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International climate crisis negotiation

Course 6

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Chair Green Deal and European Negotiations



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GREEN DEAL AND EUROPEAN NEGOTIATIONS GRE DEN

JEAN MONNET CHAIR

Professor Dr. Melania-Gabriela Ciot

PROJECT ID: 101126710-GREDEN-ERASMUS-JMO-2023-HEI-TCH-RSCH

1 October 2023 - 30 September 2026

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Jean Monnet Chair - Green Deal and European Negotiations

18 aprecieri • 33 urmăritori

Jean Monnet Chair Project
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Mesaj Îți place ...

Postări Despre Fotografii Menționări

Detalii

i **Pagină** · Site web educațional

★ **Neevaluat(ă)** (0 recenzii)

... Vezi secțiunea Despre a lui Jean



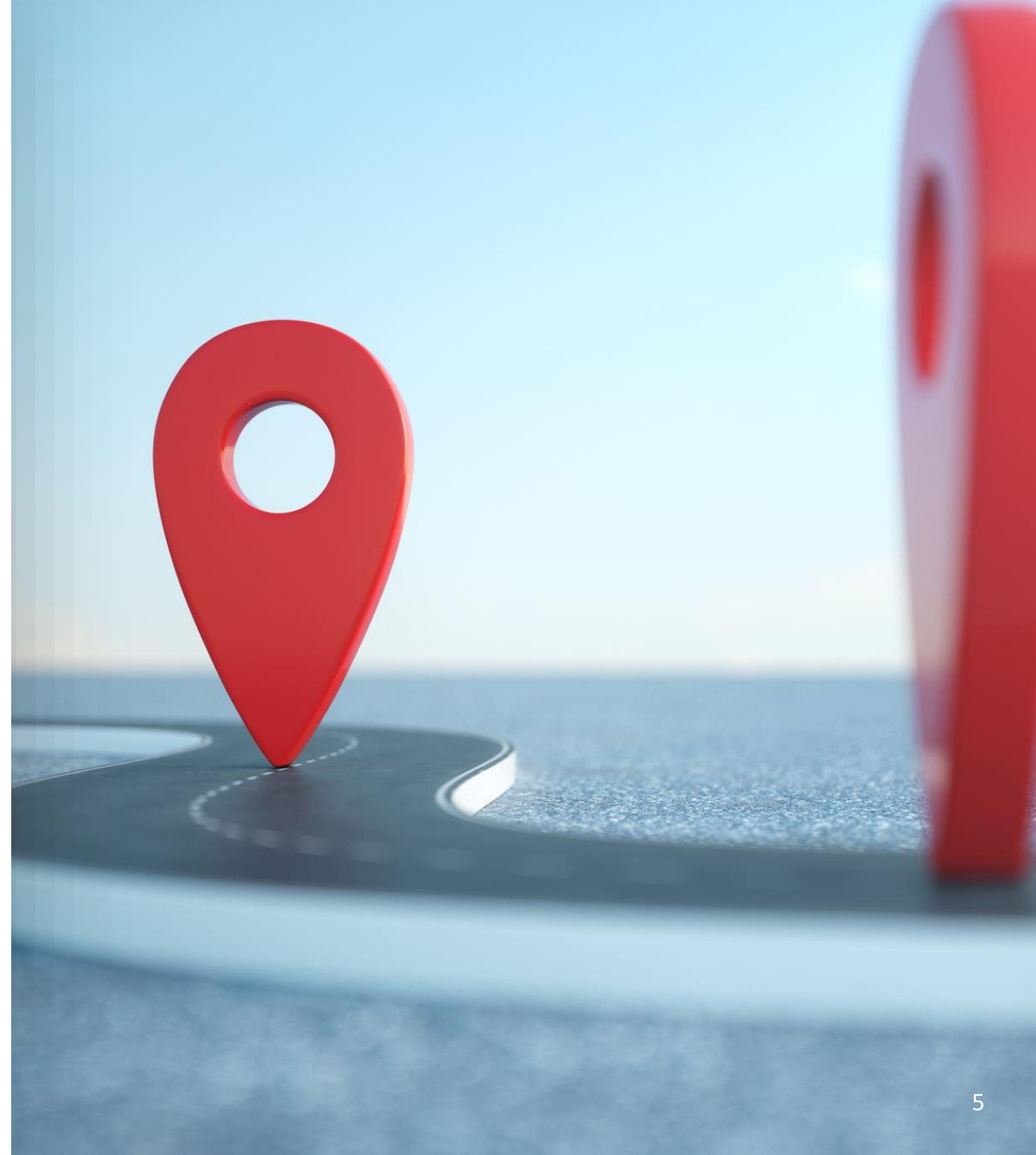
Content:

- 1. Definition of Climate Crisis
- 2. Historical Context of International Climate Negotiations
- 3. Current State of Global Cooperation
- 4. Challenges and Urgency



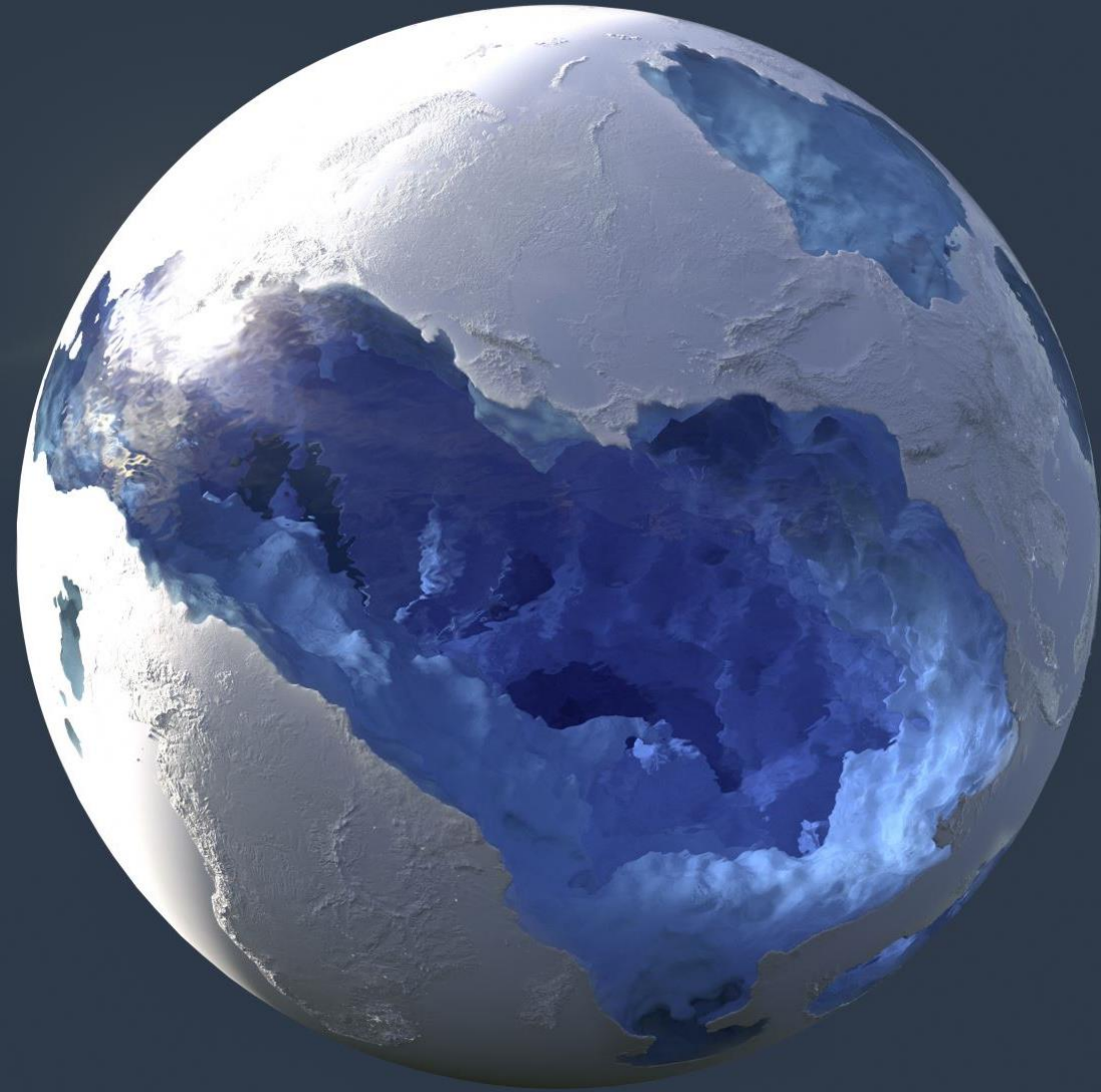
Interactive Element: Icebreaker Activity

- Which is your perspective on the climate crisis ?
- Which are the key elements for solving these crises?
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PLXqHPgA5_E&ab_channel=CurrentEventCorners
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K7IzhYTg94s&ab_channel=TheEconomist
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X9vigIANE_8&ab_channel=HealthcareTriage



