Editorial

Dear readers,

Following the tragic events that hit Brussels in March, all our thoughts are with the victims and their families.

In the aftermath of the attacks, the European Parliament has informed that events organised in their premises may resume under enhanced security measures, such as supplementary checks and a limited number of participants from outside the European Parliament.

We ask our members to take the necessary steps to be registered in the transparency register of the EU in order to have their permanent access badge to the European Parliament. This only takes a few minutes and facilitates security checks as well as your entrance when taking part in an event.

Pascale Verheust
Director General

Upcoming events

12 April 2016
Dinner-debate in Strasbourg

Diversification and cross-border interconnections at the core of the EU single energy market
At the invitation of SNAM

20 April 2016
Dinner-debate in Brussels

A fit-for-purpose ACER and ENTSO governance in the framework of the Energy Union
At the invitation of E-Control

28 April 2016
Internal meeting in Brussels

ITAC: Industrial Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
At the invitation of the EEF

10 May 2016
Dinner-debate in Strasbourg

Bridging Europe’s Energy Divide – How to link Central and Western Europe?
At the invitation of CEEP

24 May 2016
Dinner-debate in Brussels

LNG : a game changer for the EU’s transport and power sector?
At the invitation of Wärtsilä
The “year of delivery” for the Energy Union has started under the mandate of the Dutch Presidency of the Council of the European Union. Strengthening regional cooperation is among the priorities highlighted by the Presidency on its programme as far as energy is concerned. Drs. Birgitta Westgren, Director of Energy Market and Innovation at the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, was invited to join an EEF discussion on this issue last March.

During her speech, Ms Westgren mentioned some of the already existing initiatives on regional cooperation, such as BEMIP, the German electricity neighbours process, the North Sea cooperation or the Pentalateral Energy Forum. The Dutch Presidency representative recalled that these regional actions allow for further market integration, which “leads to more efficient solutions and increases the flexibility of our system”, allowing EU citizens “to get energy when and where is needed it and at a reasonable price.”

Mr Roger Miesen, Member of the Board of RWE Generation SE and Country Chair for the Netherlands, explained that from a business perspective, stronger cooperation should include “regional and improved capacity adequacy assessments, joint analysis and development of regional solutions on how to deliver security of supply and a European framework for a future market design, with a special emphasis on the need of capacity markets”.

Paula Pinho, Head of Unit for Energy Policy Coordination at DG ENER, closed the round of interventions by highlighting the current lack of unanimity when it comes to the implementation of measures concerning regional cooperation. Ms Pinho concluded that “on top of the mandatory and the voluntary approaches” to regional cooperation adopted by the Commission, “there needs to be guidance” for Member States, which is something the Commission is working on now.
EEF events

Securing Energy Supplies: Europe's position on the global stage
16 March, Brussels
Dinner-debate hosted by eni

Shortly after the publication of the European Commission’s Energy Security Package, EEF members were invited to discuss security of gas supply with Eni’s Executive Vice President, Francesco Giunti, and Stefan Moser, Head of Unit for Security of Supply at DG Energy.

According to the two guest speakers, the completion of the EU’s Internal Energy Market is instrumental in ensuring security of supply. Commenting on the state of gas supply to the EU, Mr Giunti explained that the existing infrastructure would be sufficient to support bigger gas flows. In addition, gas supply options are becoming more diverse. The new gas discoveries, such as the large reserve found by Eni in the deep waters of Egypt (Zohr), may constitute an alternative to traditional supplies and declining European domestic production.

According to Eni’s Executive Vice President, if the EU wants to guarantee security of energy supply, the Internal Energy Market needs to be finalized. To achieve a full and efficient use of existing infrastructures, gas flow should be determined by market-oriented tariffs.

In a complementary intervention, Mr Moser, representative of DG Energy, warned that some challenges are still to be overcome in order to make the market more competitive and “enable gas to play is full role in the transition towards low-carbon economy”. Missing links in the internal market, especially in South-Eastern Europe, are one of the big challenges to face. In this light, the Strategy for LNG and gas storage “identifies obstacles in the internal market to make sure that there is a rational use of resources across borders”. The major innovation of the Package, Mr Moser added, is to put “more emphasis on regional cooperation in order to pool resources and use them more efficiently”.

April 2016
News from EEF members

**AEGPL joins the EEF**

AEGPL is the sole representative of the LPG industry at European level, representing national LPG Associations as well as distributors and equipment manufacturers from across Europe.

The mission of this organization is to engage with EU decision-makers and the wider policy community in order to optimize the contribution that LPG can make to meeting Europe’s energy and environmental challenges.

Antonio Neves Costa, Public Affairs and Communications Manager, will be the main representative of AEGPL to the EEF.

**3M: new member of the EEF**

3M is a global technology company employing nearly 20 000 people across Europe, with more than 50 manufacturing sites and 18 R&D centers in the region.

3M has a diversified portfolio of innovative solutions in energy, healthcare, security and transportation. On energy, 3M develops sustainable alternatives in the areas of power generation, transmission and distribution, e-Mobility, energy storage, smart buildings and ICT.

The main representative of the company to EEF events will be Maxime Bureau, Director for Government Affairs in Europe.
Highlight of the month

Request of Vice-President Katainen to the EEF

As part of the EU Investment Plan, Vice-President for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness, Jyrki Katainen, announced the launch of the European Investment Project Portal (EIPP).

In the light of this, the European Energy Forum has been contacted by Vice-President Katainen to disseminate information on the portal and ensure that the EIPP has a “critical mass of high quality investment projects from its start”. The EEF is pleased of this cooperation with the European Commission and happy to provide hereunder information to its members.

According to Vice-President Katainen, “the establishment of the EIPP will be a major step towards smoothening the functioning of the investment market, by offering on a single website standardised and transparent information on investment opportunities all-over Europe, accessible via a simple clickable EU map.”

The European Investment Project Portal (EIPP) has been developed to enable EU-based project promoters to reach potential investors worldwide. It will offer access to a network of investors, consultants and advisory services to help structure it and finance it. To submit a project, applicants need to fill in the EIPP project form.

Any Associate Members interested can visit the portal website or send an email to eipp-project@ec.europa.eu. Your own contribution to the dissemination effort concerning this initiative will be highly welcome.