THE ENERGY CHARTER TREATY: A EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE

CHRISTINA ECKES



OVERVIEW

- WHAT IS THE ENERGY CHARTER TREATY?
- HOW DOES IT FIT INTO THE EU'S ENERGY POLICY?
- IS IT COMPATIBLE WITH EU LAW?

WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT THE ENERGY CHARTER TREATY?



WHAT IS THE ECT?

- 53 SIGNATORIES AND CONTRACTING PARTIES, CONSISTING OF 51 MEMBER COUNTRIES PLUS
 THE EU AND EURATOM
- SIGNED IN DECEMBER 1994 AND ENTERED INTO LEGAL FORCE FROM APRIL 1998
- COVERS THE FULL PROCESS OF ENERGY INVESTMENT, PRODUCTION, SUPPLY AND CONSUMPTION
- FOCUS ON THE PROTECTION OF FOREIGN INVESTMENTS; NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT
 IN ENERGY TRADE; RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES BETWEEN MEMBER COUNTRIES; RESOLUTION OF
 DISPUTES BETWEEN MEMBER COUNTRIES AND FOREIGN INVESTORS; AND THE PROMOTION OF
 ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



- ECT PROTECTS STATUS QUO
 - SET UP TO RPOTECT FOSSIL FUEL BASED ENERGY SUPPLY
 - MILLIONS AND BILLIONS (RWE & UNIPER)

- EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL
 - TRANSFORMATION OF THE EU ENGERGY MARKETS
 - EFFORT SHARING, EMISSION TRADING, EMISSION PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR CARS, EU
 CLIMATE LAW



COMPATIBILITY WITH EU LAW

- KOMSTROY (SEPTEMBER 2021)
 - INTRA-EU
 - EXTRA-EU
- OPINION 1/20
- AUTONOMY OF EU LAW
 - 267 TFEU
 - INTRA-EU ARBITRATION LEGALLY AND FACTUALLY POSSIBLE UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW
- MUTUAL RECOGNITION & MUTUAL TRUST
- NON-DISCRIMINATION
- REGULATORY AUTONOMY

WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT THE ENERGY CHARTER TREATY?

- MODERNISATION
 - 15 ROUNDS; AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE
 - FLEXIBILITY CLAUSE
 - REIO CLAUSE
- WITHDRAWAL
 - SUNSET CLAUSE
- INTER-SE MODIFICATION
 - EXCLUSION OF SUNSET CLAUSE POSSIBLE?