Efficiency and Equity in the green transition

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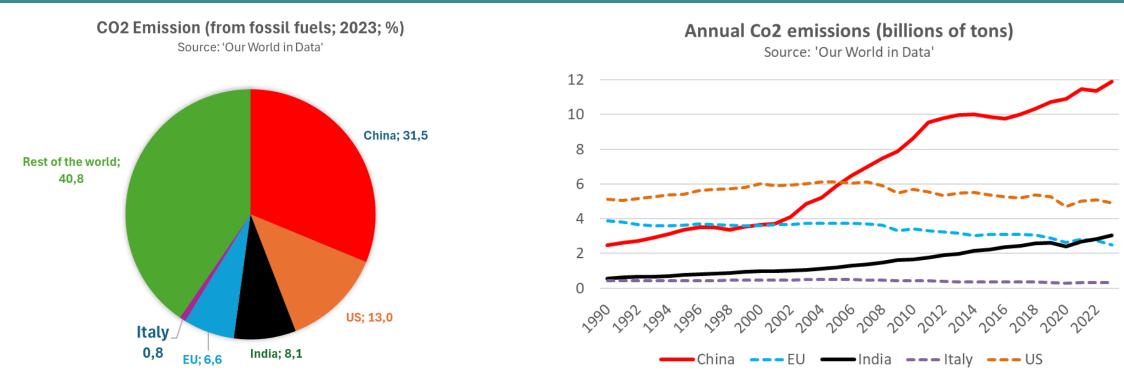
Discussion by Valerio Ercolani (Bank of Italy)

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The paper in a nutshell

- It contributes to the green transition literature showing that climate policies have also distributional effects:
 - It uses a large (IAM) model with an OLG block, a sectoral Computable General Equilibrium model (CGE) and a climate module (FUND).
 - The economy: Italy + Rest of the world (which coordinate their climate policies, e.g., carbon taxes or green subsidies)
 - Several scenarios are simulated → (i) HHW: status quo (ii) NZ: emissions reach 0 in 2050; (iii) delayed NZ
 - Some results → (i) timely actions are important (ii) but possible lack of political support given the heterogeneous effects across cohorts
- The paper is ambitious
 - Maybe, more work on the focus and on the modeling choices

Doubts on the "Italy vs Rest of the world" structure



- To address the global temperature issue → Focus primarily on the main CO2 emitters
- …if you want to focus on Italy…why not taking global temperature as exogenous?
 - In the current version of the model, the benefit of doing climate policies seems to be overestimated for Italy

On some hypotheses of your Model/Exercise

- 1) Globally coordinated and simultaneous climate policies?
 - Different approaches:
 - (i) EU more regulatory (e.g., carbon caps); (ii) US more through tax incentives; (iii) China more central planning (massive public investment)

Different speed:

Progress towards the Paris Agreement (by Country, July 2025)



Source: Climate Action Taker

- 2) Competitiveness and the dimension of trade? (e.g., Känzig, 2023; Brunel & Levinson, 2025)
- 3) What about a highly non-linear evolution of the global temperature?
 - Tail risks or Tipping points (e.g., Weizman, 2009; Titton, 2024)

What I expected to see, based on the premises

some metrics for "efficiency" and "equity" (cost-effectiveness indicators, gini index, decomposition of inequality between cohorts, vulnerability indicators...)

a sharper contribution in terms of the political support (see, e.g., Levi et al. 2020,
Political Economy Determinants of Carbon Pricing)

the interaction of climate policies with the dynamics of public debt

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