

3.1 Climate Change – Challenges for Trade, Innovation and Governance

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1. Globalization is basically based on a non-sustainable and growing input of fossil energy. So has been the case for about 200 years with a rapid increase after WW2 – i.e. the period we normally identify as the most dynamic part of globalization and increase of world trade.
2. Climate change mitigation – assuming that we take the 2°C target seriously – will necessitate a >4% annual reduction of greenhouse gas emissions for decades ahead. During recent decades, international transport has increased emissions 2-3 % annually.
3. We have no idea (and no research so far) on how this may impact global division of labor, global production networks, global trade, and volume of material production.
4. Will there be a new division of labor-related "comparative footprint advantages" leading to optimal (regional) trading solutions which are more sustainable?
5. Basically nothing about these dilemmas are identified or mentioned in the recent WTO agreements, nor in the recent TPP or ITIP. Their environmental chapters deal with totally different topics.