



**TOGETAIR**

INTERNATIONAL  
PANELS



# INTERNATIONAL PANELS

## A. A SECURE ENERGY FUTURE FOR EUROPE

- Between climate objectives and security of supply: the energy mix for the European economy in the 2030 and 2050 perspective
- Climate policy and geopolitics: priorities in view of the Russian-Ukrainian war
- Green energy as a route to independence and competitiveness of the European Union
- Challenges and barriers of renewable energy sources
- Necessary compromises: nuclear, gas, hydrogen, biomass, others?

## B. EUROPEAN ZERO EMISSIONS ECONOMY

- Just Transition: industrial transformation, new supply chains, new businesses
- Europe's Path to Zero Emissions
- An ambitious zero-carbon agenda: how realistic, how risky
- How to apply the experience of Scandinavian and Western European countries to the post-industrial basins of Central Europe
- Renewable energy sources
- Clean, zero-emission transport
- CO2 reduction

## C. CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION FOR EARTH

- Harmonisation of climate policy objectives and targets in view of the geopolitical situation.
- International cooperation and communication in the areas of environmental protection, energy, and energy security, innovative green technologies, and their impact on economic development.
- Cross border tools for exchange of knowledge and best practices
- Alliance for the climate in the region and EU - Development potential of individual markets
- Synergies possible to implement in the European Countries



**TOGETAIR**

AGENDA

(Polish panels with English translation)



# DAY I – CLIMATE NEUTRALITY

## INAUGURATION: ENERGY FOR EUROPE

### 1. OUR WAY TO CLIMATE NEUTRALITY: BENEFITS AND COSTS

- Consequences of EU policy implementation: energy, industry, business, services.
- The impact of the Fit for 55 package on the economy and citizens. What does it mean for an individual?
- Costs in the prices of energy, goods and services: do they need to be high? Do they impose a fair burden on people in individual countries?
- Which sectors will bear the highest cost related to the implementation of new solutions? And which sectors will benefit the most?
- Support programmes and packages: helping regions, sectors and citizens. What should they look like?
- Are consumers and residents ready for a change and the consequences of climate policy?

### 3. CLIMATE PRICE TAG: ARE WE DOOMED TO HIGH ENERGY PRICES?

- Do we have to pay more in the name of climate and environmental protection?
- Has Poland profited or suffered from the ETS system? What effects will the Fit For 55 have on citizens' wallets?
- How could electricity and gas prices be reduced?
- Does the ETS need reform? In what direction should it be changed?
- Will the inclusion of other sectors of the economy (maritime transport and aviation) in the CO2 emissions trading scheme and the creation of a separate analogous mechanism for construction and road transport, accelerate the green transition or push many players into recession?
- How can the government counter the rising prices of energy, gas and all other goods?

### 2. TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE – HOW TO PROTECT THE WORLD?

- Urgent actions to combat climate change and its impacts
- A global problem – climate change being felt in every country.
- Changing weather patterns, rising sea levels and extreme weather events.
- Increase in greenhouse gas emissions – human impact on climate.
- How to integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and plans.
- Mechanisms to strengthen capacity for effective climate change planning and management.

### 4. EUROPE IN THE GAS CHECKMATE AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF HYDROGEN TECHNOLOGY.

- For how long will natural gas be the fuel of transformation in the EU? What will this mean for Central Europe? Why are we observing such great leaps in the gas market?
- The increasing role of gas in the EU's energy mix and the continent's energy security.
- The geopolitical dimension – the situation in Europe...
- Biogas: opportunities, chances, challenges.
- Hydrogen future or hydrogen illusions? What is the greatest barrier to widespread use of hydrogen today? – transport, distribution, use of hydrogen: opportunities and constraints.
- How is the production and use of hydrogen developing in the world?
- What is the major obstacle to the widespread use of hydrogen in transport and heating today?
- How can local authorities benefit from developing hydrogen technology? (Hydrogen valleys)



## DAY I – CLIMATE NEUTRALITY

### 5. WINTER WITHOUT HEATING: IS THIS THE FUTURE FOR DISTRICT HEATING CUSTOMERS?

- Why are heating prices rising? What is the reason behind that? Can we expect even higher cost?
- How can we replace coal in heating plants? Gas? Biomass? Waste incineration? Hydrogen?
- How will the heating industry be affected by the proposals to increase the maximum CO2 emissions limit in the Fit For 55 package? What about existing installations that are currently being built or upgraded?
- How is the industry preparing for a scenario in which the majority of CHP plants lose their status of energy efficient systems, which will deprive them of energy transition funding?
- Is there a chance for the combustion or co-firing of alternative fuel (RDF) or biomass?

