



European Energy Forum

Activity Report 2017



Foreword

2017 has been a very important year for European energy policy. The main legislative proposals for establishing the Energy Union have been put on the table by the Commission and some have already entered into force – thereby confirming Europe’s high level of ambition and direction of travel towards a low-carbon economy in line with our Paris Agreement commitments.

We have seen new legislation adopted and entering into force in record time on Inter-Governmental Agreements and on Security of Gas Supply. This reflects a major political success, enhancing the security of supply of the European Union, in particular for gas. It also lays down in the legislation the solidarity principle, showing that solidarity is not only a political declaration but an obligation and a concrete way to help. There has also been good progress on all parts of the Clean Energy for All Europeans Package – the centrepiece for providing the necessary stable regulatory framework for a successful clean energy transition which will benefit all Europeans.

Looking ahead, 2018 will be a particularly important year as it is time for the co-legislators – the European Parliament and the Council – with the support of the Commission to reach ambitious agreement on the many different proposals and meet the objectives of a secure, sustainable and competitive energy for all Europeans.



In this sense, the role of the European Energy Forum – as a place for discussion for all EU energy actors under the leadership of President Buzek – will be more important than ever to remind EU policymakers of the importance of our long-term goals and of maintaining our level of ambition in all of the political negotiations that lie ahead. I look forward to continued fruitful cooperation between the European Energy Forum and DG Energy in working towards these common goals.

By delivering the Energy Union in a way that is good for the environment, boosts investment, jobs and growth in Europe and that benefits all Europeans – the EU will show leadership to the rest of the world on the route to a low carbon economy, fit for the 21st century.

Dominique Ristori
Director General for Energy
European Commission

Table of contents

Debates and activities	6
Reception for EEF Members	8
Vice-President of the European Commission in charge for the Energy Union	10
Dinner-debates	12
Lunch-debate	48
Briefing for MEP assistants	50
Study visits	56
 Meetings with members	 58
 Active Members	 59
 Associate Members	 60
 EEF Secretariat	 62



Debates and activities

17 JANUARY - RECEPTION IN STRASBOURG

EEF New Year reception

24 JANUARY - DINNER DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

The Energy Union: an evening discussion with Vice-President Šefčovič

6 FEBRUARY - DINNER DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

Brexit is coming: what are the implications for the EU and UK energy markets?

14 FEBRUARY - DINNER DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

Clean Energy Package: the way forward for EU energy consumers?

28 FEBRUARY - DINNER DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

Circular economy meets Energy Union

2 MARCH - STUDY VISIT IN BRUSSELS

Visit to the smart building "Living Tomorrow"

14 MARCH - DINNER DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

Empowering energy consumers: the role of on-site generation

22 MARCH - DINNER DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

Does the Energy Union need capacity mechanisms to keep the lights on?

4 APRIL - DINNER DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

Updating the Third Package for 2030: the ENTSOs as key delivery partner

25 APRIL - DINNER DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

Grids of the future and future of the grids

16 MAY - DINNER DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

How to avoid blackouts in Europe? The role of capacity mechanisms in the short and medium term

30 MAY - DINNER DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

Energy efficiency—But at what cost?

1 JUN - 3 JUN - STUDY VISIT TO VIENNA

Energy efficiency and renewables integrated in an urban area

8 JUNE - BRIEFING FOR MEP ASSISTANTS IN BRUSSELS

Discussing key energy issues and the clean energy proposals with energy regulators

13 JUNE - DINNER DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

Effective integration of renewables: why flexibility is key

4 JULY - DINNER DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

Greening the gas grid: the biomethane opportunity

4 SEPTEMBER - DINNER DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

Advanced biofuels from waste and residues: the key to achieving ambitious and sustainable transport decarbonisation with RED II

12 SEPTEMBER - DINNER DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

Energy efficiency first - Insights from the chemical industry

3 OCTOBER - DINNER DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

Securing energy supply with trans-border electricity flows: the view of Central European electricity TSOs

11 OCTOBER - DINNER DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

Energy market design: keep all doors open to innovation

24 OCTOBER - DINNER DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

The Brexit impact on nuclear energy: how to ensure a smooth transition

14 NOVEMBER - DINNER DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

Retail markets in the Clean Energy Package: the electricity industry and consumers debate

