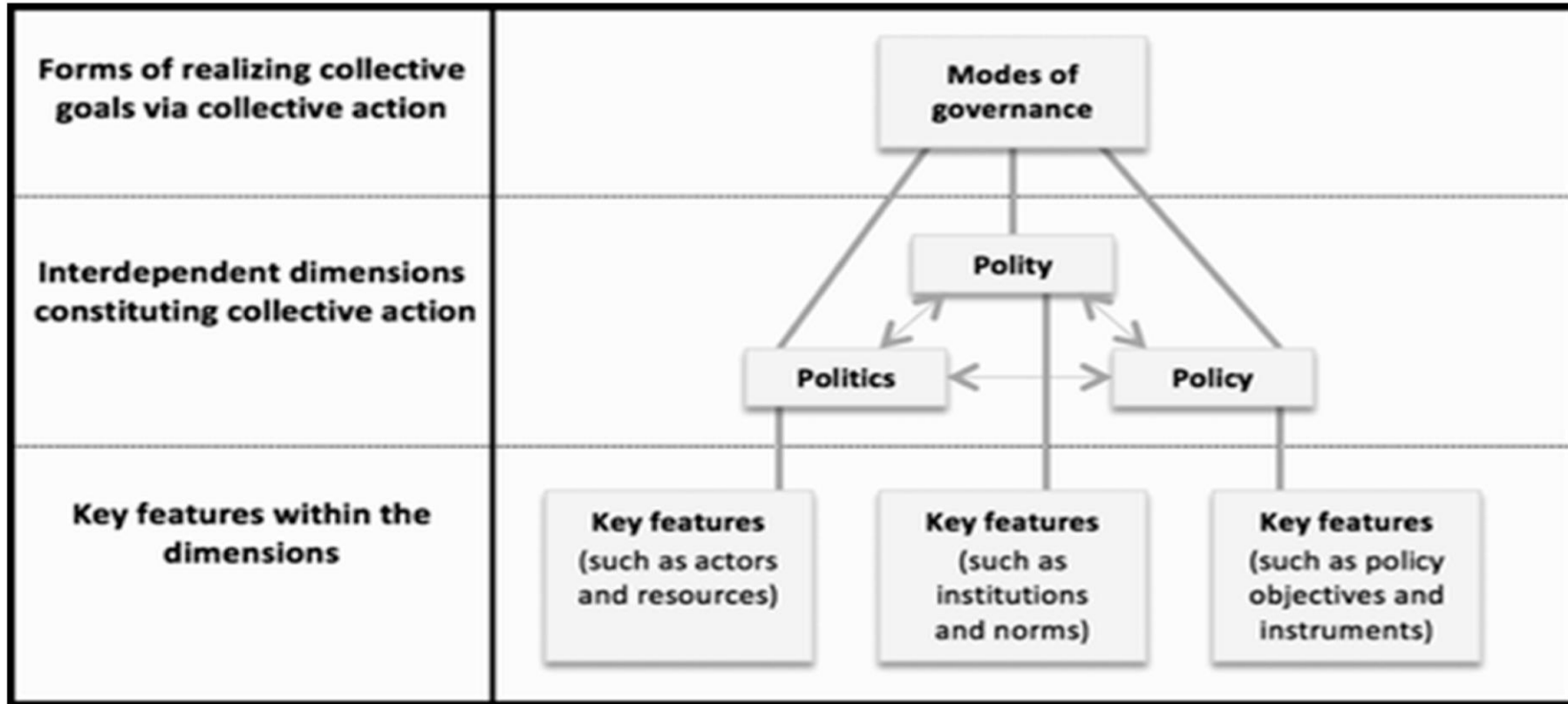


GREEN DEAL IN THE EU

A POLITICAL SCIENCE PERSPECTIVE

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Three Dimensions of Political Action as explanatory and interpretative framework of collective political action (such as Geen Deal).



Lange, P.; Driessen, P.P.J.; Sauer, A.; Bornemann, B.; Burger, P. Governing Towards Sustainability—Conceptualizing Modes of Governance. *J. Environ. Policy Plan.* **2013**, *15*, 403–425

Three Dimensions of Political Action - a closer look

<u>Politics</u>	<u>Policy</u>	<u>Polity</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interest formation; aggregation; representation; intermediation ▪ Public discourse ▪ Party and electoral politics ▪ Public opinion ▪ Patterns of contestation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Norms and goals ▪ Standards ▪ Instruments and policy style ▪ Problem-solving approaches ▪ Policy narratives and discourses ▪ Resources ▪ Organisational structures ▪ Actor Networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Political institutions ▪ Intergovernmental relations ▪ Judicial structures ▪ Public administration ▪ State traditions ▪ Economic institutions ▪ State-society relations ▪ Collective identities

(Sources: Börzel and Risse 2003; Lenschow 2004)

Green Deal (GD) and (The EU) Polity ?

- Yes, can see a connection, however this relation is a convoluted. The problem is here is that **The Green Deal** announced in 2019 as a ‘**new growth strategy**’ and a ‘**package of policies**’ which would enshrine climate neutrality by 2050 and ensure that all EU policies contribute to that climate neutrality but **beyond this reductionist rhetoric this ‘policy package’ seems to be much more complex;**
- by focusing on ‘greening’ the EU activities the EU Commission decided to **re-orient policies and laws for the years to come**, in areas such as climate and energy, agriculture and fisheries, products and services, and trade and foreign policy (employed Top-Down Approach);
- Since the very beginning GD was an overarching EU project with pivotal role of the Commission. The grand vision owed its name to Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal. GD is forged as:
 - (1) **the product of compromises** and reflects the diversity (and disagreements) among EU member states regarding the content of the ecological transition;
 - (2) **more than continuation of a longstanding green growth/degrowth discourse** and potential (yet not actualized) **third alternative** or a next generation of more complex thinking of how to succeed in prioritizing ecology without welfare loss.
- Last but not least the EU by starting and carrying out Green Policy acts as a **Polity** and posits themselves as a **Global Leader** in the in climate and biodiversity negotiations, maintaining EU’s Green Deal diplomacy and supporting bilateral efforts to induce partners to act and to ensure comparability of actions and policies. As examples we can note:
 - (1) The EU efforts to facilitate reaching a global agreement on plastics;
 - (2) The EU’s commitment of reducing greenhouse gases by 2030 or
 - (3) efforts of the Commission to achieve the more or less full application of existing EU environmental protection provisions (Green Deal) in the Western Balkans.

Green Deal as Politics

- **The Politics** dimension refers to **actors involved** and their **influence** on the process of policymaking and **resources** that are available;
- **Interest** formation and articulation, **public discourse**, **public opinion** and imminent **patterns of contestation** here are crucial;
- One example of Politics dimension in the EU is converging the Green Deal (GD) and the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE) which are both central to the EU's environmental, economic and social sustainability.
- Forwarding GD at the centre of CoFoE allows to labelling the **EU as “polycentric”**.
- the Green Deal and the Conference of the Future of Europe should be used primarily as catalysts for mutual trust and solidarity in order to face our mutual vulnerabilities;
- Trust and solidarity are essential in countering the fragmentation that can occur in large-scale political systems that aim to address transboundary problems, such as those addressed in the GD and by the EU more generally;
- Trust and solidarity must be also present to ensure the legitimacy and effectiveness of the EU and its policies and fortify responses to internal and external pressures, such as Brexit or climate change.

Green Deal as Policy



Source: EC, Brussels, 11.12.2019 COM(2019) 640 final

Green Deal as Policy

- Green Deal in the perspective of **Policy** denotes content or material dimension of (environmental) politics and unfolds as set of goals and political instruments.
- The Green Deal's initiatives can be broadly divided into three themes: **(1) climate-related goals, (2) environmental aims, and (3) a healthy and sustainable food system**, which combines environmental and health ambitions.
- The achievement of these goals is in part facilitated by overarching initiatives including **(1) the “Just Transition”, (2) the EU's international policies on the Green Deal's main issues, and (3) the importance of the widespread use of digital tools as enablers.**
- Implementation of the Green Deal package is based on set of legal regulations and mechanisms, such as: EU Emission Trading System (EU ETS); Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM); Energy Taxation Directive (ETD); Renewable Energy Directive (RED); Energy Efficiency Directive (EED); Third Energy Package for Gas; European Climate Law; Regulation on reducing CO2 emissions from vehicles; Directive on the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure; Regulation on batteries and waste batteries; Regulation on Guidelines for trans-european; energy infrastructure; Regulation on the trans-European transport network; Directive on the energy performance of buildings; Effort Sharing Regulation (ESR); Revision of the regulation on the Inclusion of GHG Emissions and Removals from land use land use change and forestry (LULUCF); Sector Impact Assessment.
- Pivotal role in Green Deal package has been reserved for **Fit for 55’ — policy package** leading to achieve a 55 percent net emissions reduction by 2030.

A landscape photograph of a vast green field, possibly a wheat or barley field, under a cloudy sky. The field is divided into sections by narrow paths or furrows. The sky is overcast with soft, grey clouds. The overall tone is muted and natural. A central text box with a thin black border contains the text "THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION" in a bold, serif font.

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**