



Climate Change

The Clingendael Radar alerts you on new threats for European security



New and novel threats to watch

- **Misuse of geoengineering** (to alter climate) could increase climate risks
 - Risks: disturbing natural events, wrongful use by states as alternative to reducing CO₂ emissions [Earther](#), [The Guardian](#)
 - Lack of transparency, understanding of the science and governance to regulate practices [Carnegie](#)
- **Absence of technologies** able to remove CO₂ from the air **threaten Paris Agreement**
 - Reduction of *new* CO₂ emissions insufficient to achieve goals: CO₂ *already* in the air also needs to be removed [The Economist](#)
 - Carbon capture and storage could capture up to 90% emissions – but uncertain impact and risks [C2ES](#)
- **Tropical forests from carbon saviour to carbon source**
 - Forests so degraded they now emit carbon, releasing more carbon emissions than all annual US traffic [Science](#), [The Guardian](#)
- **Multiple EU countries retaining coal energy**, despite highly negative effects on climate
 - 24% of EU's electricity comes from coal (mainly Germany, Poland, UK): responsible for 75% CO₂ emissions in sector [Bruegel](#)
 - Increasing pressure growing with initiatives such as Bloomberg's \$50 million fund for 'war on coal' [Euractiv](#)




Clingendael

Netherlands Institute of International Relations

Long term trend: an increase in climate risks

Multi-factor assessment for the next 5 years (2017-2021)

Trend table		 Climate change	Trend
Arctic sea ice	Base rate	Tensions in the Arctic region	▲
	Factors	Melting of Arctic ice	▲
		Functioning of Arctic Council	▬
Summer and winter temperatures	Base rate	Extreme summer heat	▲
		Warmer winters	▲
	Factors	Effectiveness of EU policy	?
Rising sea levels	Base rate	Rising sea levels	▲
		Flood risk	▲
	Factors	Effectiveness of EU policy	▲
		Effectiveness of national policy	▲

■ Threat to climate decreasing
▲ Factor trending up

■ Threat to climate increasing
▼ Factor trending down