27 NOVEMBER - DINNER DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

Distributed energy: benefits for business customers and the European energy system

6 DECEMBER - LUNCH DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

Citizens' energy drives local economies - Current practice and Clean Energy Package perspective



Reception for EEF Members

17 JANUARY - RECEPTION FOR EEF MEMBERS IN STRASBOURG

EEF New Year reception

In the framework of the first plenary session of 2017, the EEF invited its members to a New Year cocktail with its **President, Professor Jerzy Buzek**. This offered the opportunity to Active and Associate Members to get together and informally discuss themes high on the EU agenda.

Professor Buzek expressed his gratitude for the implication of EEF members, who contribute to the organisation of the different EEF discussions. Their commitment, as he recalled, is key to ensuring the success of these debates, which are a platform for the exchange of views and ideas among energy stakeholders.

Taking advantage of the relaxed atmosphere of this informal gathering, Professor Buzek gave the floor to each of the attendees, who provided their feedback and remarks about the discussions and about the role of the EEF as a place for dialogue and information on energy issues. **Pascale Verheust, Director General of the EEF**, agreed on the importance of getting support from members and thanked Professor Buzek for his involvement in the implementation of the activities organised by the Forum.



Vice-President of the European Commission in charge for the Energy Union

The Energy Union: an evening discussion with Vice-President Šefčovič

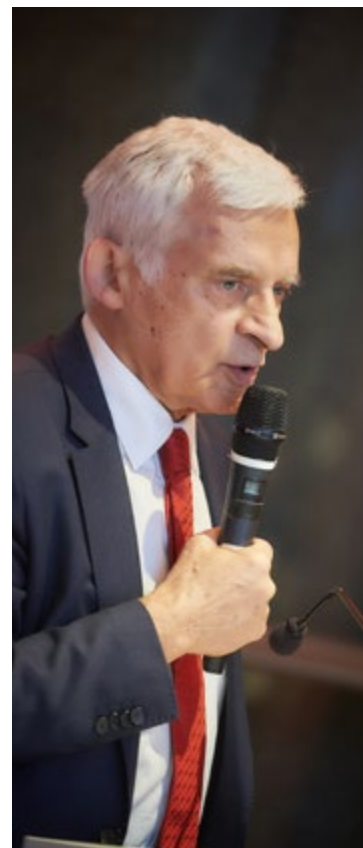
2016 had been the year of delivery and 2017 was “the year of implementation”. In January, the EEF had the honour to welcome **Maroš Šefčovič, Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of the Energy Union**, to a high-level dinner-debate with EEF members about the launch in November 2016 of the ‘Clean Energy for All Europeans’ package.

According to Vice-President Šefčovič, the Commission has delivered 90% of the actions promised as regards the Energy Union with the publication of this new package. The new proposals look at increasing energy efficiency, using a higher share of renewables to produce energy and giving more power to consumers on their energy use.

After presenting the Commission's key objectives, the Vice-President had a lively exchange of views with EEF members and other representatives of EU institutions.

Key aspects of the 'Clean Energy for all Europeans' package

- **Energy efficiency:** The European Commission has proposed a 30% binding energy efficiency target for 2030 at EU level to reduce energy consumption and increase competitiveness. The renovation of **buildings** will be crucial to achieve this target, as 40% of the energy is consumed in this sector.
- **Renewable energy:** Half of the electricity produced in Europe by 2030 will have to come from renewable energy sources. That challenge will need a well functioning **internal market for electricity** which takes into account the climate targets reached in Paris. The introduction of higher shares of RES will also concern the **transport** and the **heating and cooling** sectors.
- **Consumer empowerment:** Consumers will become not only active, but also market players. They will get higher control of their energy use by creating cooperatives or dealing with aggregators. Vulnerable consumers who have problems to pay for their energy consumption will have to be better protected by EU member states, especially in sensitive situations such as disconnection from the grid.



Dinner-debates

6 FEBRUARY - DINNER-DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

Brexit is coming: what are the implications for the EU and UK energy markets?



The dinner-debate hosted by **National Grid** looked at the potential impacts of Brexit on the UK energy market and its consumers. National Grid has been leading that debate for over two years and had published a report before the referendum.