1. Definition of Climate Crisis

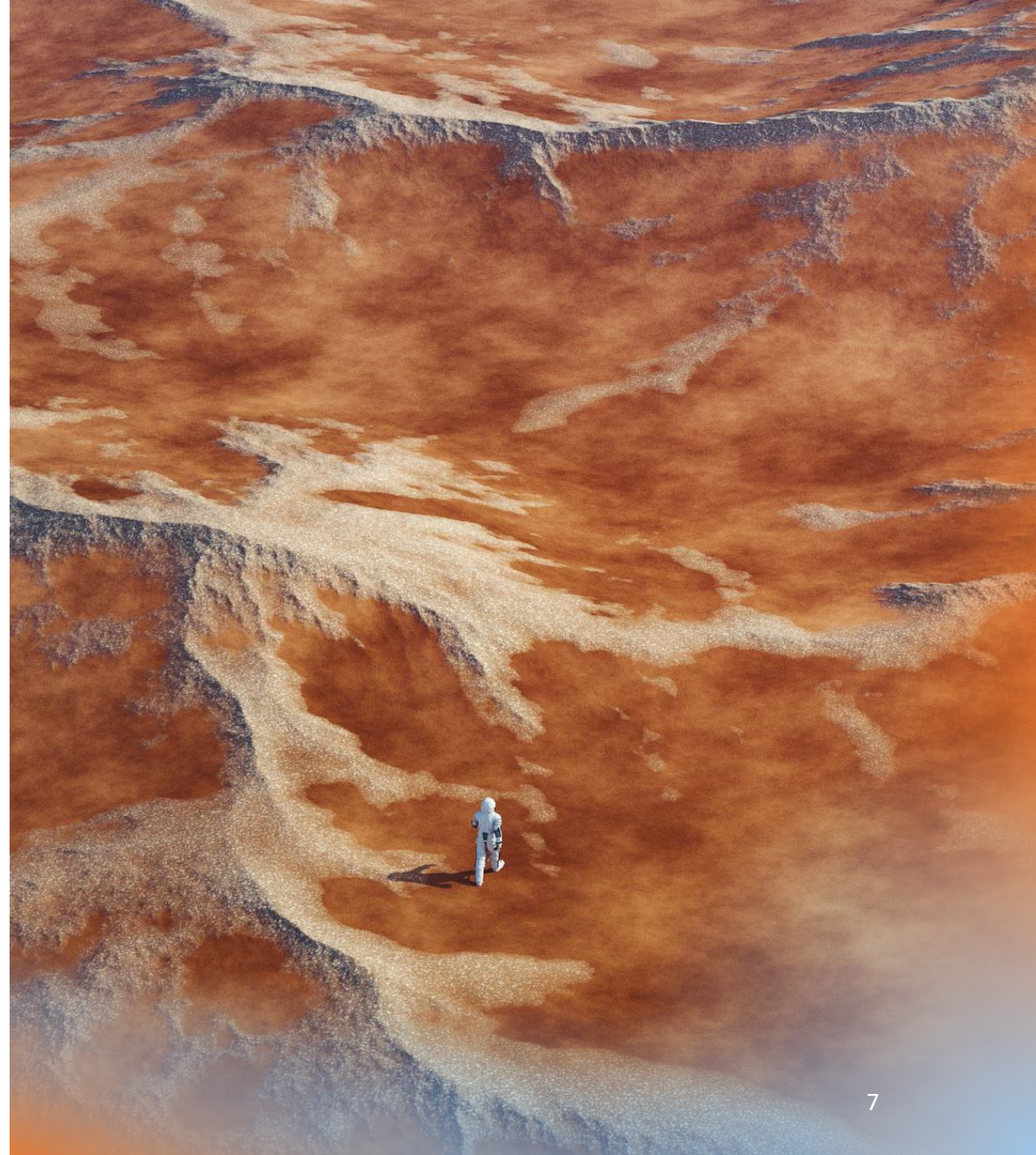
- The term "climate crisis" refers to a state of urgent and severe changes in the Earth's climate, primarily driven by human activities that release large amounts of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.
- This crisis is characterized by a range of interconnected and escalating environmental problems, including global warming, extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and disruptions to ecosystems.
- The definition encompasses both the scientific understanding of climate change and the broader recognition of its far-reaching impacts on the planet, societies, and future generations.





Key Components of the Definition:

- 1. **Global Warming:**
- Explanation: The Earth's average surface temperature is increasing due to the enhanced greenhouse effect. Human activities, such as the burning of fossil fuels and deforestation, release greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide (CO₂) into the atmosphere, trapping heat and leading to a warming climate.
- 2. **Greenhouse Gas Emissions:**
- Explanation: Activities such as burning fossil fuels for energy, industrial processes, and deforestation contribute to the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. These gases, including CO₂, methane (CH₄), and nitrous oxide (N₂O), trap heat, leading to the warming of the planet.



