

# Climate Backlash, Political Polarization, and the Global Struggle Over Net-Zero Policies

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Prospera Research - Automated Scientific Summary

## Key Takeaways

- Climate action is increasingly colliding with economic and political backlash
- Scientists warn climate feedback loops may be accelerating faster than expected
- Governments struggling to balance emissions reduction with public support

## Overview

Climate policy in 2026 has entered one of its most politically volatile periods in decades. While scientific evidence warns about accelerating warming, governments face growing public resistance to aggressive net-zero policies.

"Climate systems are not linear," said James Hansen.

"Once feedback loops accelerate, changes can compound rapidly."

## Political Backlash

Across Europe, backlash against green regulations, energy prices, and agricultural restrictions has intensified political polarization. Several governments have softened environmental mandates amid fears of economic disruption.

"The climate transition is colliding with economic anxiety," noted Johan Rockstrom.

"Public support cannot be assumed."

## Geopolitics

Developing countries increasingly accuse wealthier nations of imposing climate burdens while continuing fossil fuel consumption and benefiting from historical emissions, complicating international climate negotiations.

"We are confronting both a physical and political climate system," said Michael Mann.

## Sources

- Climate scenario revisions and warming projections
- Climate backlash and political resistance
- Climate feedback and uncertainty research