The implications for security of supply and prices across Europe, according to **Nicola Shaw, UK Executive Director of National Grid**, depend on whether UK remains in the internal energy market or not. In any case, *“finding ways to keep this relationship working, keep trading, so that consumers get the benefit associated with this network is pretty important.”*

A reduced cooperation would have consequences on energy prices. Interconnections provide the opportunity to move the excess of energy around networks, which keeps prices down for consumers and enables energy to flow where needed. Each GW of interconnection capacity in the UK reduces wholesale prices by 1 or 2%. According to ENTSO-E’s calculations, interconnections cost around 1.5-2 euros per MW and consumer prices are reduced by 1.5 to 5 euros per MW. In the case of gas, the UK is a net exporter of this energy source and is working on a number of innovative techniques to comply with EU environmental standards.

Ireland will especially suffer the consequences of the Brexit. **Fintan Slye, Chief Executive of Eirgrid**, explained that the country is significantly dependent on the UK in terms of access to energy, as it imports about 85% of its gross energy needs. Therefore, any imposition of tariffs or borders on energy that flows between these countries would have *“wide ranging impacts on the competitiveness of the Irish and Northern Irish economies”*.

The relevance of this sensitive topic brought together many EEF members and energy stakeholders who insisted on the importance of a continued cooperation to guarantee a smooth transition and reduce as much as possible the negative impacts of this process.

Dinner-debates

14 FEBRUARY - DINNER-DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

Clean Energy Package: the way forward for EU energy consumers?

The 'Clean Energy for All Europeans' package is a key step towards the energy transition. The legislative proposals contained in the new package will have a structuring impact on the functioning of the internal electricity market. This dinner-debate hosted by the **French Union of Electricity (UFE)** was the first of a series of events giving an opportunity to reflect on the implications of the new package.

75% of the emissions reduction objective could be reached with a limited cost by concentrating on top 10 measures to increase energy efficiency, one of the key priorities of the package. This was the conclusion of a study carried out by the UFE in the French sector presented by **Damien Siess, Corporate Strategy Director of UFE**.

Another priority of the new package is to boost the use of renewables to produce electricity and this is bringing new challenges for electricity providers. This priority does not accurately take into account the overall costs of the system, according to Mr Siess. In addition, UFE sees capacity remunerations for electricity providers as an option to reduce uncertainty in the electricity market and therefore provide lower prices for consumers. ETS should be, in UFE's vision, the key element of the decarbonisation policy.

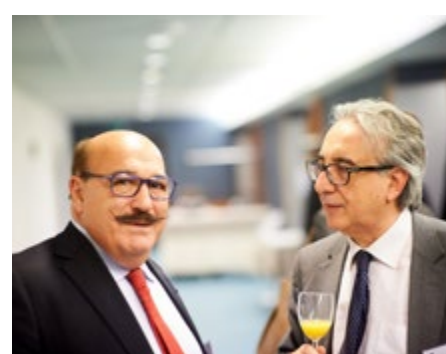
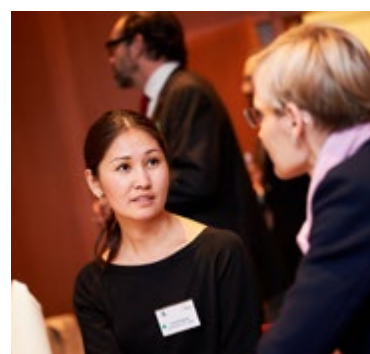
The new package has also acknowledged the importance of two other market players: distributors and consumers. The Commission's proposal has recognised the key role of electricity distributors as neutral market facilitators and active system managers, as mentioned by **Christian Buchel, Vice-Chair of EDSO for Smart Grids**. The package has also provided consumers with more information, protection and empowerment tools, as highlighted by **Anna Colucci, Head of Unit for Retail Markets at DG Energy**.



Dinner-debates

28 FEBRUARY - DINNER-DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

Circular economy meets Energy Union



Waste-to-Energy treats residual non-recyclable waste to recover energy in the form of electricity, cooling and heating. In an opening discussion statement, **Ferdinand Kleppmann, President of the Confederation of European Waste-to-Energy Plants (CEWEP)**, highlighted the key principles governing advanced waste management systems: reduce waste first, reuse and recycle, then recover energy from it and, finally, landfill as a last resort. Many see waste-to-energy as the bridge between the Circular Economy and the Energy Union.

