Engendering the Energy Transition: Frugal Innovation?

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WHAT ABOUT THE DISCUSSANT?

Main fields of expertise:

- (EU) competition law
- EU economic law
- Law & economics

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The paper: questions, methods and goals

- What is frugal innovation and why we should look at it from a gendered perspective?
- Framework for gender assessment of frugal innovation – **processes and outcomes** – in the context of empirical research
- Recommendations for policy/decision-makers
1. Normative aspect of “innovation”

Innovation – beyond monolithic conceptions of innovation as top-down, corporate/professional, capital intensive

Why do we prioritize innovation?

Who benefits from innovation?

How do we decide that something is innovative?

Not mere innovations, empowerment!
2. Measuring gender impacts

- Who should be in charge of assessing the gender impact of innovation?
- What methods should be employed?
- Classic issues of welfare definition

- Attention to gender outcomes or gendered processes (and does the framework apply to both)?
- Innovation should become more interactive, less top-down, less corporate – why?
3. The message: **who** should prioritize?

- Who should be in charge of transforming frugal innovation to accommodate a gender lense?
- Where should frugal innovation ideally take place?
- Where can it take place?
Frugal Forever?

Frugal innovation – an interim solution or a permanent item on the policy agenda?

A second best solution rather than “the dream”

At what point can we move beyond frugality?
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