



The problem of methane debate's politization

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Introduction

- Global Methane Pledge spurred a lot of actions on methane:
 - 91% of NDCs cover methane
 - Creation of the International Methane Emissions Observatory (IMEO)
 - Creation of the Global Methane Hub + methane finance sprint
 - Development of methane action plans
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration: methane levels have continued to rise at unprecedented rates throughout 2022 and are now more than 2.5 times their pre-industrial levels
- Only about 13% of methane emissions are currently covered by public policies (*Source: One Earth (2023). A global review of methane policies reveals that only 13% of emissions are covered with unclear effectiveness*)
- Three key areas to overcome the methane debate's politization and reach our objectives:

I. Equity and finance

II. Communication

III. Leadership

Equity and Finance

- BRICS: 38% of CH₄ emission, 41% of world population, 24% of world GDP. Per capita: 6.433 USD, 43 kg CH₄
- EU, USA, Canada, Japan, Korea Australia, NZ: 20% of CH₄ emissions, 14% of world population, 59% of world GDP. Per capita: 45, 104 USD, 65 kg CH₄ (Source: IIASA)
- EU: imports over 90% of the gas, 98% of the oil, and 70% of the coal it consumes (Source: European Commission, Impact Assessment of the EU Methane Regulation) + half of all globally traded gas
- Imports of oil, gas and coal from leading exporters = 202 Mt CO₂e
- GMP: global goal of reducing methane emissions by 30%, however doesn't include financial and technical assistance

Country	Total gas production (bcm)	Gas export to the EU (bcm)	Share of export to EU (%)	Methane emissions from gas production (kt)	Methane emissions associated with EU import (kt)
Russia	638.5	155.19	24	8,589.93	2061.58
Norway	111.5	74.56	67	39.728	26.62
Algeria	81.5	29	35	934.12	326.94
United States	914.6	15.68	1.70	9,923.26	168.69
United Kingdom	39.5	15.15	38	151.39	57.53
Total emissions associated with EU gas imports in 2020:					2,641.36

Table 4: Methane emissions associated with EU oil imports from major exporters (2020)
Sources: total oil production,^a oil export to the EU,^b methane emissions from oil production.^c

Country	Total oil production (in Mt)	Oil export to the EU (bcm)	Share of production going to EU (%)	Methane emissions from oil production (kt)	Methane emissions associated with EU import (kt)
Russia	513	170.56	33.25	7,538.90	2506.68
United States	686	52.56	7.66	5,341.78	409.18
Norway	93	47.81	51.41	15.6	8
Saudi Arabia	518	44.29	8.55	2,316.75	198.08
United Kingdom	48	40.26	83.88	126.19	105.85
Kazakhstan	87	37.55	43.16	1,279.82	552.37
Nigeria	89	34.6	38.88	1,487.71	578.42
Iraq	202	29.11	14.41	2,713.41	391.22
Total emissions associated with EU oil imports in 2020:					4,749.80

Table 5: Methane emissions associated with EU coal imports from major exporters (2020)
Sources: total coal production,^a coal exports to the EU,^b methane emissions from coal production.^c

Country	Total coal production (in Mt)	Coal export to the EU (in Mt)	Share of production going to EU (%)	Methane emissions from coal production (kt)	Methane emissions associated with EU import (kt)
Russia	327.7	43.05	13.14	3,972.19	521.94
United States	441	13.37	3.03	2,314.40	70.13
Australia	425.9	11.92	2.80	1,754.49	49.12
Colombia	49.3	4.73	9.59	161.48	15.48
South Africa	252.2	1.09	0.43	1,225.35	5.3
Total emissions associated with EU coal imports in 2020:					661.97

Equity and finance

- Increase financial support: methane finance should be multiplied by ten annually (*Source: The Climate Policy Initiative and Global Methane Hub (2022) The Landscape of Methane abatement finance.*)
- Stable and predictable funding towards:
 - Institutional strengthening
 - Capacity building and training
- ➡ **Creation of a fund financed by donor countries** (example of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol)
- Access to the fund would come with obligations on methane monitoring and mitigation
- Regulations on methane emissions from importing countries should cover the full supply chain, imports included

Example of the EU Methane Regulation:

- **Lack of data**

- EU Commission argues that the “environmental and social benefits are uncertain”
- When the IEA estimates that EU oil and gas imports contributed about 9,000 kt of methane emissions in 2020 vs 1,033 kt in the EU in 2019 (Source: *Impact Assessment Report Accompanying the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Methane Emissions Reduction in the Energy Sector*)

- **Price increase**

- EU Commission: measures on imports “could entail security of supply risks for the EU with potential direct economic impacts”
- In the Impact Assessment: the European Commission found that 43% of projected methane emissions can be abated at zero cost by 2030 and 63% can be abated at less than low cost
- The IEA has found that if exporters to the EU were to put in place measures to limit flaring, they could increase gas exports by more than 45 bcm using existing infrastructure.
- 2026: the EU will be in the position to choose where to import from

