

VALÉRIE DUCROT

Executive Director of Global Gas Centre

Olivier Appert, Chairman of France Brevets, Scientific Advisor of the Centre for Energy and Climate of Ifri, Former President of the French Energy Council

Okay. Now, we have just seven minutes left, Valérie Ducrot has some comments on what we heard and what the key message is.

Valérie Ducrot, Executive Director of Global Gas Centre

I want to follow up on what you both said. First, Narendra, I fully agree with you. We are too much European-centric. Certainly, we are talking about Europe. We think that the war in Ukraine is a very important war but, outside Europe, they have a completely different view and I fully support what you said. I spend much of my time in Asia and it is true that the debate is completely different.

I have something I want to tell you. It is important to use what we have nowadays, especially in Asia. India is a member state of the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia Pacific. Three weeks ago, I was there. I followed the entire week and, I am sorry to say it, but India was completely absent. This is really the place that you have to use if you want to raise your voice.

What you mentioned from the global south is absolutely true. However, we had only China, who knows how to raise their voice, South-East Asian countries, but the discussion we have here is very important. We need to use what we have and we need to be present.

It is the same for the European Union. We are centered on the European Union but, outside the European Union, nobody is following what is going on.

Just to touch on what you mentioned about nuclear, it is never mentioned in the UN, absolutely never. I am paid by gas companies because I am the Director of the Global Gas Centre, but I am struggling to defend nuclear, I am struggling to defend renewable gases. It is not only renewables. We are only talking about renewables at the UN, at the COP, etc., and this is a disaster for the global south. This is a disaster, like you mentioned here, for even the citizens from the north or west or whatever you want to call it, and it is a complete disaster. However, we have to be here. We have to occupy the field.

I was at this conference at the UN and I was only supported by the Russian Federation and Central Asia to have one paragraph on natural gas and its role in the energy transition. The member states have to be here and to defend, because to be only present in Brussels is not enough. I am telling you, it is not enough at all. This is what we see everywhere.



Please encourage all your member states to raise their voices and use the multilateral institution that we have. It is so important.

Olivier Appert

Thank you for these very strong comments.