In January 2017, the European Commission published a Communication on the role of waste-to-energy in the circular economy. This Communication was at the centre of an exchange of views between CEWEP, the European Commission's Directorates-Generals for Energy and Environment and EEF Members.

Jorge Díaz del Castillo was in charge of the preparation of the Waste-to-Energy Communication within **DG Environment**. For him, waste-to-energy can serve as this bridge only if it is consistent with the waste hierarchy that classifies waste-to-energy processes on the basis of their environmental impact. He pointed out that waste-to-energy covers more than waste incineration. The European Commission also identifies co-incineration in combustion plants and anaerobic digestion of biodegradable waste as waste-to-energy processes.

According to **Eva Hoos** from **DG Energy**, waste-to-energy is a building block of the Energy Union objectives. Some waste-to-energy principles are supported in the Renewable Energy Directive and the Energy Efficiency Directive. For instance, efficient district heating and cooling can be an enabler for renewable energy and energy efficiency. Ideally, waste-to-energy plants should use high-efficiency cogeneration technologies and be connected to district heating and cooling networks.

In the view of CEWEP, there are shortcomings in the Commission's Communication which could exploit even further the synergies between waste-to-energy and district heating/cooling. **Marta Gurin, Senior Scientific and Policy Officer at CEWEP** underlined the double role that waste-to-energy could play both in the waste management and energy systems. She brought EEF Members on a tour across Europe to showcase successful projects which use waste-to-energy in combination with district heating, heat networks, and as energy supply for industry.

Dinner-debates

14 MARS - DINNER-DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

Empowering energy consumers: the role of on-site generation

The cogeneration industry sees the Clean Energy Package as an opportunity for unlocking the environmental and economic benefits of this technology. **COGEN Europe** hosted a dinner-debate to discuss the Energy Efficiency Directive and the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive as part of this package.

The proposals of the EU Executive could boost the use of on-site generation technologies like combined heat and power, as drivers of energy savings and efficiency for the energy system. Cogeneration technologies can help increase energy efficiency in energy production and decarbonise the heating and cooling sector. However, in order to fully unlock the potential of cogeneration, an "energy efficiency first" concept should be included across the different pieces of legislation in the package, according to **Chris Marsland representative of COGEN Europe**.

On the consumption side, there are different types of electricity consumers: domestic, public, commercial and industrial. The Commission should take into account their different needs and provide them with adequate participation tools, according to Mr Marsland. Electricity consumers are getting deeper control over their consumption and the Commission has recognised their role as electricity generators. COGEN encourages the promotion of self-generation through Combined Heat and Power (CHP), which delivers important energy savings and empowers consumers to produce electricity at peak demand times and reduces grid losses.

CHP is a good example of the Commission's intention to bring together different silos of the energy policy, according to **Paul Hodson, Head of Unit for Energy Efficiency at DG Energy**. This technology combines demand and supply, industry and consumers, fossil fuels and RES, heat and electricity. On the supply side, it allows companies producing steam or electricity to sell this surplus to the grid or to local communities.



Dinner-debates

22 MARCH - DINNER-DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

Does the Energy Union need capacity mechanisms to keep the lights on?

Capacity mechanisms are one of the thorniest issues in the negotiations on the future internal market for electricity. EU policy-makers have to agree on the legal framework for the use of these support schemes by Member States. A dinner-debate hosted by the **European Engine Power Plants Association, EUGINE**, was the second of a series of EEF events focused on these measures.

More ambitious climate and energy targets in the EU mean that Member States are facing a two-fold challenge: a capacity challenge and a flexibility challenge, explained **Ralf Wezel, Secretary General of EUGINE** when introducing the topic. In response to this situation, they have set up different types of capacity mechanisms-often involving state aid- to secure investment in generation capacity and ensure electricity supply. Member States remain highly divided on the need for such measures and how they impact the power system.

