Future of Emissions Trading in the EU:

Carbon Dioxide Removals (CDRs)

Launch Event (Public)

**Draft Agenda**

*Speakers currently under confirmation*

**Date**: Thursday June 26, 2025

**Time**: 14:00 – 16:00 CEST

**Venue**: Hybrid

* Brussels based – in person - Rue Archimède 61, Brussels, Belgium.
* Outside Brussels – online.

This event marks the launch of the Carbon Dioxide Removals (CDRs) Report, part of the "Future of Emissions Trading in the EU" project. This initiative by ERCST aims to provide original analytical insights, identify challenges, and propose solutions for the evolution of the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) during the second phase of Phase IV (2025–2030) and beyond. Throughout the year, a series of reports will be released, each addressing different facets of the EU ETS's future.

In line with the EU ETS Directive, the European Commission is mandated to annually assess the system's functioning and future design. In June 2024, the Commission initiated a call for tenders to support the evaluation of the EU ETS and the Market Stability Reserve (MSR), as well as the 2026 review of both mechanisms. Building on this, in April 2025, the Commission launched a 12-week public consultation to gather stakeholder views on the evaluation and review of the EU ETS and MSR, aiming to ensure the system continues to contribute effectively to the EU's climate neutrality goals by 2050 .

Complementing the Commission's official review, independent assessments play a crucial role in evaluating the EU ETS's functionality and delivery. This event will present the fourth report of the "Future of Emissions Trading in the EU" initiative, focusing on Carbon Dioxide Removals. The authors will present their findings, followed by a discussion with participants

**14:00** **Welcome**

* Andrei Marcu, ERCST

**14:10** **Presentation by authors: *Carbon Dioxide Removals (CDRs) Report***

ERCST will present its Report on Carbon Dioxide Removals (CDRs). Following the presentation, each member of the panel will have 5-minute initial interventions. This will be followed by a moderate debate with the audience.

The discussion will focus on a number of questions:

• What role should carbon removals play in the EU ETS, and how should their use be balanced with direct emissions reductions?

• What design and governance choices are needed to integrate CDRs into the EU ETS in a credible, transparent, and efficient way?

• How can the EU address the cost and investment challenges of scaling CDRs within the EU ETS framework?

 **14:30** **Initial reactions**

* Artur Runge-Metzger, MCC
* Fabian Ramos, DG CLIMA
* Nicola Rega**,** CEFIC
* Robert Jeszke, CAKE/KOBiZE
* Hannah Lewis**,** UK
* Verena Hofbauer, Carbon Gap

**15:10** **Q&A**

 **16:00** **End of the event**