

# **Prospects for Carbon Pricing in Europe and the United States**

A Research Workshop Co-Hosted by:

Harvard Project on Climate Agreements  
Centre for European Studies and Comparative Politics, Sciences Po Paris

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

10:00 am – 1:00 pm U.S. Eastern Daylight Time

3:00 – 6:00 pm Central European Time

## **Background and Motivation**

With the inauguration of Joseph R. Biden, Jr., the United States has re-committed to the Paris Agreement and to ambitious domestic efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. More broadly, the Biden Administration will re-engage more constructively with the world, including Europe. The hosts of this workshop wish to take advantage of an opportunity for renewed transatlantic academic dialogue on climate change policy. In particular, researchers from the two universities wish to exchange insights on carbon pricing – a topic of mutual interest – from the disciplinary perspectives of both economics and political science. The agenda includes a normative assessment of carbon pricing – examining the relative merits of alternative carbon pricing systems, and of carbon pricing and policy instruments relying on uniform standards. Participants will then examine prospects for carbon pricing in Europe and the United States – focusing in part on sub-national carbon-pricing systems in the latter.

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## *Participants*

*Names are linked to biographies*

### [Joseph Aldy](#)

Professor of the Practice of Public Policy  
Harvard Kennedy School

### [Arnault Barichella](#)

Lecturer and PhD Researcher  
Centre for European Studies and  
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### [Meriem Hamdi-Cherif](#)

Researcher in Environmental Economics  
French Economic Observatory  
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### [Colin Hay](#)

Professor of Political Science  
Centre for European Studies and  
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### [Nathaniel Keohane](#)

Senior Vice President, Climate  
Environmental Defense Fund

### [Paul Malliet](#)

Researcher in Environmental Economics  
French Economic Observatory  
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### [Aurélien Saussay](#)

Research Officer  
Grantham Research Institute on Climate  
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London School of Economics

### [Richard Schmalensee](#)

Howard W. Johnson Professor of  
Management; Professor of  
Economics, *Emeritus*  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

### [Robert Stavins](#)

A.J. Meyer Professor of Energy and  
Economic Development  
Director, Harvard Project on Climate  
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### [James Stock](#)

Harold Hitching Burbank Professor of  
Political Economy  
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### [Robert Stowe](#)

Co-Director  
Harvard Project on Climate Agreements  
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### [Cornelia Woll](#)

Professor of Political Science  
Centre for European Studies and  
Comparative Politics  
Co-Director, Max Planck Sciences Po  
Centre  
Sciences Po Paris

# Agenda: Prospects for Carbon Pricing in Europe and the United States

*All times U.S. Eastern Daylight Time*

## ***Session 1: Normative Assessment of Carbon-Pricing and Other Policy Instruments***

Moderator: Robert Stavins, Harvard University

- 10:00 – 10:05      Welcome  
                                 Robert Stavins, Harvard University  
                                 Arnault Barichella, Sciences Po
- 10:05 – 10:15      Overview and Self-Introductions
- 10:15 – 10:30      Relative Merits of Alternative Carbon-Pricing Systems  
                                 Robert Stavins, Harvard University
- 10:30 – 10:45      Relative Merits of Carbon Pricing and Uniform Standards  
                                 Aurélien Saussay, London School of Economics
- 10:45 – 10:55      Responses  
                                 Meriem Hamdi-Cherif, Sciences Po  
                                 Richard Schmalensee, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- 10:55 – 11:25      Discussion
- 11:25 – 11:40      Break

## ***Session 2: Positive Political Economy and Politics of Carbon Pricing***

Moderator: Cornelia Woll, Sciences Po

- 11:40 – 12:00      Status of and Prospects for Carbon Pricing in Europe  
                                 Meriem Hamdi-Cherif, Sciences Po  
                                 Paul Malliet, Sciences Po
- 12:00 – 12:20      Status of and Prospects for Carbon Pricing in the United States  
                                 Joseph Aldy, Harvard University  
                                 Nathaniel Keohane, Resources for the Future
- 12:20 – 12:35      Responses  
                                 Cornelia Woll, Sciences Po  
                                 Colin Hay, Sciences Po  
                                 James Stock, Harvard University
- 12:35 – 13:00      Discussion; closing remarks