EUGINE argues that the use of capacity mechanisms should be restricted because it prevents the deployment of a more appropriate solution to meet Europe's flexibility challenge. Through practical examples in Germany, the UK and Spain, **Marcel Zürn, Member of EUGINE Market Design Working Group**, showed how capacity mechanisms can put at risk market-based investments, act against technology-neutrality and result in higher costs for society. Instead, EUGINE supports market-based reforms to create incentives for investments.

The European Commission's DG Competition and DG Energy worked in close cooperation to prepare the market design proposals. In a sector inquiry in 2016, DG Competition stated that the need for national capacity mechanisms should be assessed case by case through comprehensive cost-benefit analysis. According to **Deputy Head of Unit Christof Schoser from DG Competition**, in certain circumstances, state aid measures can be a driver for innovation. Along the same lines, the Clean Energy proposals update the rules for European resource adequacy assessments and set out principles for national capacity mechanisms. Market reforms have to come first. And if capacity mechanisms are still needed, Member States should look at cross-border capacity, concluded **Florian Ermacora, Head of the Internal Energy Market Unit at DG Energy**.



Dinner-debates

4 APRIL - DINNER-DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

Updating the Third Package for 2030: the ENTSOs as key delivery partner

The Clean Energy proposals update the Third Package on the functioning of the European internal energy market. They raise questions about the role of grid operators and energy regulators, and how they interact with the European Institutions. This dinner-debate took place thanks to close collaboration between the **European Networks of Transmission System Operators for Gas (ENTSO-G) and Electricity (ENTSO-E)**, who discussed governance issues and the challenges in their evolving roles.

Peder Andreasen, President of ENTSO-E, welcomed the European Commission's proposals to improve the electricity market design as it puts customers at the centre of the gas and power markets. However, ENTSO-E sees room for improvement in the proposals, especially on the network codes implementation and the institutional balance between the European, regional and national levels.

Although the Clean Energy Package is mostly about electricity, transmission system operators for gas are equally concerned about governance issues and the interaction between the ENTSOs, energy regulators and the European Commission. **Jan Ingwersen, General Manager of ENTSG**, explained in greater detail which common challenges the two ENTSOs are facing and how they cooperate to build solutions. But there are also major differences in the functioning of the gas and electricity markets. The ENTSOs call on EU decision-makers to take these differences into account in the future mirroring exercise that should assess which parts of the electricity legislation would apply to the gas market legislation.

Complementary interventions by **ACER, the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators**, and the European Commission ensured a balanced debate with EEF Members. **Deputy Head of Unit Oliver Koch, from DG Energy**, presented the concept of Regional Operational Centres (ROCs), entities envisioned by the package to which the ENTSOs are opposed. **Alberto Pototschnig, ACER Director**, expressed support for the Commission's proposal to strengthen regional governance as opposed to regional cooperation on a voluntary basis.



Dinner-debates

25 APRIL - DINNER-DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

Grids of the future and future of the grids



Distribution System Operators (DSOs) guarantee security of supply and ensure the quality of the electricity distribution system. The current evolution of the electricity market is changing their role. The EEF invited three high level speakers to provide their insights on this transformation in a dinner-debate hosted by the French electricity DSO, **ENEDIS**. The discussion was chaired by **MEP Lambert van Nistelrooij**, Board Member of the EEF.

The role of consumers and DSOs has become more important since the power system started a process of decentralisation and decarbonisation. **Andris Piebalgs, former Commissioner for Energy**, explained some of the new responsibilities of DSOs recognised by the Clean Energy Package. DSOs will be assigned new roles concerning the management of smart meters and consumption data, the development of smart grids and storage facilities and the integration of electrical vehicles into the electricity network.

These new responsibilities will bring changes. The new package, for instance, includes the concept of Local Energy Communities (LEC), which may adopt some of the responsibilities of DSOs. **Michel Derdevet, Secretary General of ENEDIS**, was concerned about the consequences of this decision, which could “*jeopardise social and territorial cohesion and favour forward looking experiments*” in self-consumption. The aim of the EU executive with this initiative, according to **DG Energy Head of Unit Anna Colucci**, is to acknowledge their existence and ensure they are not discriminated, but also to make sure they follow the same regulatory framework as other market participants.

