

Energy transition and coal power in Germany and China

Energy generation capacities in Germany and China

Germany and China face similar challenges regarding the fulfilment of their climate protection targets: CO₂ emission-intensive lignite is the dominant domestic energy source and important heavy industries need access to reliable and affordable energy. Both countries are increasing their renewable energy capacities considerably. In contrast to Germany, coal capacities in China were further expanded in recent years due to the high level of economic growth.

The German coal commission recommends the complete coal exit in Germany by 2038 and further extension of renewable capacities. The China Renewable Energy Outlook 2018 (CREO) shows how coal power generation in China can be significantly reduced by 2035 and be compensated by further dynamic installation of renewables.

