING GROUPS

1. **Competitiveness and Green Growth**

Room Bronze / Copper, Moderator: Ronja Busch

2. **Security and Strategic Autonomy**

Room Jade, Moderator: Anthony Cox

3. **A Just and Inclusive Transition**

Online breakout group "Rubin", Moderator: Matthias Duwe

4. **The EU's Ecological Moment**

Online breakout group "xxx", Moderator: Benjamin Görlach

QUESTIONS TO BE DISCUSSED FOR EACH SCENARIO

- › What would be the **essence of a future European Green Deal** under this scenario?
What could be the **central narrative / message**, condensed into a sentence or two?
- › What would be the **core policies, initiatives or instruments** that define the revised EGD?
- › Which **changes to the EU climate and energy governance** would be expected / needed?
- › If the EGD develops along the lines discussed, **what are the main risks** for the transition to climate neutrality?
- › If the EGD develops along the lines discussed, **which are the main opportunities** for the transition to climate neutrality?
- › **On which choices / factors does it depend whether things go well or bad?**
What are the **critical junctures** where things can turn either way?