

Briefing to Parliamentarians - Post Lisbon: How to achieve coherence between energy security and development policies



What: Briefing Session for Parliamentarians and Policy Makers

Where: Residence Palace, Brussels, Belgium

When: 9 February 2011

To register, please contact Frida van der Graaf, at events@edc2020.eu.

This Briefing session is part of a two day event series, if you would like to attend the **Final EDC 2020 event** the following day on 10 February 2011, please state it in your email. Places for both events are limited.

Summary and objectives

The event will consider the Lisbon Treaty perspectives for better coherence between energy security and development policies of the European Union. Specific objectives include:

- Brief review of the EU past record and the potential of the Lisbon treaty for improving coherence between energy security and development policies, with a focus on particular EU institutions
- Understand new challenges for the EU and potential role that the EU can play in promoting coherence between the different policy goals and whether/how its role needs to adapt to changing external and internal pressures
- Identify the practical implications for EU foreign policy, particular in relation to development cooperation process

Agenda

12:30-13:30 - **Registration** and coffee

13:30-13:45 – Introductory remarks (tbc)

13:45-14:15 – **Key-note speech** by:

Andris Piebalgs, EU Commissioner for Development

14:15 -15.00 – **Presentations by panellists**

Chair (tbc)

(i) Bram Büscher, Lecturer at Institute of Social Studies

- (ii) Michael Köhler, Head of Cabinet, EU Commissioner for Energy (tbc)
 - (iii) Jacqueline Hale, Senior Policy Analyst, EU External Relations at Open Society Foundations (tbc)
 - (iv) Ruchita Beri, Senior Research Associate, Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses
- 15:00 – 15:45 **Open discussion** with panellists and participants

15:45 -16.00 – **Main conclusions** and closing by Richard Youngs, Director General, FRIDE & EDC 2020 Coordinator WG on Energy Security, Democracy and Political Development and Jos van Gennip, President SID European Programme, EDC 2020

16:00 Coffee and Refreshments

Background

The EU has made strong commitments to improve coherence between energy security and development policies. Defining the framework for external energy relations in 2006, the European Commission called for ‘coherence between the internal and external aspects of energy policy, and between energy policy and other policies that affect it, such as external relations, trade, development, research and environment.’ Furthermore, EU external energy policy “must also be consistent with the EU's broader foreign policy objectives such as conflict prevention and resolution, non-proliferation and promoting human rights.”

Adopting the Policy Coherence for Development in 2005, the EU committed to tightening the relationship between aid efforts and other EU policy concerns in 12 policy areas, including energy. The European Consensus on Development presents governance reform and development efforts as the principle means of improving security goals such as those relating to energy supplies.

The EU's record of linking energy and development in its external relations shows that the progress varies geographically. In Africa, where the focus on energy has grown out of development concerns, the development strand of energy policy has become more prominent. Governance efforts in the Niger Delta provide perhaps the best example of this link in practice. In the Middle East and Russia however the focus on energy retains more of a geopolitical angle.

Questions to be discussed

- What record does the European Union have in linking energy security objectives with development goals?
- What reform does the Lisbon Treaty introduce in the realm of energy security?
- What potential does the Lisbon Treaty offer for improving coherence between energy security and development policies?
- How do African countries see the relationship between energy security and development policies of the EU?
- Which are the new challenges for finding the right balance between EU energy security and energy supplier countries' development?
- Does China's presence make it more difficult to link energy security and development policies?
- What is role for the European Parliament in the post-Lisbon context?

- What are the roles for the Development Commissioner, Energy Commissioner, Environment Commissioner, Commissioner on Climate Action and High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy?