



# 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 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions [Earther](#), [The Guardian](#)
  - Lack of transparency, understanding of the science and governance to regulate practices [Carnegie](#)
- **Absence of technologies** able to remove CO<sub>2</sub> from the air **threaten Paris Agreement**
  - Reduction of *new* CO<sub>2</sub> emissions insufficient to achieve goals: CO<sub>2</sub> *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% CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in sector [Bruegel](#)
  - Increasing pressure growing with initiatives such as Bloomberg's \$50 million fund for 'war on coal' [Euractiv](#)




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# Long term trend: an increase in climate risks

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

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

■ Threat to climate decreasing

■ Threat to climate increasing

▲ Factor trending up

▼ Factor trending down