The use of tariffs was also one of the aspects highlighted by both Mr Dervedet and Ms Colucci. ENEDIS agrees with cost-reflecting types, but doubts about the principle of a single European tariff methodology. The Commission considers essential to reflect electricity costs to improve transparency, as well as to take into account the different methodologies currently used to calculate tariffs.



Dinner-debates

16 MAY - DINNER-DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

How to avoid blackouts in Europe? The role of capacity mechanisms in the short and medium term

The implementation of capacity mechanisms is one of the key questions of the new electricity market design foreseen by the Clean Energy Package. **The Polish Electricity Association (PKEE)** hosted a dinner-debate on the positive aspects of these measures which complemented previous events held in February and March.

The package presented by the Commission sets out conditions to remunerate electricity generators for the amount of electricity they can provide to the market in the mid and long term. However, according to the subsidiarity principle, this measure should be decided at national level, said **PKEE's Board Member Jarosław Broda**. *"All proposals should be technologically independent and it should be a choice of the country whether these go for more renewable energy, more nuclear, less consumption or any other means to reduce its emissions."*

The level of CO₂ emissions produced from electricity generation will be a criterion to remunerate capacity. Under the new rules set by the Commission, generators whose production of electricity releases more than 550 grams of CO₂/kwh will not be able to participate in capacity mechanisms. The 550 grams rule would, as explained by **Dmitri Perekhodtsev**, exclude support for all electricity produced from coal. Mr Perekhodtsev, is **Vice President of the Paris office of Compass Lexecon** and has been leading a study commissioned by PKEE on the impact of capacity mechanisms in Poland.

The Commission agrees with the implementation of capacity mechanisms by Member States only if absolutely necessary, as explained by **Augustijn Van Haasteren, representative of DG Energy**. EU countries which decide to use these mechanisms should avoid market distortions as much as possible, according to the Commission.



Dinner-debates

30 MAY - DINNER-DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

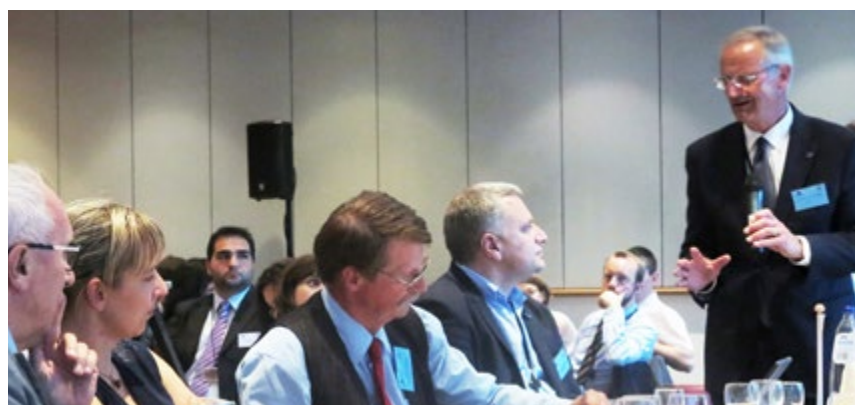
Energy efficiency - But at what cost?

The strengthening of the Energy Efficiency Directive is a key objective of the European Commission's Clean Energy Package. **ČEZ**, the largest electricity producer in the Czech Republic, brought EEF Members' attention to some economic challenges the proposed directive may pose. **MEP Jo Leinen**, Member of ENVI Committee and Board Member of the EEF, chaired the lively discussion.

The Czech Republic, like the UK and other Central and Eastern European countries, is concerned about the economic impact of a binding EU-wide 30% energy efficiency target such as proposed by the European Commission. Instead, the Czechs support an indicative target of 30% at the EU and national levels. For them, a non-binding target would be more suitable to deal with the fluctuations in energy consumption. Ms **Lenka Kovačová**, **Deputy Minister for Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic**, was the guest of honour of the dinner-debate. She insisted that the non-binding nature of the target should be reflected in the Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union.

The central pillar of the Energy Efficiency Directive is Article 7 on Efficiency Obligation Schemes. It requires energy companies to save an annual 1.5% of their energy sales. ČEZ's data suggest that this level of savings could in some cases make energy saving more costly than additional power generation from renewables. According to **Pavel Cyrani**, **Chief Commercial and Strategy Officer in the CEZ Group**, substantial investment will be needed from the Member States to meet these targets. It could especially be detrimental to smaller Member States with low per capita energy consumption.