### 7. DEVELOPMENT OF SMART SYSTEMS FOR ENERGY STORAGE, TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION

- How to effectively collect and manage energy from RES?
- Modern and innovative ways of energy storage and transmission.
- Expanding existing networks and improving infrastructure efficiency and investing in innovation.
- How to store as much energy as possible and lose as little as possible.
- Creation of smart energy networks, smart grid.
- Energy storage system services, increasing the quality and efficiency of electricity use..

### 6. NUCLEAR ENERGY. BETWEEN PUBLIC FEARS AND DREAMS OF CHEAP, ZERO-CARBON, ACCESSIBLE ENERGY.

- Is nuclear-free transformation possible?
- How will the inclusion of the nuclear power in the taxonomy affect the European market? How many nuclear power plants do we need in Poland? Large scale power plants or SMR projects?
- Opportunities and threats to investment processes (residents' protests, NIMBY phenomenon)
- Radioactive waste: how to safeguard future generations from the consequences of our actions?
- Further prospects for nuclear power development: investment and technology trends. Can we count on the rapid mastery of nuclear fusion?
- Does Poland have sufficient know-how to be able to actively participate in the construction of a nuclear power plant, not only as a passive contractor? How can national subcontractors be strengthened in terms of competence?

### 8. RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES. ARE WINDMILLS AND PV PANELS THE FUTURE OF ENERGY?

- How realistic is the of 100% of our energy from RES in the future? Is this a feasible scenario or a dangerous utopia?
- Are renewable energy sources profitable today? What is the support system like, i.e. to what is the level of subsidies?
- Could the relatively small share of green energy discourage investors from investing in Poland?
- Development prospects for offshore, onshore, PV, energy storage.
- What can be done to prevent slowing down or stopping the photovoltaics investment boom?



## DAY I – CLIMATE NEUTRALITY

### 9. OFFSHORE WIND POWER: TECHNOLOGICAL, GRID AND ORGANISATIONAL CHALLENGES.

- Prospects for offshore development in Poland: timetable, investment, technological and organisational challenges.
- Opportunities and threats to investment processes.
- The role of Polish companies and experts in the development and operation of offshore wind farms.
- Impact of offshore development on the electricity grid.
- Status of the Baltic Sea: necessary measures before construction starts (threat of radioactive waste on the seabed).

### 10. ROADMAP FOR GEOTHERMAL IN POLAND: HOW TO TAP THE EARTH'S NATURAL, RENEWABLE RESOURCES?

- Prospects for geothermal development in Poland.
- Other countries' experience: why bet on this technology?
- Other applications of natural resources.
- Thermal energy.



# DAY II – 21ST CENTURY ECO-ECONOMY

## INAUGURATION: EUROPEAN NET-ZERO ECONOMY

### 11. THE NEW INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: HOW CLIMATE PROTECTION WILL AFFECT ECONOMIES AND CONSUMER HABITS.

- How will the economy and business change under pro-climate trends?
- Zero carbon, decarbonisation and reduction of carbon footprint: transforming the economy.
- To what extent is the EU's path towards zero carbon achievable? What impact will it have on the economies of EU countries, Central Europe and Poland?
- Which sectors are best prepared for the changes ahead, and where do we see the greatest deficits?
- What will these changes mean for the Polish citizens? What specifically will change in their daily lives? Will the changes only bring increased costs? Will the quality of our lives improve?