- **3. *Extreme Weather Events:***
- Explanation: The climate crisis is characterized by an increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, including hurricanes, heatwaves, floods, droughts, and wildfires. These events have widespread and often devastating impacts on ecosystems, communities, and infrastructure.
- **4. *Rising Sea Levels:***
- Explanation: As global temperatures rise, glaciers and polar ice caps melt, contributing to the rise in sea levels. This poses a threat to coastal communities and low-lying areas, leading to saltwater intrusion, flooding, and the loss of land.



- **5. *Ecosystem Disruptions:***
- Explanation: Climate change disrupts ecosystems and biodiversity, affecting the distribution and behavior of plant and animal species. Changes in temperature and precipitation patterns can lead to shifts in habitats, migration patterns, and the timing of natural events.
- **6. *Impact on Societies:***
- Explanation: The climate crisis has profound social and economic consequences, affecting food security, water resources, health, and livelihoods. Vulnerable communities are disproportionately impacted, leading to increased social inequality.



- **7. *Global Consequences:***
- Explanation: The climate crisis is a global challenge with interconnected consequences. Changes in one region can have cascading effects on others, emphasizing the need for international cooperation to address the shared impacts of climate change.
- **8. *Urgency for Action:***
- Explanation: The term "crisis" underscores the urgency of addressing climate change. Immediate and ambitious actions are required to mitigate the impacts of the crisis, adapt to changes, and transition to a sustainable and resilient future.

To be remembered!

- The definition of the climate crisis reflects the complex and multifaceted nature of the challenges posed by climate change.
- It serves as a call to action for individuals, communities, governments, and the international community to work collaboratively to mitigate the impacts of climate change and build a sustainable and resilient future.





2. Historical Context of International Climate Negotiations

- The historical context of international climate negotiations provides insights into the evolution of global efforts to address climate change.
- The journey from the early recognition of environmental concerns to the establishment of formal mechanisms for international cooperation is crucial in understanding the complexities of climate diplomacy.

Key Milestones:

- **1. 1970s - Emergence of Environmental Concerns:**
- Context: The 1970s witnessed growing awareness of environmental issues, including air and water pollution. Early environmental movements highlighted the need for collective action to address ecological challenges.
- **2. 1988 - Establishment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC):**
- Context: The IPCC was created by the United Nations (UN) to assess scientific information related to climate change. Its establishment marked a significant step in consolidating scientific knowledge and informing policy discussions.
- **3. 1992 - United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC):**
- Context: The UNFCCC was adopted at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. It laid the foundation for international cooperation on climate change, emphasizing the importance of stabilizing greenhouse gas concentrations.





- **4. 1997 - Kyoto Protocol:**

- Context: The Kyoto Protocol, an extension of the UNFCCC, established legally binding emission reduction targets for developed countries. It marked the first international agreement with specific commitments to mitigate climate change.

- **5. 2000s - Evolution of Negotiations:**

- Context: The 2000s saw ongoing negotiations and discussions on enhancing the effectiveness of climate agreements. The Bali Road Map (2007) set the stage for future negotiations, including the Copenhagen Accord in 2009.

- **6. 2015 - Paris Agreement:**

- Context: The Paris Agreement, adopted during COP21, represented a historic shift. It aimed to limit global temperature increases to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, with efforts to limit the increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Key Themes in the Historical Context:

- **1. Recognition of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR):**
- Explanation: Negotiations have consistently emphasized the principle of CBDR, acknowledging historical contributions to emissions and recognizing the differing capacities of developed and developing countries to address climate change.
- **2. Science as a Driver of Action:**
- Explanation: The involvement of scientific institutions, especially the IPCC, has been integral in shaping the discourse. Scientific assessments have provided the basis for understanding the urgency of climate action.