Director Mechthild Wördsörfer representing DG Energy, had a different view on the matter. Based on complex modelling, 30% turns out to be the most cost-efficient target. In addition, the binding nature of the target can send a clear political signal to investors, industries and governments. A binding EU-wide 30% target could indeed require significant investments from the Member States. But it will also bring substantial benefits in terms of jobs, security of supply, health and climate action.



Dinner-debates

13 JUNE - DINNER-DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

Effective integration of renewables: why flexibility is key

Increasing flexibility is one of the key objectives of the electricity market reform. This topic was at the top of the European Parliament's agenda in June with the publication of MEP Krišjānis Kariņš' draft report on the new electricity market design. The report proposed amendments to the Commission's proposal for a regulation on the internal market for electricity. EEF Member **Wärtsilä**, a global supplier of flexible power plants, hosted a dinner-debate to discuss how to deliver flexibility in the context of an evolving power system.

There is an almost unanimous view that the electricity market needs to be more flexible in order to integrate the increasing share of energy from renewables. However, views differ on which market model will create the right incentives for flexibility from generation, storage, demand response and interconnections. **Kari Hietanen, Executive Vice-President at Wärtsilä**, explained how the value of flexibility can influence the cost of the whole power system. For them, a real time market which allows scarcity pricing is the best option to send the right investment signals.

Like flexible power plants, energy storage has the potential to enhance the flexibility of the electricity market. For this reason, Wärtsilä invited **Greensmith Energy**, a US-based storage company, to share experience. **Stefan Schauss, Director for Business Development**, showed how batteries used in grid support can provide short duration flexibility. But in the EU, the lack of harmonization around energy storage remains a barrier for its deployment.

Interconnections and demand-side response also have their role to play. **Hans van Steen, Adviser on renewables, research and innovation at DG Energy**, reaffirmed the vision of the European Commission on how to address the challenges the electricity market is facing: removal of price caps, better coordination of adequacy assessment for capacity mechanisms and increased cooperation between the TSOs, as well as between the regulators. MEPs and other EEF members raised a range of related issues such as capacity mechanisms, the sustainability of batteries and the real price of storage.



Dinner-debates

4 JULY - DINNER DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

Greening the gas grid: the biomethane opportunity

The Clean Energy Package focuses mainly on electricity, but it is important to create full compatibility between the electricity and the gas markets. The last dinner-debate before the summer break looked at the different advantages of the use of biomethane as an energy source in the current context of energy transition, based on the experience and research of **GRDF**, the largest **gas Distribution System Operator** (DSO) in France.

Biomethane could be seen as a way to produce green energy, but also as a means to secure gas production. This renewable gas comes from the purification of biogas produced from agricultural, municipal or industrial waste. The use of biomethane has therefore different advantages for the transition towards a more sustainable energy market, according to **Edouard Sauvage, Director General of GRDF**. This energy source can be directly injected into the already existing gas grid and it can also be stored and used as back up for other intermittent sources. Another advantage of biomethane is its use in the heating and the transport sectors, which both have particularly high levels of emissions. Rural areas can also benefit from the production of biomethane, as this energy source can be produced in farms.

The Clean Energy Package tries to promote the use of green gas, such as biomethane. **Mark van Stiphout, Deputy Head of Unit for new energy technologies, innovation and clean coal at DG Energy** highlighted the opportunities of biomethane in the context of the new package and, more specifically, the 'Renewable Energy Directive'. One of the main goals is the achievement of a fair deal for consumers. Decentralised solutions of energy production are gaining importance and biomethane could be part of these alternatives. That could lead to new business models and innovative services, according to the Commission representative.

The proposal of the Commission for a new Renewable Energy Directive covers all bioenergy uses, including biomethane, to minimise the risk of the negative environmental impact and deliver emissions savings. This use of bioenergies however, as stressed by Mr van Stiphout, has to be linked to the circular economy and not be looked at in isolation.