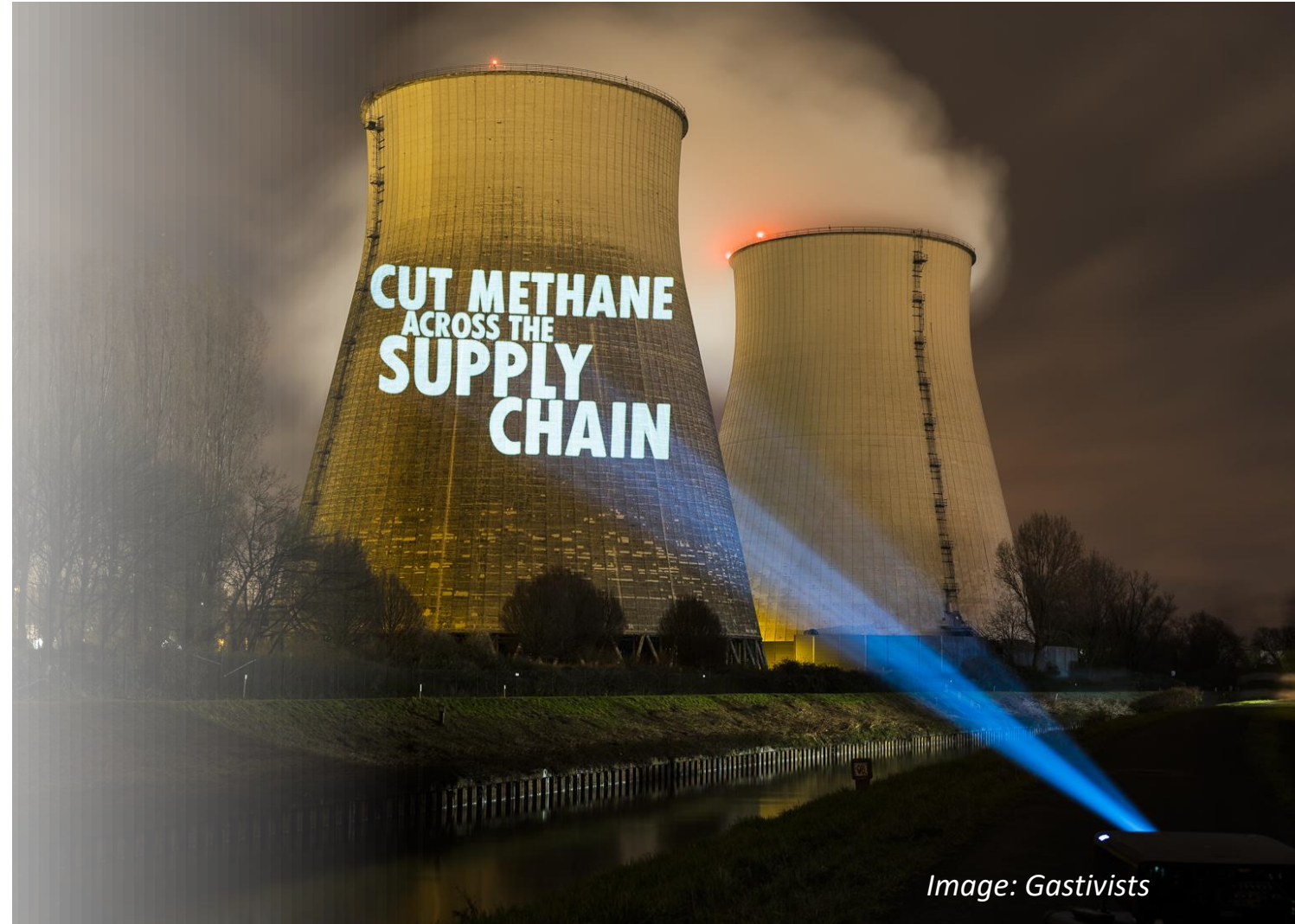
Communication

- Implementation:

- EU Commission: “the enforcement and verification of emission reductions outside the EU would be challenging”
- Multiple example of measures on imports accompanied by enforcement and verification frameworks
- Penalties for non-compliance

- Increase communication to get the message across:

- Increase communication on co-benefits and cost-effectiveness
- Integrate health community, scientists and NGO
- Increase transparency and better reporting



Leadership

- Methane monitoring and mitigation is led by the US (+the EU)
 - Global Methane Pledge
 - Methane Finance Sprint
 - Joint declaration from Energy Importers and Exporters
- Comes with a risk: what about next elections?
- **Need to ensure the continuity of the Global Methane Pledge. How?**
 - Create a secretariat
 - Voice State Champions outside the US
 - Include other non-state actors
 - Increase funding
 - Clarify requirements for signatories



Pillar 1 Monitoring	Pillar 2 Mitigation	Pillar 3 Financial and technical assistance
Monitoring and reporting on methane emissions and implementation	National methane action plans	Technical support to policymakers and financial support to developing countries
<p>Harmonisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • definitions and methodologies • formats and templates • Standards <p>Measurement and verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • energy • agriculture • waste <p>International Methane Emissions Observatory (IMEO)</p> <p>National reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inventories and emissions • national methane action plans 	<p>Energy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LDAR • limits on venting and flaring • technology standards • inactive wells and coal mine • coal ventilation shafts • drainage and degasification stations <p>Agriculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • animal husbandry • animal feed and health improvements • manure management • herd-size reductions • meat and dairy regulations • promotion of plant-based foods • technical measures <p>Waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • biologically active cover • landfill gas capture • diversion • organic waste management • waste prevention • source separation • high-impact treatments (composting, anaerobic digestion) • incineration bans 	<p>Financial assistance</p> <p>Enabling activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • institutional strengthening • capacity-building and training • monitoring and reporting • policy development and implementation • pilot and demonstration projects <p>Other agreed costs</p> <p>Implementing and bilateral agencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • technical assistance <p>Technical assessment bodies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • periodic comprehensive assessments • ad hoc reports • Best practices and knowledge exchanges <p>Coordination</p>



Thank you

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