### 13. ZERO-EMISSION MOBILITY: A NEW WORLD OF TRANSPORT.

- When will combustion vehicles disappear? Is their replacement by "EVs" realistic?
- Fit for 55 for the automotive sector.
- Electric or hydrogen cars? Should hybrids be a transitional phase?
- Taking stock of recent years and the effectiveness of government policies for the development of electromobility – to what extent has it turned out to be a flywheel of the Polish economy? In what areas has the electric revolution accelerated or slowed down, and where has it come to a standstill? Condition of infrastructure.
- Many local authorities have been successful in electrification – what are the reasons being that? What lessons can we learn to ensure that electric transport also spreads to businesses and individuals?

### 12. NEW TECHNOLOGIES, NEW CHALLENGES, NEW COMPETENCES, NEW OPPORTUNITIES: HOW CAN BUSINESS BENEFIT FROM CLIMATE POLICY?

- How to take advantage of the development opportunities generated by the green deal?
- Are European companies ready for an eco-competitive and technological race with China or other countries?
- Education and higher education in the era of climate neutrality.
- Innovation and interaction between business and science.
- The role of the state in development of a new economic ecosystem.
- Know-how of Polish companies and development of innovative technologies.
- Will green investment boost the economy?

### 14. DIGITISATION AT THE SERVICE OF THE CLIMATE: HOW ALGORITHMS AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES CAN SUPPORT ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE PROTECTION.

- The role of new technologies in the transition and climate protection: optimising raw material use, energy production and consumption.
- Algorithms as effective managers: will artificial intelligence help us save the planet?
- The digital footprint: the environmental costs of digital development.



## DAY II – 21ST CENTURY ECO-ECONOMY

### 15. GREEN RAILWAY RENAISSANCE. IS TRANSPORT COMING DOWN TO EARTH?

- Are we going to replace planes with trains? What are the arguments in favour of this? What does the rail network (infrastructure) look like in Poland and in the EU as a whole?
- Railways and inter- and extra-EU Connections: will it be possible to go on holiday to Africa by train? Will it be an environmentally friendly solution?
- What infrastructure development expenditure is needed to make railways “greener”? Can we power the rolling stock with RES? What milestones do we need to achieve to increase the share of RES in the coming years?
- How the development of the green railway fits into the strategic plans of the EU? Can Poland count on financial support?

### 17. UNDERINVESTED WASTE MANAGEMENT IN THE SHADOW OF MAJOR REFORMS.

- Could the recent fee increases have been avoided? What are the reasons behind them? Why was it so much cheaper in previous years?
- Are local authorities primarily responsible for the fee increases?
- Is recycling worthwhile and necessary?
- Why is waste from Germany and other EU countries coming to Poland? Are we the “garbage heap of Europe”?
- Investment gap in waste management – what can be done to close it as soon as possible? Which investments will be a priority? What blocks infrastructure development – changing law, social resistance, lack of funds?
- Increasingly frequent disputes about in-house. Will in-house be the new, preferred model for municipal management?
- Latest developments in waste law.

### 16. FUNDING FOR GREEN TECHNOLOGIES AND THE ENERGY TRANSITION

- Taxonomy and eco-financing.
- Role of State and Community resources.
- Models for financing green investments.
- The scale of the challenge: the cost of transformation and sources of financing.
- Economic pitfalls of the road to climate neutrality.

### 18. BIG CITIES OR SMALL, CLOSE-TO-NATURE SETTLEMENTS? HOW WILL WE LIVE IN THE 21ST CENTURY?

- The city of the future? What kind of city, then? Is there one template for what a “green” city looks like? Are there any common denominators? Can we distinguish any macro trends?
- Which EU requirements and lines of change proposed by Brussels will have the greatest impact on cities? Will it be a shift towards low-carbon transport (or perhaps a reduction in passenger vehicles in favour of public transport)? Or requirements to ensure energy efficiency in buildings? Or the challenges of water storage and securing critical infrastructure?
- Are cities of the future a vision only for large agglomerations? How are smaller towns and cities developing?
- What hampers the implementation of innovative solutions in cities today? Is it the lack of will?
- Local authorities? Regulations not keeping up with technology? Too restrictive requirements? Or lack of market for still very niche services?
- Dialogue between new technology entrepreneurs, developers and city authorities? Is it sufficient today? How can all stakeholders work together to develop a vision of a modern and liveable city?
- Eco-zones and green public spaces.





