

Van: Info ETUI <info@etui.org>
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Onderwerp: REMINDER Fatih Birol: Europe's energy transition - between sustainability and affordability, 29 April 2014, 16h, Silken Hotel



ETUI Conference cycle : Socio-ecological transition

Tuesday, 29 April 2014, 16:00-18:00

Silken Hotel, Boulevard Charlemagne 11, 1000 Brussels

Europe's energy transition: between sustainability and affordability

Guest speaker: **Fatih Birol**, Chief Economist and Director of Global Energy Economics at the International Energy Agency in Paris

Discussants: **Benjamin Denis**, Advisor ETUC, **Philip Pearson**, Senior Policy Officer, Trades Union Congress (TUC) and **Jason Anderson**, Head of EU Climate & Energy Policy, WWF-Europe

Briefing:

Climate change and the end of cheap oil have pushed European policymakers to formulate a strategy to decarbonise the economy. But Europe's economic and sovereign debt crisis, as well as pressure from the US shale gas revolution, has clearly undermined the sense of urgency of this important energy transition.

The Paris-based International Energy Agency and especially its Chief Economist, Fatih Birol have in the last ten years been very outspoken about the need to find the right balance between a sustainable climate and energy transition and keeping prices affordable for Europe's industry and citizens.

At this first conference in a new ETUI cycle on 'the socio-ecological transition', Mr Birol will deliver a thorough analysis of the environmental and economic dimension of Europe's much needed energy revolution. Some of the questions he will address are the following:

- Is Europe's decarbonisation strategy on track?
- What is wrong and what is right with the functioning of the EU's climate framework (e.g. the ETS)?
- Have the EU's green energy policies (renewables, energy efficiency) undermined or supported the competitiveness of European industries? Is there a threat of de-industrialisation or can Europe go through a re-industrialisation based on a clean energy transition?
- Will the EU have new 'gold standards' for a golden age of shale gas exploration?
- How can the EU have strong policies which can efficiently manage the need for decarbonisation of its energy and transport sector and still keep energy prices affordable?
- How much energy poverty does Europe have and what can be done about it?

Following the discussion we would like to invite you to join us for a drinks reception.

To register for this event: Stéphane Bouillon sbouillon@etui.org

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