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Just transition: the socio-economic challenge of phasing-down conventional generation

Towards clean, secure and affordable energy systems in Southeast
Europe

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Introduction to E3G



- E3G is a non-profit organisation, established in 2004, and comprised of independent experts on climate diplomacy, energy policy, finance and risk
- We work to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy
- E3G has offices in London, Brussels, Berlin and Washington DC
 - But has worked extensively in Asia, Latin America and Africa

Why to chose JT in WB?



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- Decarbonisation needs to happen anyway
- Better to be prepared
- Having a vision of reindustrialisation of the region is giving a higher chance of benefitting and for more people benefitting from the process
- Provides a venue of the EU accession and further exchange with EU institutions, eg. Coal Regions in Transition Platform

Definition and origin of just transition (JT)



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- "Public policies aim to maximise benefits and minimise risks for workers and local communities in the transformation." ILO
 - The term and the inclusive process was developed by North American trade unions.

Nature of the process:

- Happens on subnational level
- Needs communication between players
- That requires TRUST

... this is usually a problem in CEE and WB

Energy is power – CEE and WB tradition



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- Incumbent energy industry: High carbon & Centralised
- Strong ties with the political establishment
- Renewables are less attractive and rewarding from political perspective
- State capture
- Revolving doors
- Kleptocracy
- Corruption...

EU and IFIs have a major role in diverting the money flow towards low carbon development including replacing high carbon employment with low carbon employment

Democratising energy



- EU funding and technical assistance aligned with the Paris goals
- JT would serve as an additional pillar of cooperation – paving a secure way to accession
- Coal Regions in Transition Platform - institutionalising the relationship

Related recent reports from E3G



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High carbon lock-in vs. Low carbon opportunity in the western balkans



https://www.e3g.org/docs/WB_Report_FINAL_with_Annex.pdf



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Funding the just transition to a net zero economy in Europe



https://www.e3g.org/docs/E3G_Report_Just_Transition_and_EU_Budget.pdf



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION...

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