

Welcome to TimesPeople  
Get Started

TimesPeople Lets You Share and Discover the Best of NYTimes.com

7:35 AM

Recommend

HOME PAGE TODAY'S PAPER VIDEO MOST POPULAR TIMES TOPICS

Get Bay Area coverage | Log In | Register Now

The New York Times

# Environment

Search All NYTimes.com

Go



WORLD U.S. N.Y. / REGION BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY SCIENCE HEALTH SPORTS OPINION ARTS STYLE TRAVEL JOBS REAL ESTATE AUTOS

ENVIRONMENT SPACE & COSMOS

## Europe Bypassed on Climate Summit

Next Article in Science (3 of 34) »



Christopher Furlong/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images

The coal-fueled Cottam power plant in Retford, England. Europeans claim great strides in moving toward a low-carbon economy, but their political bloc will be tested in Copenhagen.

By JAMES KANTER  
Published: December 1, 2009

BRUSSELS — No political entity has pushed harder for the Copenhagen conference on [climate change](#) to succeed than the [European Union](#).

### Multimedia



Audio

Can the World Reach an Agreement on Climate Change?

### Related

The Road to Copenhagen: Biggest Obstacle to Global Climate Deal May Be How to Pay for It (October 15, 2009)

The Road to Copenhagen: Tree Harvester Offers to Save Indonesian Forest (November 30, 2009)

Australia's Global Warming Bill Defeated (December 1, 2009)

Times Topics: Copenhagen Climate Talks (UNFCCC)

But just days before the opening of the [United Nations](#)-sponsored meeting, the Europeans have been largely pushed to the sidelines, watching as the world's two largest emitters of greenhouse gases, China and the United States, seek to set the rules of the game.

"That's of course the unfortunate situation for Copenhagen," said Jo Leinen, a German member of the [European Parliament](#) who is leading the chamber's delegation to the conference that is intended to follow up on the soon-to-expire Kyoto Protocol. "It's turning into a bit of a ping-pong match between China and the United States, with each just looking at the other," he said.

Europeans say they have gone further than anybody else in moving toward a low-carbon economy that could serve as

### Travel Dispatch E-Mail



Sign up for the latest travel features, sent every Saturday.

Sign Up

[See Sample](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

SIGN IN TO RECOMMEND

TWITTER

SIGN IN TO E-MAIL

PRINT

SINGLE PAGE

SHARE  
CLOSE

ARTICLE TOOLS  
SPONSORED BY





