



Workshop:

Economic Challenges for Energy

Madrid, 16 de febrero de 2018 / February 16, 2018

ABSTRACT

Climate policy from Paris to Trump and beyond

Thomas Sterner

University of Gothenburg

There is an increasing over-utilization of public environmental resources- This applies not only to climate but a series of other environmental problems and the planet will face existential crises if we let economic activities increase exponentially. Focusing on the climate crisis, the most obvious economic instrument would involve setting a price on carbon – but this has proven almost hopelessly difficult. The best the world has produced so far is the Paris agreement which is little more than an expression of good will. Since then the USA has decided to withdraw so now we do not even have the good will! The only glimmer of hope is the rapid decline in prices of renewable energy. Combined with green finance and a strong commitment by countries and communities we have at least something to pin our hopes on. Still we need to realize that the forces against climate action are very strong.

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