

Meet the Council Members

Energy & Climate Policy in the Light of (geo)political Changes – Perspectives from Germany and Japan



February 20th, 2026
12:30 - 14:30 CET
Berlin

Objective

With the second Trump administration, the focus of world politics has shifted significantly: In addition to the ongoing uncertainty of the U.S. tariff policies that put economies worldwide under pressure, the slash back to fossil fuels threatens climate mitigation policies and accelerates loss and damages. Aggressive moves against the rule-based international order force the EU Member States more and more to take unprecedented measures to increase their military strength – at the expense of economic and social prosperity and ambitious climate mitigation policies.

Security has also become a noteworthy priority under Japan's new Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi. With regard to Japan's goal to become carbon-neutral in 2050, Japan's new energy policy wants to strengthen the role of nuclear power instead of fostering the installation of renewable power. Following the election in February 2025, Germany's energy policy is also undergoing a considerable change. To increase the chances to meet the carbon-neutrality goals to be met in 2045 (Germany) or 2050 (Japan), energy efficiency needs to be considered as one important pillar to also deal with the challenge of dwindling resources/lacking access to critical raw materials.

Shortly after the election of the Lower House in Japan, the members of the German-Japanese Energy Council will discuss several key aspects of energy transition. With a view on the political strategies of the new governments in Germany and Japan, and the current geopolitical challenges, **the German and Japanese experts will reflect and discuss current energy & climate policy developments in both countries with the audience**. There is also plenty of time for networking and personal talks before and after the discussion.

About the GJETC

The German-Japanese Energy Transition Council (GJETC) is an international model project to strengthen the exchange of knowledge on technologies, policies and the effects of the energy transition. Founded in 2016, the Council has conducted a comprehensive study programme on key topics of the energy transition, holds stakeholder dialogues with industry and civil society.

The Council is supported on the Japanese side by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWE) on the German side. The Wuppertal Institute, together with ECOS, is coordinating the Council's work as secretariat in Germany, while the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ) is taking on this task on the Japanese side.

Recent study topics included the public acceptance of carbon pricing, the availability of critical minerals for renewable energy technologies, and the governance of energy efficiency. Information on Council Members, Studies and Papers: www.gjetc.org

Program

12:30 Welcome & Networking
Drinks & Snacks

13:00 Insights into the Council's work, incl. findings and recommendations on:

- energy efficiency policy
- critical raw materials
- carbon pricing

13:10 Statements on current political topics regarding the energy transition in Japan and Germany

13:30 Q&A with the audience

14:00 Networking Coffee

14:30 End

Moderation: Johanna Schilling, ECOS

Venue

Bundespresseamt Besucherzentrum (Visitor Center of the Press and Information Office of the Federal Government BPA), Reichstagsufer 14, 10117 Berlin

Language

English

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Registration

The number of participants is limited. Please [please register here](#) until 6th February 2026.

Contact

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