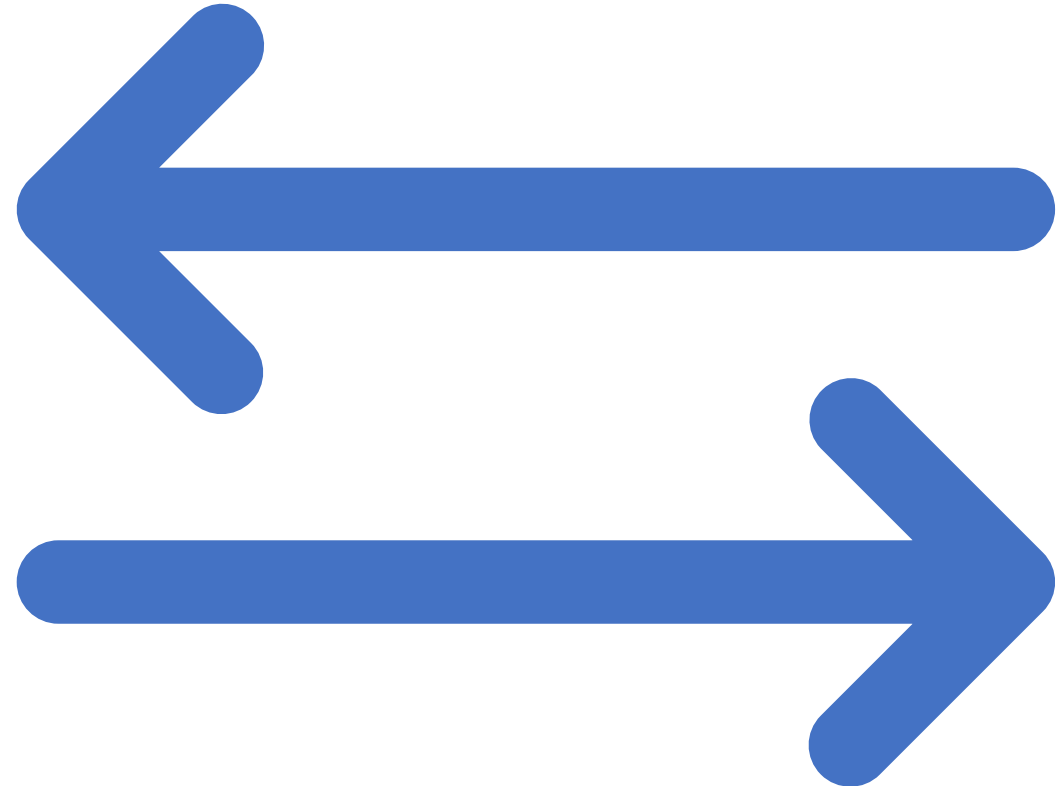


- **3. Shift from Developed vs. Developing to Global Cooperation:**

- Explanation: The evolution of negotiations reflects a shift from a dichotomy between developed and developing nations to a recognition of the need for global cooperation. The Paris Agreement emphasizes the collective responsibility of all countries.

- **4. Increasing Ambition Over Time:**

- Explanation: The trajectory of negotiations reveals a trend towards increasing ambition. While earlier agreements set the groundwork, subsequent agreements have aimed for more ambitious targets and broader participation.



- **5. Inclusion of Adaptation and Loss and Damage:**
- Explanation: The recognition of adaptation needs and the establishment of mechanisms to address loss and damage reflect the evolving understanding of the diverse impacts of climate change on vulnerable communities.
- **6. Private Sector and Non-State Actor Engagement:**
- Explanation: Recent negotiations have seen increased engagement from the private sector and non-state actors. Partnerships with businesses, cities, and civil society organizations are recognized as crucial for achieving climate goals.



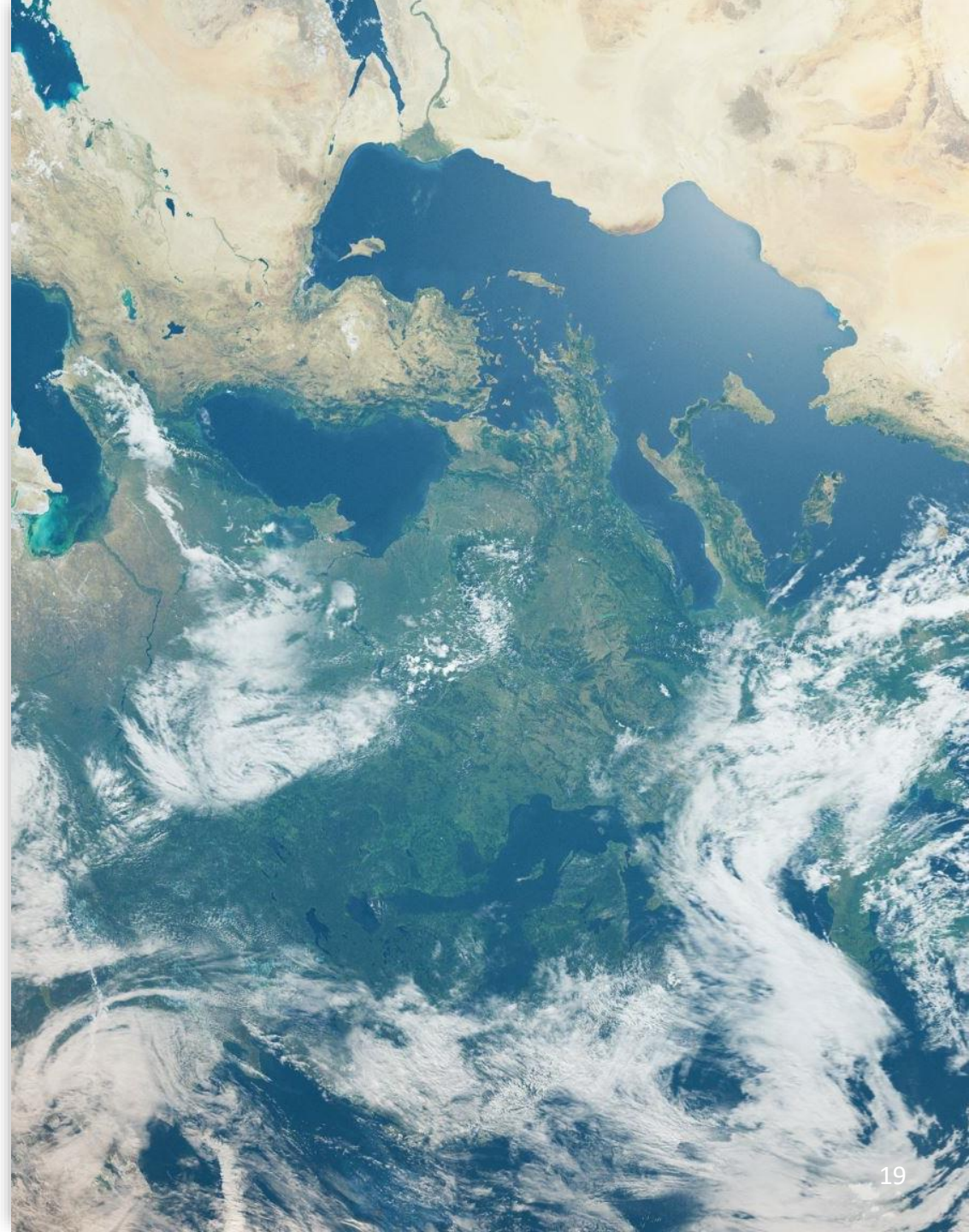
To be remembered!

