Legal challenges at the end of the fossil fuel era:
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PANEL 2. Legal challenges of a clean and just energy transition

Green Hydrogen Economy. A legal take on the feasibility of project development under the current regulatory framework

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"Green Hydrogen" is often referenced as a possible key element for the decarbonation of the economy and the consecution of EU climate targets. In essence, it may constitute a viable option for a climate neutral energy vector, amongst others, as an alternative fuel that could be used in different transportation sectors, such as aviation, maritime and land transport. Furthermore, given the possibility of decentral production, as well its independence of fossil resources, Green Hydrogen technology may result disruptive of the current energy supply chain, opening the market to new players and business models. In this context, Spain seems to hold key assets for Green Hydrogen production, including favorable sun and wind conditions, as well as the availability of land and access to water. While public interest in Green Hydrogen seems to have incremented exponentially during the past months, it remains unclear to which extent the emergence of a Green Hydrogen economy remains fiction – or could become a reality. With first financial incentives promoting Green Hydrogen initiatives, key elements concerning the feasibility of such projects remain unclear – including the legal requirements for project development in accordance with applicable legislation. This research aims to clarify fundamental legal aspects for the execution of Green Hydrogen projects in Spain. The intent is to determine key challenges, with a special focus on analyzing the current legal feasibility of projects for Green Hydrogen production in Spain.