

No. 340 January 2010

Copenhagen and the Demise of the Green Utopia

By Dr Benny Peiser

28 January 2010

The failure of the UN climate summit in Copenhagen is a historical watershed that marks the beginning of the end of climate hysteria. Not only does it epitomise the failure of the EU's environmental policy, it also symbolises the loss of Western dominance. The failure of the climate summit was not only predictable – it was inevitable. There was no way out from the cul-de-sac into which the international community has manoeuvred itself. The global deadlock simply reflects the contrasting, and in the final analysis, irreconcilable interests of the West and the rest of the world. The result is likely to be an indefinite moratorium on international climate legislation. After Copenhagen, the chances for a binding successor of the Kyoto Protocol are as good as zero.

The extent of the debacle and the shift in the balance of geopolitical power was demonstrated by the fact that the final accord was made without the participation of the European Union. The exclusion of Europe is a remarkable symbol of the EU's growing loss of influence, a green bureaucracy that was not even asked whether they agreed with the non-binding declaration of China, India and the USA. Although the Copenhagen conference was held in a European capital, the negotiations and the final result of the conference were totally outside European involvement.

[Click here to read article.](#)

This article was published by [The Global Warming Policy Foundation](#) online on 14 January 2010.

Articles in the *Perspectives* series plus a large library of books, studies, speeches, articles and DVDs on a wide range of public policy issues can be found at www.nzbr.org.nz

Related studies and commentary:

**Submission on the Climate Change Response (Moderated Emissions Trading)
Amendment Bill**

A submission by the New Zealand Business Roundtable

October 2009

[\[Full text\]](#)

The Economics and Politics of Climate Change - A Cool Look at Global Warming

The 2007 Sir Ronald Trotter Lecture

15 November 2007

By Nigel Lawson

[\[Full text\]](#)

Stern Review on Climate Change is Bad Economics

An article first published in the *Otago Daily Times*

26 January 2007

By Roger Kerr

[\[Full text\]](#)

Environmentalism versus Constitutionalism: A Contest Without Winners

A book first published by the New Zealand Business Roundtable

December 2006

By Suri Ratnapala

[\[Full text\]](#)

The Real State of the World

The 2003 Sir Ronald Trotter Lecture

8 October 2003

By Bjørn Lomborg

[\[Full text\]](#)

If you have received this email from a friend or colleague and wish to subscribe, [please click here](#).

If you wish to unsubscribe from the Roundtable mailing list, [please click here](#).