## DAY II – 21ST CENTURY ECO-ECONOMY

### 19. GREEN CONSTRUCTION: NEW SOLUTIONS AND TECHNOLOGIES FOR CONSTRUCTING HOMES, FACTORIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- How is the design, implementation and operation of modern buildings and facilities changing?
- Trends in retail and industrial sectors.
- Materials, techniques, solutions: what are the limits for building efficiency improvement?
- Examples of good practice and innovative solutions that can be implemented relatively easily and quickly in different centres.
- Modular construction.
- Eco-design and green technologies.

### 20. DROWNING IN TONNES OF PLASTIC: HOW NOT TO DROWN IN A SEA OF DISPOSABLE PACKAGING?

- Is the EU right to declare war on single-use plastics or is it throwing the baby out with the bathwater?
- Would it work to return to glass or reusable packaging “as in the old days”?
- Why does recycling of many types of packaging doesn’t pay off? Can you make money from recycling?
- What stage are we at with the implementation of EPR reform?
- The belated SUP Directive and plastic tax - when can we expect the regulations to be implemented and how will business be prepared for the new requirements?
- The future of the deposit system - which packages should be included in the system, who should manage it and how to organise it: from collection, management, choice of vending machines/methods of collection, to accounting and record-keeping.



# DAY III – PARTNERSHIP FOR THE CLIMATE

## INAGURATION: TRANSREGIONAL COOPERATION

### 21. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY – CONSISTENT STRATEGY OR PR SLOGAN

- Real social responsibility towards the environment and greenwashing.
- Rational use of environmental activities for the public benefit.
- How do we balance economics and ecology?
- Worthwhile technologies and solutions. Which solutions can be implemented soon, and which will still have to wait?
- How to integrate the activities of government, local authorities, science and business to achieve synergy and scale?
- Corporate responsibility towards the environment.

### 23. SMOG: TODAY'S KILLER. HOW TO TAKE EFFECTIVE CARE OF CLEAN AIR?

- Which fuel can heat Polish homes? Why is the lowest quality coal so popular? Is it just a matter of price, or perhaps for years there were no other solutions?
- Anti-smog resolutions – almost all local authorities have adopted them, but what is the implementation like? Do local governments monitor progress? Coal ban deadlines – are residents properly informed?
- Central Building Emission Inventory – progress in implementing this tool and identifying heating sources in homes.
- Fuel poverty – in the face of rising gas prices. What can be done to ensure that moving away from burning coal does not increase the poverty of residents?

### 22. GLOBAL PROBLEMS, LOCAL ACTION – WHAT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS CAN DO FOR THE ENVIRONMENT.

- Poland's road to greening is not only about the problems of transforming mining areas. What other challenges do other regions face? How are they preparing for the requirements of the Fit For 55 package? What do they mean for local authorities?
- What can local authorities (at the level of provinces, districts and municipalities) do to improve the environment for their residents, and what can they no longer do? In which issues are the local governments' hands tied? And in which cases, they have real tools for action?
- To what extent do local governments today have the autonomy to shape their policies, including environmental policies, and to what extent is this autonomy taken away from them by regulation and central management of various municipal sectors (e.g. water).
- What activities will receive EU funding in the coming years? What do local authorities want to use, and what initiatives might lack support?

### 24. A NEW PHILOSOPHY FOR EXPLOITING THE PLANET'S RESOURCES: CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- Sustainable industrial production: opportunities for reindustrialisation and industrial development based on shortened value chains.
- Sustainable consumption: changing habits; solutions.
- Bioeconomy: management of renewable raw materials.
- New business models: new solutions, opportunities and possibilities.