- Understanding the historical context is essential for appreciating the complexities, achievements, and challenges embedded in international climate negotiations.
- The journey from early environmental awareness to the Paris Agreement highlights the ongoing commitment to finding global solutions for a sustainable and resilient future.



3. Current State of Global Cooperation

- The current state of global cooperation in addressing climate change reflects a dynamic landscape marked by both progress and challenges.
- As nations navigate the complexities of international relations, environmental concerns, and economic priorities, the pursuit of effective climate action remains a shared goal.



Key aspects:

- **1. Paris Agreement Implementation:**
- Overview: The Paris Agreement, adopted in 2015, serves as the cornerstone of current global climate efforts. Countries committed to nationally determined contributions (NDCs) outlining their specific climate action plans.
- Status: The implementation of NDCs varies across nations, with some making progress towards their goals, while others face challenges in achieving targets.



2. National Climate Policies:

- Overview: Many countries have developed and implemented comprehensive national climate policies to align with global climate objectives. These policies encompass a range of measures, including renewable energy promotion, emission reduction strategies, and adaptation initiatives.
- Status: The effectiveness of national policies varies, influenced by factors such as political will, institutional capacity, and economic considerations.



3. Global Climate Finance:

- Overview: Financial support to assist developing countries in mitigating and adapting to climate change is a crucial component of global cooperation. Climate finance involves contributions from developed nations to support projects and initiatives in developing countries.
- Status: Efforts are ongoing to fulfill financial commitments made under the Paris Agreement. Challenges include mobilizing sufficient funds, ensuring transparency, and addressing the needs of the most vulnerable nations.



