



About the speakers

Jorge Pikunic

*Managing Director of Centrica's international
Distributed Energy & Power business*

Mr Pikunic is Managing Director of Centrica's international Distributed Energy & Power business, established to deliver distributed energy solutions for large energy users as part of a more flexible energy landscape.

He joined Centrica in 2010, first heading up the Group's strategy team before taking over as Managing Director of British Gas' Smart Metering business, where he led the roll-out of smart meters to over one million residential customers.

Born in Venezuela, Jorge is an engineer and holds a MSc and PhD in Chemical Engineering. He was also a Research Fellow at the University of Oxford before joining McKinsey & Company where he advised a number of institutions in energy and other sectors. He has also worked for Procter & Gamble and PDVSA (Venezuelan national oil company), and was a Board Director of Smart Energy GB.



Manuel Sánchez Jiménez

*Senior Officer for Smart Grids at DG Energy, European
Commission*

Dr Sánchez joined the European Commission in 1996 as a Project Officer for Renewable Energies, where he created the new focus area "Smart Energy Networks" and launched the European Technology Platform "Smart Grids" in 2006. In 2007 he set up the sector for "Information and Communication Technology's solutions for Energy Efficiency". Since April 2009, he is the Senior Officer for Smart Grids, launching the European Task Force for Smart Grids in November 2009 to advise the Commission on key policy and regulatory issues





for digitalization of the energy sector, such as standards, data protection, cybersecurity, market design and regulation. He is providing substantial contribution to the Clean Energy package under the Market Design Initiative.

He holds a Bachelor degree in Engineering (University of Seville, Spain) and a doctorate in engineering. (University Kassel, Germany). Prior to working at the European Commission, he was the Director of the Plataforma Solar de Almería of the Spanish Ministry of Industry and Energy, the largest solar test centre in Europe.