## DAY III – PARTNERSHIP FOR THE CLIMATE

### 25. SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY: BETWEEN BIODIVERSITY AND MASS PRODUCTION OF CHEAP FOOD

- Do Polish farmers know what changes await them in relation to action on climate change?
- Farmers will be the first to feel / are already feeling the consequences of climate change – changing weather patterns, extreme weather events, chronic droughts or floods. How can the food production sector - crucial from the perspective of state security - prepare for these challenges? Can it only minimise losses or can it also be more proactive?
- The future of agriculture – will we import food from the other side of the world or produce it more locally? What stands in the way of choosing food independence and self-sufficiency in agricultural production today?
- Preparing Poland to implement the “Farm to fork strategy” – are we ready? Which food production sectors stand to gain and lose most from the changes?
- To what extent are Polish villages aware of the changes awaiting them? How to communicate the necessity of reforms in order to avoid social conflicts?
- Regenerative agriculture – what can be done to make it more widespread?
- Redesigning food production and supply chains – what can be done to waste as little valuable produce as possible? How can we reduce greenhouse gas emissions? What can farmers do to ensure that their operations have the least impact on the environment?

### 26. EVERYDAY ECOLOGY OR LESS IS MORE. ENERGY-EFFICIENT PRODUCTS.

- What impact do our small daily choices have on the environment? Are we doing a lot for the Earth by using products made with more sustainable methods (e.g. using energy from RES), or are these still insignificant changes?
- What is hampering the implementation of many of these good practices on a wider scale? Lack of legislation? The will of local governments and business? Or are they still technological innovations that are too expensive to implement on a wider scale?
- What area of life may already undergo the deepest revolution in the coming years due to the use of innovative technologies? What will it be and how will it change our lives?
- Which processes are the most difficult to optimise in terms of energy and raw material consumption? In production (or specific sub-processes), distribution, sales, waste management? Where can we look for savings?
- Is business able to develop best practices for optimising resource consumption on its own or does it also need the support of the government, central institutions and, for example, appropriate regulations?
- Do consumers, customers and residents always respond well to pro-environmental changes (e.g. products, scope of company services) or are their habits so strong that certain changes are difficult to implement?



## DAY III – PARTNERSHIP FOR THE CLIMATE

### 27. CAN WE RUN OUT OF TAP WATER? WHAT CAN BE DONE TO MAKE WATER A RENEWABLE RESOURCE?

- Is reducing water consumption in homes enough, or do we need more radical measures to bring waste under control? What needs to be changed?
- Industrial farming and its impact on water sources – will water become such a scarce commodity in the future that most of us will have to become vegetarians?
- Concrete in cities – how to tackle the problem and how much it can help in securing access to water.
- What are the local authorities doing to take care of small retention in cities?
- How can we counteract the loss of drinking water (large-scale retention, construction of dams, investments in the water and sewerage sector)?
- What requirements related to EU legislation (Drinking Water Quality Directive) will we have to implement in the coming years and how will they affect us?

### 29. ESG – REPORTING AND GREEN BONDS

- Does socially responsible investing pay off?
- The ESG concept and WIG-ESG indexes.
- Reporting guidelines.
- What support instruments are foreseen for green initiatives by national banks and institutions?
- Green bonds – how local governments and entrepreneurs will benefit from them.
- Can sector support replace EU funding?
- Support for the realisation of environmental effects.
- Financing technology and eco-innovation – opportunity for the business.

### 28. MANY SHADES OF GREEN: THE ROLE OF NGOS IN PROMOTING AND IMPLEMENTING CLIMATE-FRIENDLY SOLUTIONS

- Different routes to the same goal. Do environmental organisations have a coherent vision for tackling climate change? On what issues do they differ?
- Which actions, campaigns and initiatives for environmental protection are effective, and which ones, on the contrary, polarise public opinion too much instead of encouraging change?
- Is it the role of environmental organisations to make radical demands and “shift the discussion point” or rather to target a wide range of moderately pro-environmental audiences with their messages?
- Difficulties and misunderstandings most often faced by activists and organisations.

### 30. BETWEEN BUSINESS AND MISSION: THE ROLE OF THE MEDIA IN THE CLIMATE TRANSITION?

- What role should the media take in communicating climate change? Examples of various practices from the world and Poland. Should the media only inform or also educate and alert?
- Is there room in the media for climate denialists?
- Media and greenwashing – how do you delineate between business promotional activities and attempts to whitewash damaging activities?
- What difficulties do journalists who cover ecological issues face in their daily work?