

JEAN MONNET MODULE

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GREEN DEAL, SUSTAINABLE TRADE AND TÜRKİYE'S INTEGRATION

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SUMMER SCHOOL EDITION



Prof. Dr. Rana ATABAY KUŞÇU

The first year of the Jean Monnet Module titled "Green Deal, Sustainable Trade and Türkiye's Integration", which will last 3 years between 2022-2025, was completed with the Summer School. The Summer School was held in Bodrum Garaova Agricultural Park between 3-9 September 2023, in cooperation with Istanbul Medipol University and Bodrum Institute.

Climate change is the biggest problem of our time, on which the world acts as one, "leaving no one behind." All 27 European Union member states have committed to transforming Europe into the world's first climate-neutral continent by 2050. The European Green Deal has created the plan for this commitment and this transformational change. As part of the fight against climate change, Turkey announced its 2053 carbon-neutral target in 2021.

The steps taken to combat climate change and ensure sustainable development are also the motivation of this project. The project aims to provide information about the "EU's New Road Map: Green Deal within the Scope of Sustainable Trade" and raise awareness about the climate crisis and sustainability, which are important agenda items for Türkiye and the world.

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Modules covered in the summer school organized for this purpose are;

- Climate Change and the European Green Deal
- Sustainable Trade, CBAM and EU ETS,
- Sustainability and Sustainable Development Goals
- Green Deal Action Plan and Activity Plan
- EU Trade Agreements - Modernization of the Customs Union
- Green Transformation of SMEs
- Trade, Renewable Energy and Environment

The training and panels were filled with enjoyable and informative discussions with a wide range of participant profiles, including students from various departments (international trade, international relations, industrial engineering, biology) and disciplines of various universities, sustainability managers, sustainability consultants, and lawyers.

Two panels were held within the scope of the Summer School. I would like to thank “Green Deal and Its Reflections on Türkiye” panelists; Borsa İstanbul AŞ Deputy General Manager Güzhan Gülay and Advisor to the Vice-President of the Presidency of Strategy and Budget Arzu Önsal; and “Green Deal and Green Transformation in Energy” panelists; Enerjisa Üretim Deputy General Manager Emre Erdoğan and Turkish-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry (AHK) Public and Financed Projects, Market Consultancy and Fairs Department Head Pauline Seyfert.

I would also like to thank Bodrum City Council Executive Board Member Feyha Karşlı and Bodrum Chamber of Commerce Vice President İbrahim Akkaya for hosting us during the field trips.

I would like to thank Prof. Dr. Esra Yüksel Acı, from Marmara University Faculty of Economics, who took part as an instructor in the module, for her contributions to the project.





2023 State of the Union Address by President von der Leyen

In a passionate address to the European Parliament, Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, discussed the progress made and future plans for the European Green Deal. The European Green Deal was presented as an essential response to the climate crisis, with a dual focus on environmental protection and future economic prosperity. President von der Leyen highlighted the early successes of this strategy, mentioning that European industries are demonstrating their readiness to lead in transitioning to cleaner practices. She cited examples such as the growth of clean steel factories and increased investments in clean hydrogen.



The European Commission has introduced several measures, including the Net-Zero Industry Act and the Critical Raw Materials Act, to facilitate the transition to sustainable practices. In her address, President Ursula von der Leyen affirmed the European Union's commitment to combating climate change while supporting economic growth and employment. The European Green Deal remains at the forefront of Europe's strategy to address the challenges posed by a warming planet, with a strong emphasis on collaboration between industry, Member States, and policymakers.

[For more detail](#)



WTO Public Forum 2023: It is time for action



The WTO Public Forum 2023 was held on 12 September. This annual event, renowned for fostering open dialogue and promoting multilateral cooperation, will bring together policymakers, industry leaders, academics, civil society representatives, and other stakeholders from around the globe. Against the backdrop of a rapidly evolving global landscape, the 2023 WTO Public Forum promised insightful discussions and collaborative initiatives aimed at charting the course for inclusive and sustainable trade solutions. Under the theme "It is time for action" this year's Public Forum delved into the critical intersections between trade and climate change.

[For more detail](#)

The 2023 Public Forum explored how trade and the WTO can help create a greener and more sustainable future. In particular, it explored how the services sector, digitalization and inclusive trade policies can support this objective. These discussions were particularly relevant as the world faces unprecedented challenges that demand innovative strategies and collective action. As technology reshapes industries, and as climate concerns gain urgency, the Forum explored the role of trade in fostering resilience and facilitating equitable development.



