

**The 2023 International Conference on Sustainability, Environment, and Social
Transition in Economics and Finance (SESTEF 2023)**

Energy Economics Special Issue ‘*Sustainable Governance and Energy Transition*’

Guest Editors: Ramzi Benkraiem, Audencia Business School (France), Renatas Kizys,
University of Southampton (UK), Panagiotis Tzouvanas, University of Sussex (UK)

Short Proposal

The war between Russia and Ukraine that broke out in February 2022 has aggravated energy insecurity in Europe and around the globe, which has become a major cause of concern for the economy and the society. This has started to shape high-level decision making. In February 2022, the US Department of Energy released America’s first comprehensive plan to ensure security, increase the country’s energy independence, and attain a robust clean energy transition, through boosting supply chain sustainability.¹ In April 2022, a new energy security strategy was announced by the British government, which aimed at reducing the exposure of British companies and households to volatile fossil energy markets, while decarbonising the economy.² In May 2022, a new EU external energy strategy was launched by the European Commission, which sought to support a global, clear and just energy transition to ensure sustainable, secure and affordable energy.³

Whilst these energy security plans and strategies are clearly aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, the transition towards affordable, greener, sustainable and secure energy sources poses several challenges. One such challenge consists of securing financial resources that the development of new energy technologies requires (Polzin et al., 2021). New energy technologies can pay off in the long run, but the upfront cost can be sizeable (Liu and Feng, 2023). To this end, financial resources need to be mobilised by both companies and financial institutions: commercial banks (Wen et al., 2021), fintech companies or crowdfunding (Bourcet and Bovari, 2020). Another challenge is the presence of transition risks (see, e.g., Vermeulen et al., 2021). Whether these risks come under the responsibility of financial regulators and central banks is an open question (Campiglio et al., 2018; Chen et al., 2021), which can take one of future research directions. To address these challenges, corporate (Knoefel et al., 2018; Flammer et al., 2019) and national (Hillier et al; 2011; Liu et al., 2021) governance can play a significant role as a catalyst or inhibitor of the effectiveness of environmental, macroeconomic or macroprudential policies on energy transition.

The **Energy Economics Special Issue ‘*Sustainable Governance and Energy Transition*’** seeks to address the following (non-exhaustive) research questions. First, how do corporate and national governance mechanisms can address the above-mentioned challenges, which so far has received very little attention within and outside academia? Second, do corporate and national governance mechanisms exert a direct effect on energy transition? Third, do they interact with environmental, macroeconomic and macroprudential policies? Fourth, what are energy transition risks and how can they be managed? Fifth, what is the role of financial and non-financial institutions and fintech companies in securing funding for energy transition? Sixth, are green and sustainable financial instruments instrumental in energy transition? Research published in this special issue will be of paramount importance for companies, financial institutions, households, policy makers and regulators in both developed and emerging-market countries. This special issue welcomes theoretical and empirical research within the broad theme that centres on the following topics:

¹ Source: <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-releases-first-ever-comprehensive-strategy-secure-americas-clean-energy-supply-chain>

² Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/british-energy-security-strategy/british-energy-security-strategy>

³ Source: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=JOIN%3A2022%3A23%3AFIN&qid=1653033264976>

- i) the role of national governance in the transition towards affordable, greener, sustainable, and secure energy sources;
- ii) green and sustainable corporate governance and the transition towards affordable, greener, sustainable, and secure energy sources;
- iii) the interaction of green and sustainable corporate governance with environmental & renewable-energy, macroeconomic, and macroprudential policies;
- iv) modelling and understanding energy transition risks;
- v) the role of financial, non-financial institutions and fintech companies in the mobilisation of resources for energy transition;
- vi) green and sustainable financial instruments for energy transition.

Scholars are encouraged to use a range of methods, including but not limited to experiments, surveys, econometrics, decomposition, simulation models, equilibrium models, optimisation models, and analytical models.

This is an open call for original and high-quality research articles. We encourage the participants of **The 2023 International Conference on Sustainability, Environment, and Social Transition in Economics and Finance (SESTEF 2023)**, jointly organised by University of Southampton, Audencia Business School, Paris School of Business, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, and Telfer School of Management (University of Ottawa) – which will take place on **14th, 15th and 16th in Southampton, UK** – to submit their high-quality and original research papers.

Submission Instructions

Authors should submit articles via the Editorial Manager® for Energy Economics following the Guide for Authors available on <https://www.elsevier.com/journals/energy-economics/0140-9883/guide-for-authors> by 1st April 2024. Within the Editorial Manager, they should select the special issue '***Sustainable Governance and Energy Transition***'. Manuscripts submitted after the deadline may not be considered for the special issue and may be transferred to a regular issue. Articles will be subject to a strict review process managed by the Guest Editors and accepted papers will be published online individually, before print publication.

Key dates

Call opens: 1st February 2023
Conference dates: 14th, 15th and 16th December 2023
Submission opens: 1st January 2024
Submission closes: 1st April 2024

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Guest Editors

Ramzi Benkraiem, Audencia Business School (France), web: https://faculte-recherche.audencia.com/en/cvs/cv/ramzi-benkraiem/?no_cache=1, email: rbenkraiem@audencia.com

Renatas Kizys, University of Southampton (UK), web: <https://www.southampton.ac.uk/people/5xmnbw/doctor-renatas-kizys>, email: r.kizys@soton.ac.uk

Panagiotis Tzouvanas, University of Sussex (UK), web: <https://profiles.sussex.ac.uk/p488045-panagiotis-tzouvanas>, email: P.Tzouvanas@sussex.ac.uk