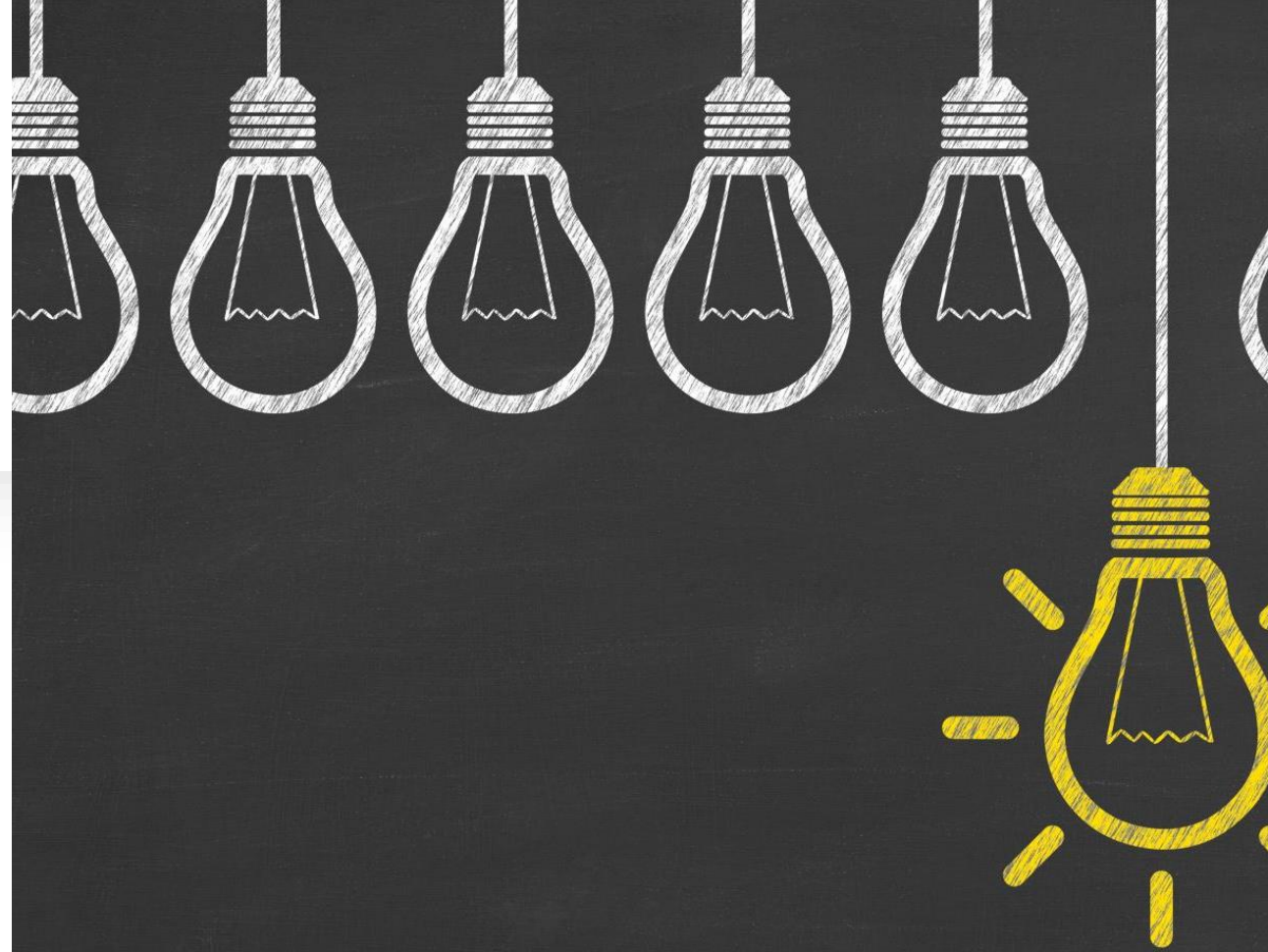
4. Global Emission Trends:

- Overview: Tracking global emission trends provides insights into the effectiveness of climate actions. The goal is to achieve a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions to limit global temperature increases.
- Status: While some countries have made notable progress in reducing emissions, global trends indicate the need for more ambitious efforts to meet long-term climate goals.



5. Technology Transfer and Innovation:

- Overview: Advancements in technology play a crucial role in climate mitigation and adaptation. Global cooperation involves the transfer of environmentally friendly technologies and innovations to support sustainable development.
- Status: Efforts are underway to enhance technology transfer, with a focus on making clean technologies accessible to developing nations.



6. Regional and Bilateral Agreements:

- Overview: Beyond multilateral agreements, regional and bilateral collaborations contribute to global climate efforts. Subnational entities, cities, and businesses are engaging in cooperative initiatives to address climate challenges.
- Status: Regional agreements and collaborative efforts demonstrate a decentralized approach to climate action, allowing for tailored solutions based on local contexts.





7. Climate Diplomacy and Multilateralism:

- **Overview:** Climate diplomacy involves diplomatic efforts to build consensus, negotiate agreements, and foster cooperation on climate issues. Multilateral platforms, including the annual Conference of the Parties (COP) meetings, play a central role in facilitating dialogue.
- **Status:** The diplomatic landscape involves ongoing negotiations, with periodic COP meetings providing opportunities for countries to review progress, address challenges, and strengthen commitments.



8. Civil Society and Non-State Actor Engagement:

- Overview: Civil society organizations, businesses, and non-state actors play a critical role in climate advocacy and action. Their engagement contributes to bottom-up pressure, innovation, and collaborative solutions.
- Status: Increasing recognition of the importance of diverse stakeholders in climate action is evident, with growing partnerships between governments, businesses, and civil society.

