EUI SCHOOL OF TRANSNATIONAL GOVERNANCE

EUI Climate Week 2026

5 -7 May 2026 | Florence, Italy

17 Events

4 Partners

241 Participants

European Commission

European Investment Bank

CHILDREN'S INVESTMENT FUND FOUNDATION

catalyse europe

The fifth edition of the **EUI Climate Week 2026** (5–7 May, Florence) brought together policymakers, academics, business leaders, and civil society representatives to discuss how Europe can advance its climate agenda in a period marked by geopolitical instability, economic competition, and energy-security concerns, in both open and closed door sessions. A central message of the conference was that climate policy can no longer be treated as a standalone issue; it is increasingly intertwined with industrial policy, trade, security, and international cooperation.

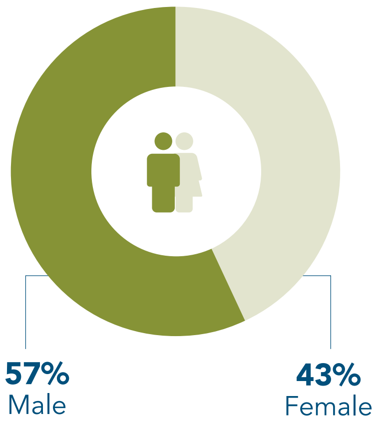
A major focus was the future of carbon pricing, as participants examined the upcoming review of the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) and its Market Stability Reserve, debating how to maintain effective carbon prices while ensuring market resilience and competitiveness. Discussions also explored how EU candidate countries could gradually be integrated into the ETS framework and how domestic carbon markets can be better aligned internationally.

Another key theme was industrial transformation, as speakers considered how Europe can decarbonise energy-intensive industries and strengthen domestic clean tech manufacturing capacity while remaining competitive in a rapidly changing global economy. Sessions addressed electrification, clean technology development, trade implications, investment needs, and the design of a proposed Industrial Decarbonisation Bank intended to support the transition to a low-carbon economy.

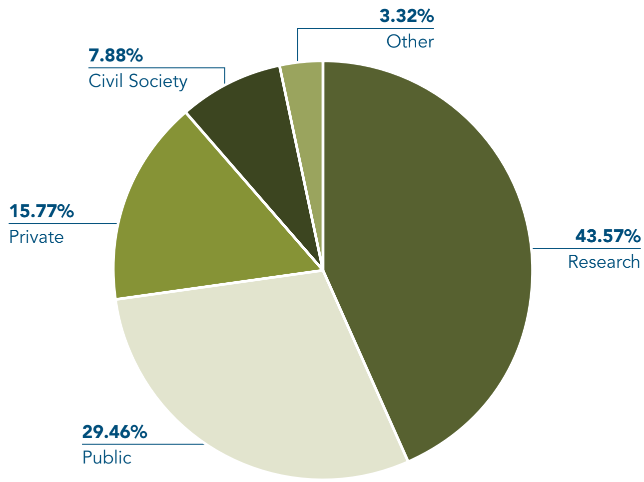
By reflecting on the lessons of the Junker plan, participants discussed how public and private capital can be mobilised at scale to fund both decarbonisation and climate adaptation. The conference concluded with the European Commission's "Finance for Resilience" event, highlighting the growing importance of adaptation finance alongside emissions reduction.

Most prominently was carbon cooperation, with countries such as China, Brazil and Türkiye expanding carbon-pricing systems. Discussions emphasised greater international coordination and interoperability between carbon markets. In this regard, particularly relevant was the launch of the Open Coalition on Compliance Carbon Markets that took place during the EUI Climate Week (see picture below). The conference's overall conclusion was that achieving Europe's climate goals will require stronger international partnerships, smarter investment, and closer alignment between climate, industrial, and geopolitical strategies.