Upcoming EU Hydrogen Bank pilot auction: European Commission publishes Terms & Conditions

The Commission published the Terms and Conditions (T&C) for its pilot auction dedicated to European renewable hydrogen production. It is an important step towards scaling up production of renewable hydrogen in the EU. The auction funded by the Innovation Fund under the umbrella of the EU Hydrogen Bank, is intended to open on 23 November 2023. Following stakeholder consultations ongoing since March 2023, today's publication of the T&C gives potential bidders advance information about the final economic design of the auction and helps them start preparing their bids. The auction will award up to €800 million to renewable hydrogen producers in the European Economic Area (EEA).



The support will take the form of a fixed premium in €/kg of renewable hydrogen produced over ten years of operation, therefore targeting the gap between the production costs and the demand's willingness to pay. The auction has four important key points to achieve; Reducing the cost gap between renewable and fossil hydrogen in the EU, Allowing for price discovery and renewable hydrogen market formation, De-risking European hydrogen projects, Reducing administrative burdens.

[For more detail](#)



INTERVIEW

Prof.Dr. Esra Yüksel Acı, Marmara University



She received her bachelor's degree from Marmara University, Faculty of Economics, Department of Economics, and her master's and doctoral degrees from the Department of Economic Development and International Economics. She is currently a faculty member at Marmara University, Faculty of Economics. She has academic publications on development, growth, sustainable development, gender and green economy. She continues to teach undergraduate and graduate level courses such as Economics of Growth and Development, Global Economic Problems and Civil Society, Sustainable Development Goals and Green Economy, Gender Equality, Sectoral Experiences in Innovation. In 2008, she was among the founding members of Marmara University Non-Governmental Organizations Research and Implementation Centre. She also works as the Volunteering Activities Coordinator. She has worked as a trainer, researcher and manager in many projects under the auspices of organisations such as EU, UNDP and ISTKA.

? *What are the “keywords” of the content you present within the scope of the Jean Monnet module? How would you interpret its relationship with the European Green Deal?*

I think that the most appropriate keyword for the content of the Sustainability and Sustainable Development Goals course I teach within the scope of the Jean Monnet Module is sustainability ecosystem. Sustainability ecosystem covers sustainability in all its dimensions. These dimensions include all 17 global goals. I think this course is important for understanding the priorities of the European Union regarding sustainable development goals and the culture of sustainable living in Europe. I find it almost impossible to realise green transformation without cultural transformation.

? *Could you please tell us what being a Jean Monnet Module lecturer contributed to your academic career?*

Throughout my academic life I have been working on sustainable, green and inclusive development and I believe in this paradigm. The Jean Monnet Module gave me the opportunity to transfer this belief to others as part of a global network. It also increased my connections with green transformation and the European Green Deal.

? *From the perspective of your field of study, how do you evaluate the roadmap for Türkiye's integration/harmonization process with the European Green Deal?*

Türkiye is a developing country in close contact with the causes and consequences of climate change. Despite this, it has chosen the path of sustainable, resilient and inclusive development against the devastating effects of climate change, and has expressed this choice in its recently announced Medium Term Programme. I believe that Türkiye is leading many other developing countries in the process of adaptation to climate change. From the point of view of the Constitutional Court, aside from its geographical proximity to the European Union, Türkiye is a country that makes almost half of its exports to EU countries and has strong commercial ties with the EU due to the Customs Union. All these reasons make Türkiye obliged to comply with the regulations of the European Green Deal on the path of climate neutrality, especially the CBAM, on the path of green development. Although this obligation may seem like a disadvantage, I think that it is actually an advantage that can create a competitive advantage. I believe that Türkiye will use this advantage and internalise the European Green Deal as a roadmap for environmental, economic and social sustainability.



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FROM OUR SUMMER SCHOOL



The Summer School on Green Deal, Sustainable Trade, and Türkiye's Integration, held jointly by the Bodrum Institute and Istanbul Medipol University, between 3-8 September at Bodrum Garaova Agricultural Park, was a successful event. Participants from various fields, including lawyers, industrial engineers, international trade, biology students, and textiles professionals, attended the program. The program aimed to provide an immersive learning experience on critical topics such as the climate crisis, the European Green Deal, sustainability, EU-Türkiye relations, and energy. The program featured a robust schedule of informative and engaging activities, including lectures, team works, and panel discussions.

The first lecture, delivered by the project coordinator Prof. Dr. Rana Atabay Kuşçu, focused on "Climate Change & European Green Deal," offering insights into global warming, Europe's historical perspective on climate issues, and the European Green Deal's Fit for 55.

Subsequent lectures covered topics such as sustainable trade, carbon border adjustment mechanisms, EU emissions trading systems, sustainability, and sustainable development goals. These sessions provided participants with valuable knowledge about current laws, practices, and the relationship between economic development and the environment.



