

European Conference for a Just Transition

4th and 5th of March 2024, Egmont Palace

In the context of the Belgian Presidency of the European Union, Just Transition has been made a priority for the Environment Council. The aim of this conference is to contribute to a more comprehensive just transition which can deliver on the objective of organizing a carbon neutral, environmentally sustainable, toxic-free and fully circular society and economy by 2050.

Programme

4th of March 2024

HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT

09:30 - 12:30 | Salle Europe

- Welcome by **Min. Zakia Khattabi**, Minister of Climate, Environment, Sustainable Development and Green Deal, Belgium
- Keynote by **Mr. Moustapha Kamal Gueye**, Director, Priority action programme on Just Transitions, International Labour Organization
- Keynote by **Ms. Leena Ylä-Mononen**, Executive Director of the European Environment Agency

Presentation of the EESC opinion with a focus on Governance

by President **Oliver Röpke** and rapporteur **Rudy De Leeuw**

- Roundtable discussion introduced by **Mr Maroš Šefčovič**, European Commission Executive Vice-President for European Green Deal, Interinstitutional Relations and Foresight
- Concluding word by **Min. Zakia Khattabi**

LUNCH AND NETWORKING MOMENT

12:30 - 14:00 | Galerie des Glaces

AFTERNOON – BREAK OUT SESSIONS

14:00 - 17:30 | Salles Arenberg and Europe

Breakout #1 : Focus on poverty eradication

Salle Arenberg

- Academic introduction and context by **Prof. Wim Van Lancker**, KUL
- Keynote by **Mrs. Sandrine-Dixson-Declève**, Co-President Club of Rome

Sessions with roundtable discussions - open to the participants

The Fair Energy Transition for All

- Project Introduction by **Mrs. Pascal Taminiaux**, King Baudouin Foundation

Break

Anti-poverty strategies

- Introduction by **Mrs. Sandra Araujo**, *Coordination of the PT National Strategy to Combat Poverty*

Just Transition and Austerity & Digitalization

- Introduction by **Mr. Carlos Susias**, *President of European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN)*
- Capturing the common ground for the Council Conclusions

Moderator: **Matteo Mandelli**, *Science Po Paris*

Rapporteur: **Kahina Rabahi**, *EAPN*

Breakout #2 : Focus on reconversion of industrial sectors

Salle Europe

- Academic introduction and context by **Prof. Kris Bachus**, *UAntwerpen*
- Keynote by **Werner Schmidt**, *European Investment Bank, Director for Urban and Territorial development, and head of JASPERS*
- Statements by the social partners: **European Trade Union Confederation, Business Europe, SME United, IndustriAll, European Chemicals Employer Group**

Break

- Roundtable discussion - open to the participants
- Capturing the common ground for the Council Conclusions

Moderator: **Myriam Bovéda**, *DG REGIO*

Rapporteur: **Clara Dassonville**, *European Alliance for a Just Transition*

COCKTAIL AND NETWORKING

17:30 - 19:30 | Galerie des Glaces

5th of March 2024

MORNING – PLENARY DISCUSSION

09:30 - 12:30 | Salle Europe

- Welcome by **Minister Zakia Khattabi**, *Federal Minister of Climate, Environment, Sustainable Development and Green Deal*

Just Transition in Belgium : lessons learned

- Presentation of the main findings after the *Estates General and Conference for a Just Transition in Belgium* by **Bernard Mazijn**, *Chief of staff of Minister Zakia Khattabi*
- Focus on the report of the scientific High Committee for a Just Transition by **Prof. Bea Cantillon and Prof. Marek Hudon**, *co-chairs*
- Wrap-up first day (presentations from the rapporteurs)

Break

Presentation of study: *The European Green Deal and the 'Leave No One Behind' principle: state of the art, gaps and ways forward*

- European Social Observatory by **Dr. Sebastiano Sabato**, *Senior Researcher, European Social Observatory*

LUNCH AND NETWORKING MOMENT

12:30 - 13:30 | Salle Sax

AFTERNOON – PLENARY DISCUSSION

13:30 - 17:00 | Salle Europe

Discussion on Strengthening the European Green Deal

Break

Interaction on Council Conclusions on Just Transition