

IDEAS ENERGY

Where we're at.

What's at stake.

Who wins and who loses.

With

Andrea Binder, Freie Universität Berlin

Andreas Goldthau, Universität Erfurt

Helen Thompson, University of Cambridge

Brett Christophers, Uppsala Universitet

Anders Levermann, Potsdam-Institut für
Klimafolgenforschung

A joint talk series by

IDEAS^UENERGY

By its very nature, energy is at once a security and an economic issue. The discovery and development of new energy sources have therefore always been important redistributive events in national and global history. In other words, the current energy transition from hydrocarbons to renewables is not only a technical matter, but has far-reaching political implications, ranging from the domestic redistribution of wealth to issues of international war and peace.

Together with eminent economic thinkers and a community of political decision-makers, academics and journalists, we want to explore what ideas we have about energy and its role in current domestic and foreign policy, what's at stake, who wins and loses, where history can serve as a point of reference, and where we find ourselves in uncharted territory.

The Energy Series

- Nov 14, 2024** **Energy and Democratic Politics:** with **Andrea Binder**, political economist and Freigeist Fellow (Freie Universität Berlin)
- Dec 05, 2024** **Energy and Justice:** with **Andreas Goldthau**, political scientist and Professor of Public Policy, Willy Brandt School (Universität Erfurt)
- Jan 16, 2025** **Energy and War and Peace:** with **Helen Thompson**, Professor of Political Economy (University of Cambridge) and author of *Disorder. Hard Times in the 21st Century*
- Spring 2025** **Energy and Prices:** with **Brett Christophers**, Professor of Human Geography (Uppsala Universitet) and author of *The Price is wrong – Why Capitalism won't save the Planet*
- June 2025** **Energy and Climate Change:** with **Anders Levermann**, physicist and Professor for the dynamics of the climate system at Potsdam Institut für Klimafolgenforschung (PIK)

All 90-minute discussions will take place in English. 'Ideas of Energy' is a joint event series by the Freigeist Research Group 'Geopolitics in the Age of Offshore Finance' at Freie Universität Berlin, the Global Public Policy Institute (GPPi) and Dezernat Zukunft.

Big Challenges, Deep Thinking: About 'Ideas of ...'

Democratic politics are in a serious predicament. The challenges – inequality, climate change and a protracted war in Germany's vicinity – are big. The related political decisions (or indecisiveness) have implications far beyond the electoral cycle and Germany's borders. Yet many choices are – and must be – made in the heat of the moment, in reaction to sudden turns of events, political opportunities or the news cycle. 'Ideas of ...' is a talk series that creates a counter point. It offers a space for participants and decision-makers to understand, discuss and question the ideas we hold – often unwittingly – about key economic phenomena. Together with renowned thinkers, we want to separate the knee-jerk reactions from substantial contributions, go off script, and develop ideas for how we can move forward, today and in long term.