The program also explored Türkiye's Green Deal Action Plan, EU trade agreements, and the modernization of the EU-Türkiye Customs Union. The significance of SMEs in the green transformation process and discussions about energy security and Türkiye's energy potential were vital components of the program. Summer School fostered a comprehensive understanding of crucial issues related to sustainability, trade, and Türkiye's integration into the global green agenda, equipping participants with the knowledge and insights needed to contribute to a more sustainable future.



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PANELS



First panel of the Jean Monnet Module Summer School, "Green Deal and Its Reflections on Türkiye" was moderated by Prof. Dr. Rana Atabay Kuşçu with the participation of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Güzhan Gülay, Deputy General Manager of BIST, and Arzu Önsal, Advisor to the Vice-President of the Presidency of Strategy and Budget. The panel started with the question "What is Climate Change?" and continued with the effects of climate change in Türkiye. Also, Türkiye's place on the national and international agenda about sustainability and climate change was discussed at the panel. Afterwards, the issue of Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, which has risks and opportunities for Türkiye, was discussed. The institutional structuring of ETS was mentioned and Borsa Istanbul's work on the Carbon Market was conveyed.



Our second panel, "The Green Deal and Green Transformation in Energy" moderated by module coordinator Prof. Dr. Rana Atabay Kuşçu, with the participation of EnerjiSA Üretim Deputy General Manager Emre Erdoğan and Turkish-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry (AHK) Public and Financed Projects, Market Consultancy and Fairs Department Head Pauline Seyfert. The German perspective on the energy transition and the green transformation in industry, the latest developments and the key role of green hydrogen were discussed at the panel. In addition, the activities, long-term strategies and transformations of EnerjiSA Üretim within the framework of the European Green Deal explained.



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FIELD TRIPS OF SUMMER SCHOOL



The first field trip within the scope of the Summer School was held at the Bodrum City Council with the participants. Feyha Karslı gave information about City Councils to the participants. An interactive environment was created in the form of question and answer by informing the participants about the history, purpose of establishment, working commissions, assemblies and working groups of the Bodrum City Council.



The second field trip within the scope of the Summer School was to the Bodrum Chamber of Commerce. During this field trip, Vice President of Bodrum Chamber of Commerce, İbrahim Akkaya talked about the geographical advantages of Bodrum and explained the history, vision & mission and policies of the Bodrum Chamber of Commerce. Afterwards, the steps they have taken and will take as Bodrum Metropolitan Municipality and policy makers within the scope of the European Green Deal, the challenges and recommendations of Bodrum within the framework of the climate crisis were discussed.



In addition to training and field trips, the participants also had fun moments. Teams competing with each other played competitive games and had moments full of laughter.



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ROLE PLAYINGS



As a result of the 5-day training, role-modelling work was carried out at the end of the Summer School in order to enable the participants to apply the information they have learnt in depth and make it a part of their lives.

The participants, who were divided into 4 groups in total, were given the following topics; "Compliance of SMEs with the European Green Deal", "Switching to Renewable Energy Sources in Combating the Climate Crisis; Türkiye and EU Relations in the Middle of the Energy Crisis", "Sustainable Development Goals and Trade Relationship", "European Green Deal Industrial Plan and Türkiye's Compliance".



The teams, who were given the resources they could benefit from, carried out a 2-hour study with their teammates. At the end of 2 hours, the teams that formed their sides made their defences against the parties and discussed their expectations, problems and solution proposals that will answer the question of what should be done to reach a better world. As a result of role-modelling, it was aimed to reinforce the participants' learning and improve their presentation skills.



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ACTIVITIES AND CERTIFICATION CEREMONY

Participants who successfully completed the Summer School were entitled to receive a certificate. On the last day of the programme, 29 participants received their certificates at the certificate ceremony. We congratulate all our participants who are with us to contribute to a more sustainable world and wish them to continue their sustainability efforts!



COMMENTS ON SUMMER SCHOOL



“I am Nilgün Aytekin, Founder and Senior Sustainability Consultant at Atlas Sustainability and Change Consultancy. I had the privilege to attend to Jean Monnet Summer School on “Green Deal, Sustainable Trade and Türkiye’s Integration” which was held in collaboration with Istanbul Medipol University and Bodrum Institute.

The course was detailly constructed and had rich content regarding climate change, its impacts on trade and EU’s roadmap with European Green Deal. Besides the lectures we had panels related to the subject with the participation of various experienced panelists from different stakeholders who shared recent updates and their precious experiences.

In a short period of time I have been able to get lots of knowledge on the topic, which I can now practice through my consultancy practices. It was a great experience to meet all the participants, our valuable professors and the crew behind the organization. Thank you very much.”



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