9. Challenges and Unresolved Issues:

- Overview: Despite progress, challenges persist in achieving comprehensive global cooperation. Contentious issues include the equitable distribution of burdens, financial commitments, and ensuring the inclusion of marginalized communities.
- Status: Ongoing negotiations aim to address unresolved issues and foster a more inclusive, equitable, and ambitious global climate agenda.



10. Youth and Public Mobilization:

- Overview: Youth-led movements and public mobilization have brought increased attention to climate issues. Activism and awareness campaigns aim to influence government policies and foster a sense of urgency.
- Status: Youth engagement has become a driving force in climate advocacy, pushing for bold actions and holding leaders accountable for their commitments.





To be remembered!

- Understanding the current state of global cooperation in addressing climate change involves recognizing both achievements and persistent challenges.
- The complexity of climate issues requires ongoing efforts to strengthen international collaboration, foster innovation, and ensure a collective response to the urgent challenges posed by the climate crisis.



4. Challenges and Urgency in Addressing Climate Change



- **1. *Complex Global Interconnectedness:***
 - Challenge: Climate change is a complex, interconnected issue with diverse causes and consequences. Addressing it requires coordinated efforts across nations, sectors, and communities. The interconnected nature of environmental, social, and economic systems poses challenges in finding holistic solutions.
- **2. *Differential Responsibilities:***
 - Challenge: The principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR) recognizes historical emissions from developed nations and emphasizes their responsibility in addressing climate change. However, reaching consensus on equitable burden-sharing remains challenging, with divergent perspectives on contributions from developed and developing countries.
- **3. *Economic Considerations:***
 - Challenge: Balancing climate action with economic development goals poses a challenge, especially for developing nations. The transition to sustainable practices may require significant investments and can impact industries heavily dependent on fossil fuels. Striking a balance between economic growth and emission reduction is a key challenge.



- **4. *Political Will and Leadership:***
- Challenge: The political will to prioritize and implement ambitious climate policies varies globally. In some instances, short-term political considerations may hinder the adoption of long-term, transformative measures. Strong leadership is crucial to overcoming political obstacles and driving climate action.
- **5. *Global Inequality and Social Justice:***
- Challenge: Climate change exacerbates existing inequalities, disproportionately affecting vulnerable communities. Achieving social justice in climate action involves addressing the needs of marginalized groups, ensuring their participation, and preventing the widening of socio-economic disparities.
- **6. *Lack of Urgency and Procrastination:***
- Challenge: Despite the evident urgency of climate action, procrastination and delays in policy implementation persist. Political cycles, economic considerations, and competing priorities may divert attention from the immediate need for aggressive mitigation and adaptation measures.

- **7. *Technological and Financial Barriers:***

- Challenge: Access to clean technologies and adequate financial resources is a significant barrier, particularly for developing nations. The high costs of green technologies, coupled with limited financial support, hinder the widespread adoption of sustainable practices and technologies.

- **8. *Unpredictable Climate Impacts:***

- Challenge: The unpredictable nature of climate impacts poses challenges for adaptation planning. Extreme weather events, sea-level rise, and shifts in ecosystems can have cascading effects that are difficult to anticipate and prepare for, especially in vulnerable regions.

- **9. *Resistance to Change:***

- Challenge: Resistance to change, both at individual and institutional levels, poses a barrier to adopting sustainable practices. Overcoming established norms, habits, and vested interests in fossil fuel industries requires concerted efforts to promote awareness and incentivize sustainable alternatives.



- **10. *Lack of International Coordination:***
 - Challenge: Achieving comprehensive international coordination on climate policies is challenging. Differences in national priorities, conflicting interests, and geopolitical tensions can impede effective collaboration and the development of a unified global strategy.
- **11. *Limited Public Awareness:***
 - Challenge: Despite growing awareness, there is still a gap in public understanding of the urgency and severity of climate change. Bridging this gap is essential for garnering public support, influencing policy decisions, and fostering a collective commitment to climate action.
- **12. *Short-Term Focus and Election Cycles:***
 - Challenge: Political cycles with short-term objectives may lead to a focus on immediate concerns over long-term, sustained climate action. Aligning political priorities with the urgency of climate change is essential for achieving meaningful progress.
- **13. *Feedback Loops and Tipping Points:***
 - Challenge: Climate change triggers feedback loops and tipping points, leading to irreversible impacts. The risk of crossing critical thresholds underscores the urgency to act swiftly to avoid catastrophic consequences.



To be remembered!

- Addressing these challenges requires a multi-faceted approach that encompasses international cooperation, policy innovation, public engagement, and transformative changes in various sectors.
- Urgency is paramount, as delays in taking decisive actions may lead to irreversible consequences for the planet and future generations.
- The recognition of these challenges underscores the need for sustained efforts and global collaboration to address the complex and urgent issue of climate change.

