

Industrial Policy for the Green Transition

5. Green Industrial Policy Instruments

C. Benoît & E. Massoc

Introduction



A revolution in the making?



Integrating Industrial and Environmental Logics



Conclusion and references



Outline

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- Green industrial policy: historical context and instruments

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- An Industrial Revolution on the Horizon?

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- Integrating Industrial and Environmental Logics: tensions and challenges
- The fundamental differences between old and new industrial policy

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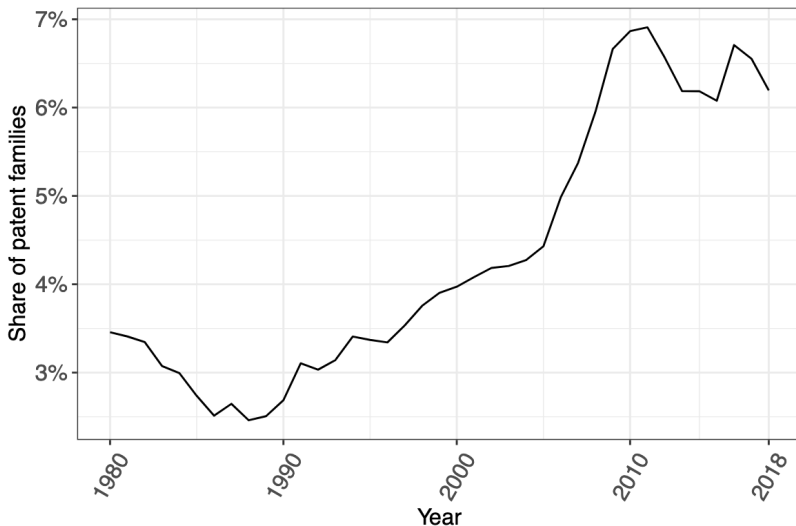
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- ... that primarily relate to the different underlying logics, as well as the scope of the externalities it may generate
- Overall, green industrial policy is very similar to standard industrial policy in terms of its instruments, but it differs significantly in its various costs



Green Patents as a Percentage of Total Patents, reprinted from ([Aghion et al. 2024](#))

Note: "% patents in environmental management, water-related adaption technologies, biodiversity and ecosystem health, climate-change mitigation (OECD classification — Hascic and Migotto 2015) — PATSTAT data".

A Brief Historical Overview

Aspect	1st Industrial Revolution	2nd Industrial Revolution	3rd Industrial Revolution
Dominant Technology & Raw Material	Steam engine, power loom, iron processing	Electricity, chemistry, combustion engine, assembly line	ICT, microelectronics, new materials, cleaner technology

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Core Countries	UK, Belgium, Germany, France	USA, Japan, Germany	EU, USA?, China?, Japan?

Reprinted and adapted from ([Jänicke & Jacob 2009](#))

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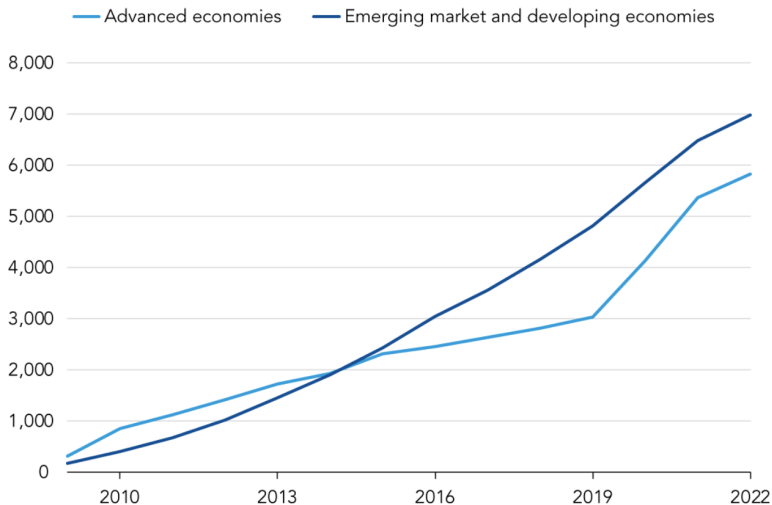


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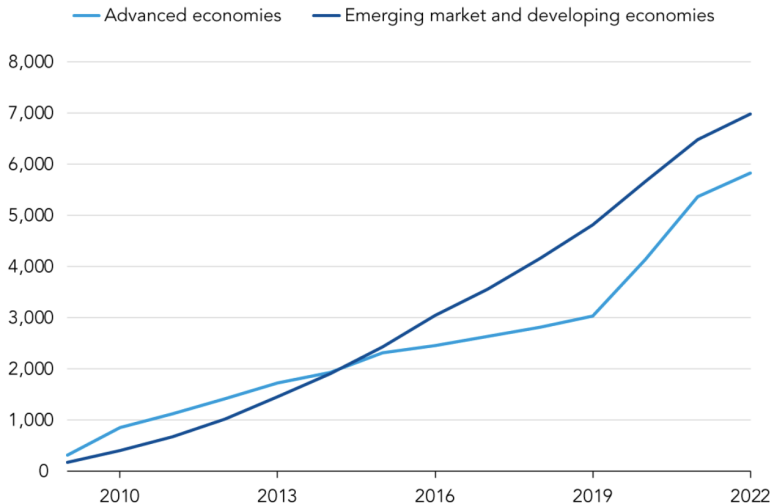


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- Need to move away from a 'materialist phasic' conception of energy transition



Number of subsidy policies in force, reprinted from (IMF 2024)

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→ Subsidies are one of the many [green] industrial **policy instruments** available

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Information-based instruments	Innovation-radar	Obligatory risk assessment for products	Environmental label	Market studies

Reprinted from (Hochfeld et al. 2010)

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- This, in turn, generate a series of important **practical differences**

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 - **Problem:** Industrial and environmental policy objectives often conflict. In cap-and-trade systems — where governments define an upper limit for the use of a resource or emissions and then distribute or auction use rights among economic actors, which can then be traded —, governments are often reluctant to set ambitious gaps as they don't want to harm their domestic industries ([Helm 2010](#))

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 - **Solution:** [Altenburg & Rodrik 2017](#) suggest to base green industrial policy on policy mixes combining "market-based instruments, regulations, capacity building, subsidies and other components"

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 - **Problem:** Industrial policy and technology competition can lead to conflict between economic and environmental goals at the international level – with evidence that since about 2010, the number of trade disputes in clean energy technologies has been on the rise (Lewis 2014)
 - **Solution:** Evidence that "green industrial policy in one large country can help facilitate global environmental cooperation, primarily by reducing the adjustment cost for other countries". Kim and Urpeainen (2013) argue that industrial policies by countries such as Germany and Denmark helped reduce the cost of renewable energy technologies, which facilitated European climate cooperation

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- The politics of change

Main references

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