

Prince: EU can lead on climate change

by UPI

BRUSSELS - Prince Charles of Britain said in a speech in Brussels Thursday the global warming crisis gives the European Union a chance to show global leadership. The Prince of Wales addressed the European Parliament, the EU Observer reported. "Determined and principled leadership has never been more needed," he said. "Surely, this is just the moment in history for which the European Union was created?" The prince -- who has long been interested in sustainable agriculture and organic farming -- urged European leaders to pay attention to deforestation. He said rising food prices create more pressure to cut down tropical rainforests. Deforestation releases carbon while removing a "natural thermostat, helping to regulate our climate," he said. Prince Charles suggested that profits from the union's proposed emissions trading scheme be used to help save the tropical forests. He said forests should be given a market value so residents of the tropics could be compensated for preserving them. "In the simplest terms, we have to make the forests worth more alive than dead," he said.

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