Directorate A - Energy policy A.3 - International relations & Enlargement

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DETAILED MISSION REPORT

VISIT OF DIRECTOR GENERAL DITTE JULL JØRGENSEN TO THE UNITED STATES 19-21 FEBRUARY 2020

In advance of the planned visit of Commissioner Simson to the US for CERA Week in Houston on 11 March, Ms Juul Jørgensen made a first visit to the US as the Director General of Energy. She met with representatives from the Departments of Energy and State, the National Economic Council, the new US International Development Finance Corporation and made speeches at events organised by the European Union Delegation to the United States in partnership with the Atlantic Council and the World Resources Institute.

The key objective of the very successful mission was to reassure US interlocutors that the Commission's new Green Deal initiative would be a positive for the already very good EU-US energy relations. The European Green Deal presents new opportunities for advancing the EU-US partnership.

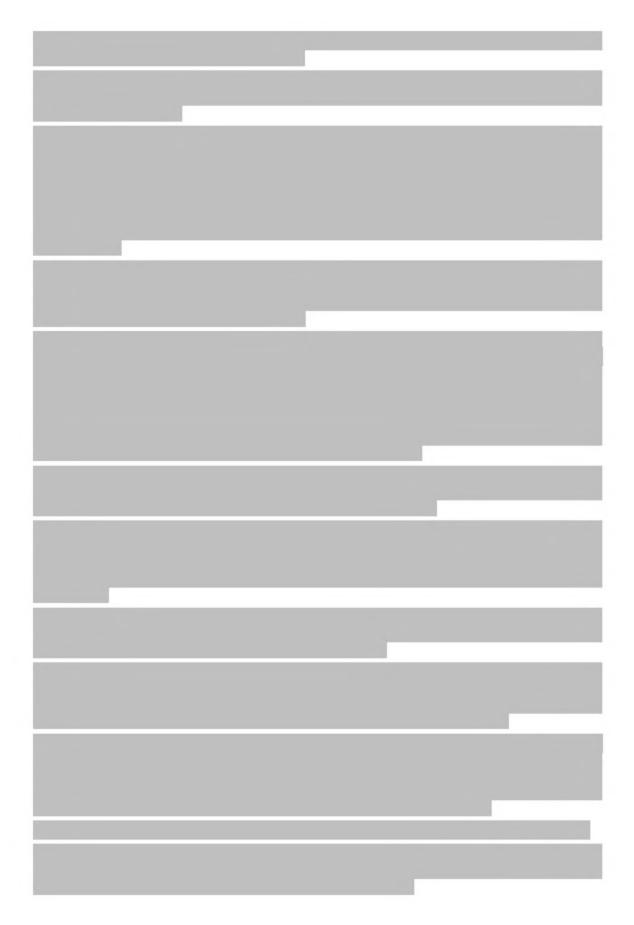
1) BILATERAL MEETINGS.















2) PUBLIC EVENTS.

a) Atlantic Council.

The EU Delegation and the Atlantic Council arranged a policy event featuring DG Juul Jorgensen. The DG was invited for a keynote address in a public session entitled "The European Green Deal, energy security, and the future transatlantic agenda" and then engage in a "fireside chat" with Ambassador Morningstar., founder of the Global Energy Center at the Atlantic Council. The event was followed up by a media coverage in the Politico and the Hill, one of the most read publications in Washington DC.

Questions from the audience covered:

- How does the Commission view fossil fuel companies as Bernie Saunders had claimed that they
 were "the enemy"?
- Why is the EIB moving away from gas?
- Will the EIB support clean gas projects?
- What is the attitude of the Commission to the debate on nuclear?
- Are SMR's an area for EU-US cooperation?
- Which is the cost of Germany phasing out nuclear and will this decision be revised?
- What areas of cooperation and what obstacles are there in the context of the EU's Green Deal?
- What is Commission thinking on the carbon border tax, how long would it take to implement and should companies already be contacting the Commission to express their views?
- How to build a coalition to implement the Green Deal?
- What is Poland's position on the Green Dal?
- Any information on the Climate Law and on Green Bonds?
- Importance of trade as a cornerstone of the clean energy transition.
- Role of Russian gas in the energy mix and gas relations with Russia (Nordstream, OPAL, Third Party Access).
- The Commission's policy on the EastMed pipeline.
- If the US pulls out of the Paris Agreement, can the EU still cooperate with the US?
- Are there further cooperation possibilities between the EU and State and local level in the US?
- What are the most promising areas for bilateral cooperation for decarbonisation?
- What is the Commission's view of the Three Seas initiative?

- What is the Commission's view of China and EU Member States engagement in the Belt and Roads initiative?
- What about stranded assets in the gas sector?
- On gas venting and flaring, the need for the Commission to engage with State and local authorities who often have the competencies in the US.