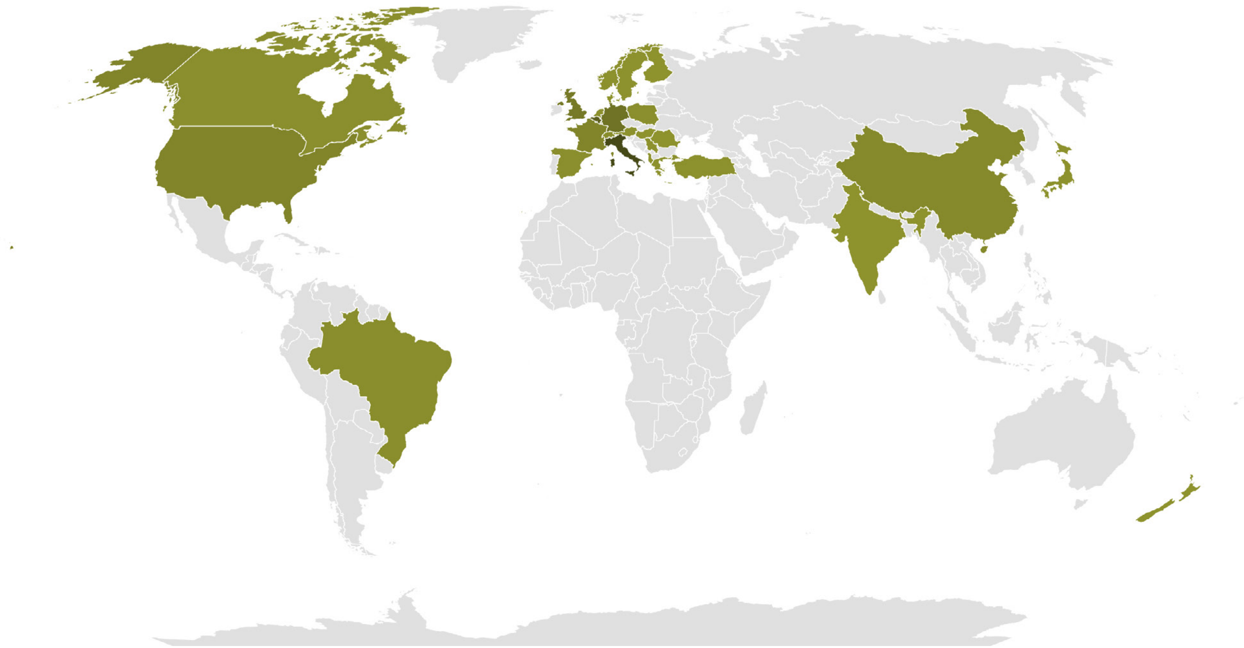
Gender Balance



Sector Representation



Diversity of Organisations Represented



"EUI Climate Week 2026 perfectly captures what the School of Transnational Governance stands for: creating a space where policy and research are genuinely interlinked, and where evidence and practice meet in real time."
- Johanna Mair, Director, School of Transnational Governance

"I had the pleasure of joining the 5th European University Institute (EUI) Climate Week - now firmly established as one of the key moments in the EU climate calendar. Thanks to Jos Delbeke and the EUI team, the event brings together leading voices from academia, policy, industry and finance to engage on the core pillars of Europe's climate agenda - from carbon pricing and the EU ETS to energy system transformation, industrial decarbonisation and adaptation."
- Ambroise Fayolle, Vice President, European Investment Bank

"What a week! The European University Institute Climate Week definitely delivered an opportunity to have tough intellectual discussions, plot cooperation, and ideate solutions. It definitely gathered an unique group of thinkers and practitioners from private and public sectors, along with experts and academia."
- Linda Zeilina-Cross, CEO & Founder, ISFC

Key Speakers

Kurt Vandenberghe
Director General, DG CLIMA, European Commission

Ambroise Fayolle
Vice President, European Investment Bank

Cristina Reis
Extraordinary Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Brazil

Li Gao
Vice Minister, Ministry of Ecology and Environ-ment, China

Peter Liese
Member of the European Parliament

Nathalie Tocci
Professor SAIS