

**The COP28 World Climate Conference in Dubai is a milestone.  
Above all, the climate turnaround and agreements by large companies.**

The 28th fortnightly COP (Conference of the Parties) of the parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change was successful beyond all expectations. But that is not the fault of the climate activists, nor of the politicians or activists who fought valiantly for the final document right up to the end.

**Good news for climate protection**

Because apart from the public perception, which focused on the tug-of-war over the final document, numerous agreements on concrete industrial climate projects formed the actual core of the COP in Dubai. This is good news for climate protection: it no longer consists primarily of political declamations of ever more ambitious targets, but is now manifested in agreements on very specific measures. An ethic of conviction has been replaced by an ethic of responsibility.

The CEO Middle East of Siemens Energy, Dietmar Siersdorfer, signs a contract with Italian and Egyptian companies. The three gigawatts of solar power generated in Egypt will be transmitted to Italy via an almost 3,000-kilometer-long power cable, which will cover 5 percent of the country's peak electricity demand. The idea of Desertec, which was propagated a decade and a half ago and has never been realized to date, is coming true!

Austria's OMV signs a memorandum of understanding with Masdar (Abu Dhabi) on the development of a cooperation in the field of green hydrogen. The plan is a joint gigafactory for electrolyzers, the production of hydrogen and the decarbonization of OMV's refineries. Masdar is one of the fastest growing clean energy companies in the world today. I visited Masdar's stand at the COP: delegation after delegation came by, were warmly welcomed and informed - just as we know it from our industry trade fairs.

The German energy giant RWE also signed an agreement with Masdar at the COP: The two companies will jointly build the three-gigawatt Dogger Bank South offshore wind farm in the UK, which is due to be connected to the grid from 2030.

It is a drumbeat when 22 countries - including France, the UK, Finland, Sweden, the Netherlands and Poland from Europe - announce a tripling of energy generation from nuclear power by 2050.

On behalf of Canada and Japan, US climate envoy John Kerry also declared in Dubai that it would not be possible to achieve the Paris climate targets without this effort.

In the eyes of most countries, nuclear power has long been considered "clean energy". Surprisingly, some young climate activists from Germany also think this is correct and advertise at the COP with the banner: "Nuclear power saves lives". One member of the German delegation commented scornfully: "They're paid." (Unfortunately, this way of thinking is breaking down: Anyone who disagrees, can only be unspeakably ignorant or paid for by dark forces).

Perhaps the most important long-term agreement was already reached in the immediate run-up to the of the COP between the USA and China. Both countries, otherwise rivals on many issues, declared in Dubai that they would campaign to triple the expansion of renewable energies by 2030 and plan an international conference to

reduce methane emissions. They also agreed on five major joint projects in the field of carbon capture and storage.

The list of specific government agreements and private sector projects could go on and on. The politicians, absorbed in negotiations for nights on end, do not even notice much of this, as the important things often do not take place on the COP site itself, but in conference halls or hotels in Dubai City.

Yvonne Ruf, Senior Partner at strategy consultancy Roland Berger, important energy leaders to talks: Mark Hutchinson, the globally sought-after CEO of Fortescue from Australia, the hydrogen boss of Uniper, Axel Wietfeld, representatives of Airbus, MAN, Sefer, Westenergie, Rolls-Royce, Masdar, the Saudi energy giants Neom and Acwa and so on.

The number one topic this evening - as at the COP: green hydrogen. After a moderate upswing, Roland Berger expects full unleashing in the next five years.

full unleashing in the next five years: Roaring Thirties!

Almost every energy company now knows that the world is facing an unprecedented energy and economic transformation.

Everyone wants to be part of it, even march at the forefront.

Where better to demonstrate the seriousness of these plans than at a

COP! It has almost become good form to sign at least one declaration of intent at the COP.

A lot is happening right now. This should actually please climate activists, because they have made this development possible with their commitment. They have convinced public opinion that global warming must be combated. But instead of proudly claim this success for themselves, the climate movement feels marginalized. They want to maintain their enemy images, they need them because they could become irrelevant without them.

This is how representatives of green NGOs insulted the COP President, Ahmed Al Jaber. Someone like him, head of Adnoc, one of the largest gas and oil companies in the world, should not be allowed to preside over the COP! He must leave the field.

But Al Jaber founded Masdar, the pioneer of climate projects worldwide.

he has ensured that the climate disaster fund, which has long been called for, is finally finally materialized. (The United Arab Emirates and Germany agreed to each contribute one hundred million dollars right at the start of the conference).

And Al Jaber is working on decarbonizing his own company.

What else should he do? Simply close Adnoc?

The COP is the United Nations Climate Change Conference, and it is the most natural thing in the world that there are different opinions and interests.

We need to talk about this and reconcile them - but not exclude those who disagree.

Phasing out fossil fuels is unavoidable, but it requires concrete transformation paths - and these can only be successfully pursued together with the global community and only with the economy, not against it.

The COP President would have had every right in the world to clearly defend himself against the insulting demands of some leading activists. But he did the right thing: to concentrate calmly on the actual task of the COP President, namely to negotiate a compromise between the industrialized countries and the Global South and to present a paper for the final negotiations.

Whether and to what extent this will lead to a compromise acceptable to all sides was not yet known at the end of the COP was not yet known. But no matter how ambitious the wording of the final document is and whether there is one at all - it is only a declaration of intent.

The decisive factor, however, is what concrete climate projects will be implemented. And here we can confidently report: A lot is happening right now. Could this ultimately be more important for saving the climate than even the most ambitious declarations of intent from politicians about long-term goals?  
Ausgangssprache auswählen. Derzeit ausgewählt:  
Deutsch (erkannt)

PS: Eine persönliche Anmerkung sei mir im Nachdruck erlaubt.  
Wenn es nun noch gelingt, die wichtigsten Vertreterinnen der Original Nations sowie die FührerInnen der Aktivisten an Bord zu holen und einzubeziehen, können die Pariser Klimaziele mit 1.5 bis 2030 doch noch erreicht werden. Dazu brauchen wir keine Politiker und Staatsdiener, die meist nur blockieren und dann sowieso nur den Vorgaben ihrer Führer aus der Politik und Wirtschaft folgen...

PS: I allow myself to add a final personal comment.  
If we now succeed in getting the most important representatives of the original nations and the leaders of the activists on board and involving them, the Paris climate targets of 1.5 by 2030 can still be achieved. We don't need politicians and civil servants to do this, as most of them only block and then only follow the instructions of their political and business leaders anyway... Rico Paganini