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Future Forum Green Hydrogen

Economic Growth and Resilience through Decarbonisation: Success factors for the European Hydrogen Industry in the Global Market Place

18 March 2026, 09:00 am - 02:30 pm (CET) | German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin

Agenda

-
- 09:00 am** **Registration and Welcome Coffee & Snacks**
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- 10:00 am** **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Bernhard Kotsch, State Secretary, German Federal Foreign Office
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- 10:10 am** **Opening Remarks**
Stefan Rouenhoff, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (tbc)
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- 10:15 am** **Keynote “The Hydrogen Race: Why It Matters to Maintain a Competitive H2 Industry in Order to Contribute to Shaping the Decarbonised Energy System”**
TBC, High Ranking Official, European Commission
-
- 10:45 am** **Panel: “Hydrogen, Competitiveness and Decarbonisation Diplomacy”**
- How can countries build competitive hydrogen industries that support both climate goals and long-term economic resilience?
 - What role does technological leadership play in shaping global hydrogen markets and standards?
 - How can governments and foreign ministries support companies in navigating emerging hydrogen value chains and international partnerships?
 - What diplomatic strategies help prevent new dependencies and instead foster diversified, resilient supply chains?
 - How can foreign energy policy and industrial policy reinforce each other to accelerate global hydrogen deployment?
- Moderation: Kathrin Goldammer**, CEO, Reiner Lemoine Institute
- **Joan Groizard**, Secretary of State for Energy, Spain (tbc)
 - **Stefan Rouenhoff**, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (tbc)
 - **Nils Aldag**, CEO, Sunfire
 - **Leen Vanhamme**, SVP Strategy & Sustainability, Fluxys (tbc)
 - **Mikaa Blugeon-Mered**, Canada Research Chair in Clean Hydrogen
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- 12:00 pm** **Lunch & Networking**
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01:00 pm

Parallel Sessions

(1) Federal Foreign Office Session: “Foreign Policy as an Enabler: Strengthening Hydrogen Supply Chains and Supporting Industries Abroad”

- How can foreign policy help companies identify opportunities and navigate regulatory landscapes in emerging hydrogen markets?
- What diplomatic instruments strengthen resilient, diversified supply chains (e.g. political dialogues, MoUs, standardisation cooperation)?
- How can embassies and economic sections support local value creation and fair partnerships with producer countries?
- How can decarbonisation diplomacy accelerate climate ambition while also supporting industrial competitiveness?

Moderation: Oliver Rentschler, DG Geoeconomics, German Federal Foreign Office

- **Frederik Wisselink**, Energy Envoy, Dutch Ministry of Climate & Green Growth (tbc)
- **NN**, Energy Foreign Policy Official of European Country
- **Tobias Bischof-Niemz**, Member of the Management Board, Enertrag
- **Gautam Reddy Kumbam**, CEO, AM Green Ammonia
- **Ingrid-Gabriela Hoven**, Managing Director of the Management Board, GIZ

(2) Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy Session: “Resilient Supply Chains: State of Play of European Technology Providers” (*Invitation only*)

(3) Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Session: “Contracts for Difference – Efficient solutions for Hydrogen Market Ramp-up”

- What makes CfDs an attractive instrument for governments compared to grants, quotas, or mandates?
- Which CfD design elements are most critical for efficiency and scalability in hydrogen and PtX markets?
- How can CfDs be adapted to enable large-scale deployment of renewable PtX like ammonia or eSAF?

Moderation: Dr. Katharina Stasch, DG for multilateral development policy; transformation; climate; Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation (tbc)

Confirmed Speakers include:

- **Gregor Paterson-Jones**, Senior Advisor, Finance Catalyst GET.invest – CfDs for a portfolio of large-scale PtX-projects could ramp-up the hydrogen market
- **Christoph de Beer**, Director Public and Government Affairs Europe, SASOL
- **Jan Toschla**, CEO, Zaffra

02:00 pm

Break

02:10 pm

Plenary Rapporteur Spotlights from Breakout Sessions

02:25 pm

Closing Remarks

Oliver Rentschler, DG Geoeconomics, German Federal Foreign Office



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Background

As countries accelerate their transition towards climate neutrality, hydrogen is emerging not only as a climate solution, but as a strategic driver of economic resilience and competitiveness. The global race to scale hydrogen technologies – from electrolyzers to storage, transport, and industrial applications – is reshaping markets, alliances and the foundations of industrial value creation. For many governments, hydrogen has become a domain where climate ambition intersects with industrial strategy and foreign policy.

In this evolving landscape, countries are seeking to build resilient and diversified supply chains that reduce vulnerabilities, open new export opportunities and strengthen domestic industries. At the same time, global cooperation remains essential: no country can develop a full hydrogen economy on its own. Diplomatic engagement, standardisation efforts, and international partnerships are therefore becoming central tools to support companies, enable fair market access, and ensure that hydrogen development contributes to shared climate goals.

For many countries, the question is how to shape this emerging hydrogen economy in a way that supports innovation, strengthens competitiveness, and advances climate ambitions – while avoiding new dependencies and fostering equitable cooperation with producer countries. The challenge lies in balancing open markets and international cooperation with the strategic imperative to maintain and expand domestic industrial capacities in key technologies.

This 4th edition of the "**Future Forum Green Hydrogen**" at the Federal Foreign Office in Berlin, organised under its H2-diplo initiative, seeks to provide a platform for networking and dialogue addressing these questions. The event brings together diplomatic missions, policymakers, industry leaders, and researchers to explore how foreign policy can act as an enabler of resilient hydrogen ecosystems and how those ecosystems can be designed to strengthen industrial competitiveness, contributing to a stable, climate-aligned, and geopolitically balanced future. It also integrates discussion threads from the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy and from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, underlining the ambition for a coherent and well-aligned energy foreign policy.