

Strengthening EU Environmental Law: Legal Perspectives on Greening Europe

This lecture will be delivered by

Prof. Dr. Thomas Schomerus

EU Energy Efficiency Law – opportunities and barriers

13 June 2024 | 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM CET

Abstract

Energy efficiency law is primarily characterised by EU requirements. The overarching Energy Efficiency Directive of 2012 in the new version of 2023 sets general targets and obligations. In addition, there are directives on standards and the energy-efficient refurbishment of existing and new buildings, the topics of heating and cooling with the increased use of heat pumps, cogeneration and, last but not least, the area of sustainable products with the new upcoming Ecodesign Regulation. Efficiency targets must also be met in the mobility sector. All of this must be financed somehow. At national level, the German example of the Building Energy Act, with its obligation to install energy-efficient and renewable energy-based heating systems, has caused a massive political uproar. Many owners are unsettled by these numerous and complex European and national obligations. However, there is no alternative to improving energy efficiency. The lecture will address all of these topics, provide an overview in the context of the sustainability goals of efficiency, consistency and sufficiency, give further insight to selected topics, and will discuss ideas for new instruments.

Bio

Prof. Dr. Thomas Schomerus has a chair for energy and environmental law at Leuphana University Lüneburg and was a judge at the Higher Administrative Court of Lüneburg till 2021 when he was elected member of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee (ACCC). He has worked on various research projects on the topics of resource protection, mining, renewable energy and energy efficiency and information law and has published over 300 books and articles. Website: <https://www.leuphana.de/en/institutes/insugo/team/thomas-schomerus.html>



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