

Paradoxes & dilemmas of EU's response to the IRA

CEE Sustainable Finance Summit



"Striving to get rid of current fossil fuel import dependencies, we create or deepen our dependencies of a different sort."



"In the EU, we'd like to preserve global free trade under WTO but then again, nobody likes to be the last one to observe the rules."



"We wish to have good transatlantic relations but at the same time, can hardly tolerate US state protectionism that impacts EU's strategic interests."



"It seems sensible to try and put EU companies on par with their counterparts in China or the US but relaxing state aid rules can undermine the single market."



"Tax policy is a competence of EU Member States and there is no will to change that, even though tax breaks are the most effective tool to support industries."



"Many say that the EU needs new common financial instruments (sovereignty funds) to counter the US but we struggle to spend even the money already made available."



"Striving for decarbonisation entails a growing demand for many natural resources – potentially deepening other environmental pressures and problems."



"EU wants to support bringing mining and industrial production home but this will not do – and how should we approach our partnership with the Global South?"



"Efforts for increased resource and industrial independence of the EU, leading to short-term emissions savings but putting international cooperation at risk."



"We may not like the NZIA defining strategic industrial sectors but at the same time, are not clear about what should be the future backbone of our economies."



"Impact analyses is what we lack in all new EU legislation but we also cannot really afford any further delays."



"Meanwhile, the elephant has not left the room – relying on our extraction-heavy economic model, which is clearly unsustainable in the long-run."



Any ways forward?





Thank you for your attention.

Tomáš Jungwirth Březovský tomas.jungwirth@amo.cz