



## INVITATION to an **Online Conference**

*"France, Germany and Poland– the Weimar Triangle - on the path to a sustainable future:*

*Science and civil society together for a transformation towards climate neutrality"*

### **Practical information:**

<b>When</b>	Tuesday, 27 September 2022
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Online time</b>	10:00 a.m. – 1:15 p.m, CET

Dear Sir or Madam,

We would like to kindly invite you to an online conference entitled **“Science and civil society together for a transformation towards climate neutrality”**. It will take place on 27 September 2022 under the auspices of the Ambassadors of Germany and France to Poland and the Ambassador of Poland to Germany.

The discussion about strengthening the dialogue and cooperation between **science and civil society for a successful transformation towards climate neutrality is now more topical than ever**. Together with representatives of civil society, scientists and researchers from France, Germany and Poland, we want to discuss potentials and challenges of transdisciplinary research in the field of climate and energy, as well as the implications of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine for climate and energy policy in Europe, especially in the countries of the Weimar Triangle.

You will find the updated conference agenda attached.

The conference aims to bring together academic scientists, researchers, research scholars and representatives of civil society from France, Poland and Germany to exchange and share their experience and research results in the sphere of climate, energy and transdisciplinary research. It provides a space for creating collaborative links between researchers and representatives of civil society from the three countries to strengthen the transdisciplinary approach in their research, brokers knowledge between institutionalized research and social movements and aims at long-term cooperation in the field of climate and energy in the form of the Green Weimar Triangle. The aim of this conference is as well to encourage the scientific community to work hand in hand with civil society on solutions to achieve the EU- climate neutrality goal on time and to drive their work towards more relevance of research to problems and needs of people.

The ideas discussed during the conference will serve as the basis for the development of new projects. Concrete recommendations from this conference can provide impetus for more transdisciplinary research projects between our countries.

We hope you will be able to join us.

**Please confirm your participation and let us know which working group in the second workshop you would prefer to participate in by 20 September 2022, by replying to: [andralojc@germanwatch.org](mailto:andralojc@germanwatch.org) .**

We would be delighted to welcome you at this event.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Sylwia Andralojc-Bodych

Technical information:

As our workshop focuses on four different research areas, **please let us know which working group you would prefer to participate in.** You can choose one of the following topics:

1. Climate policy and its socio-economic consequences (moderator: *Dr. Stefan Thomas, Wuppertal Institute*)
2. The EU emission trading system and ensuring security of supply: how can they go hand in hand? (moderator: *Dr. Michael Pahle, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK)*)
3. Energy crises as a wakeup call to accelerate the energy transition and phase out fossil fuels (hydrogen, renewable energy, coal exit) (moderator: *Phuc-Vinh Nguyen, Jacques Delors Institute*)
4. From individual behaviour change to climate friendly society: empowering civil society to play a key role in the transition (moderator: *Dr Mariola Zalewska, University of Warsaw*)

### **Further information about the conference:**

The conference will launch a French-German-Polish transdisciplinary dialogue on climate and energy policy instruments as well as on the importance of involving stakeholders, including civil society, in transformation research. The aim is to encourage the scientific community in the countries of the Weimar Triangle to work hand in hand with civil society on solutions to achieve the EU climate neutrality goal on time. The conference participants will discuss possible areas and ideas for cooperation with civil society. The participants from France, Germany and Poland will receive the results produced by the conference in a published summary.

Furthermore, a bigger conference with representatives of civil society will be organised on the basis of the results of this scientific exchange. Its aim is to discuss the ideas collected with civil society, identify a possible starting point and develop a concrete strategy for cross-border cooperation between the scientific community and civil society.

**Why science and society?** Because a socially fair transformation path towards climate neutrality needs both scientific insight and civil commitment as well as a common understanding of the challenges we are facing.

**Why the Weimar Triangle?** Because France, Germany and Poland share a rich and diverse cultural heritage, yet have different economic structures and energy mixes. Together they make up 40% of the EU's population and they are all among the EU's top five CO<sub>2</sub> emitters. By bringing together their different starting points, specific national circumstances and climate protection endeavours, they can become leading societies in the transition process in Europe. In the view of growing concerns about energy security, Europe needs strong climate cooperation within the European Union more than ever. 30 years of the Weimar Triangle is a perfect occasion to develop new cooperation formats and elevate the dialogue between our countries to a new level.