**Focus Group: Green Claims Directive (GCD) trilogues**

***How does the GCD connects with (Voluntary) Carbon Markets?***

*This meeting is under Chatham House Rules*

**\*\*\*** Draft Agenda **\*\*\***

**Date**: January 21, 2025

**Time**: 10.00 – 11.30 am CET

**Location**: Online ONLY

On March 23, 2023, the Commission submitted to the European Parliament and the Council, a proposal for a directive on substantiation and communication of explicit environmental claims (i.e., “Green Claims Directive” or “GCD”). The GCD establishes minimum requirements for the substantiation and communication of explicit voluntary environmental claims in business-to-consumer commercial practices. Within these, climate-related claims based on carbon credits – normally issued in voluntary carbon markets (VCMs) – are explicitly included.

The European Parliament adopted its position, with further changes and several restrictions to climate-related claims, on March 12, 2024, in plenary. On June 17, 2024, the Council adopted its position (‘general approach’) – which will form the basis for negotiations between the co-legislators in the new legislative cycle. Trilogues, which were supposed to begin in Autum 2024, are expected to begin in 2025 Q1 – during the Polish Presidency.

This focus group meeting aims to look at the GCD proposal and allow a brainstorming session on: (i) how it connects with VCMs and the implications for these markets; (ii) how the discussion is important for voluntary corporate action.

**10:00 Welcome and introduction**

* Andrei MARCU, ERCST

**10:10 ERCST Presentation**

* Ana RUIZ, ERCST

ERCST will deliver a brief presentation on the research question to set the stage. Following this, participants will provide input on the following questions:

- Why is the Green Claims Directive relevant for voluntary corporate climate initiatives?

- How does the Green Claims Directive intersect with voluntary carbon markets, and what are the broader implications for these markets?

**10:30 In-puts from the participants**

**11:20 Concluding remarks**

* Andrei MARCU, ERCST

**11:30 End of meeting**