



Summer Programme on International and European Environmental Law: *Making it Work*

Confirmed Speaker:

Pieter de Pous, Policy Director at European Environmental Bureau

Lecture

Better regulation in the EU

The EU's Better Regulation agenda has developed in the last 10 years in the EU driven by a combination of pressure from regulated industries to reduce costs and seen as a way to bring the EU closer to its citizens by delivering better results. The agenda gained prominence under the Juncker Commission with a new First Vice President given responsibility for it. Further pressure came from the UK government who made deregulation a priority for its renegotiation on its relationship with the EU and is likely to play a central role in the debate and negotiations following the outcome of the UK referendum on EU membership. It has, however, also become increasingly controversial among civil society groups, as a reduction in costs to regulated industries risks an increase of costs to society in form of more pollution, poorer working conditions and unsafe products.



Biography

Pieter de Pous holds a master degree in forestry sciences from the University of Wageningen in the Netherlands. Since 2005 he has worked in the policy unit of the European Environmental Bureau, coordinating the organisation's advocacy work in the areas of biodiversity, water, soil, bio-energy and agriculture policies. Since September 2010 he is the EEB's policy director. Managing a team of 14 policy officers, he leads the EEB's policy work with a focus on horizontal issues like natural resources, 'better regulation', trade and environmental governance. He is chairman of the board of ECOS, a specialised NGO representing environmental interests in standardisation and sits on the Board of NGO's Seas At Risk and Green Budget Europe. He is also a member of the Steering Group of the Coalition for Energy Savings and the Better Regulation Watchdog. Between March 1 and May 1 2011 he was acting Secretary General of the EEB.

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