Dinner-debates

4 SEPTEMBER - DINNER-DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

Advanced biofuels from waste and residues: the key to achieving ambitious and sustainable transport decarbonisation with RED II

The RED II proposal includes new criteria for the use of biofuels in the transport sector: definition of advanced biofuels, minimum share of advanced biofuels production and phase-down of biofuels produced from food or feed crops. These issues were at the center of the discussion during the first dinner-debate after the summer hosted by **NESTE** and chaired by **MEP Jo Leinen**, Board Member of the EEF.

The biofuels industry is concerned about certain aspects of the new proposal. According to **Simo Honkanen, Senior Vice President of Sustainability and Public Affairs at NESTE**, the RED II could limit the production of cost-efficient biofuels from waste and residues. Annex IX part A and B include the approved feedstocks for biofuel production, but some waste and residues are not included in the legislation. If the new directive is approved as such, that could lead to a shortage of available feedstocks in the market place with the consequent price increase, according to NESTE's representative. This risk may also have an impact on the development of the biofuels industry and be an obstacle for Member States to reach the emissions reduction target.

Giacomo Rispoli, Executive Vice President Portfolio Management & Supply and Licensing at Eni, insisted on the lack of advanced biofuels in the market at present. Eni is increasing biofuel production by converting existing oil refineries into biofuel refineries. This R&D project has provided important industrial results and they expect that the new legislation will not jeopardise what has been done so far. In line with this principle, the new legislation should consider the current obligation of 10% renewable fuels in transport, as well as maintaining the CAP of 7% of conventional biofuels out of this 10%.

The Commission has put forward a proposal which is “*comprehensive, ambitious, clear and balanced*”, according to **Paula Abreu Marques, Head of Unit for Renewables and CCS Policy at DG Energy**. Biofuels will help reducing reliance on fossil fuels in the transport sector, but these will have to comply with sustainability criteria. Hence the decision of the Commission's proposal to promote a gradual increase of advanced biofuels and a phase-down of food and crop based biofuels.



Dinner-debates

12 SEPTEMBER - DINNER-DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

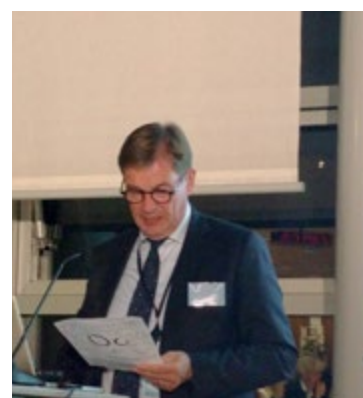
Energy efficiency first - Insights from the chemical industry

Discussions on the proposal for a revised Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) mainly focused on setting the right level of ambition through targets. **Cefic**, the **umbrella organisation of the European chemical industry**, wished to refocus the debate on how these targets can concretely be achieved.

Over the past decade, the European chemical industry has invested heavily in energy efficient processes resulting in reduced energy consumption and increased production. New energy efficiency measures also represent an opportunity for the industry to develop innovative materials and solutions, especially in the building sector. Despite positive developments, **Marco Mensink, Director General of Cefic**, expressed some concerns about a potential overlap between the EED and the EU ETS. It could prove difficult for some Member States to meet the revised energy efficiency targets without touching sectors already participating in the EU ETS, Cefic argued.

Cefic invited the **European Alliance to Save Energy (EU ASE)**, the European business organisation representing industrial sectors engaged in energy efficiency, to participate in the debate. **EU ASE President, Monica Frassoni**, agreed that the proposed directives would help realise energy savings, mainly through building renovation. But experience in Europe has shown that this can only happen if clear targets are defined as proposed by the European Commission. EU ASE and the European Commission both support the continuation of the annual savings obligation (Article 7) in the revised directive. This obligation has helped achieve half of the energy efficiency target.

On the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), **Mechthild Wördsörfer, Director at DG Energy**, stressed the importance of linking the legislation on the energy performance of residential and non-residential buildings with the transport sector. This would leave the possibility to integrate electric vehicles infrastructure at a later stage. The European Parliament rapporteur on the EPBD, MEP Bendt Bendtsen, expressed his support for ambitious targets.



Dinner-debates

3 OCTOBER - DINNER-DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

Securing energy supply with trans-border electricity flows: the view of Central European electricity TSOs

The Clean Energy Package proposes a target model for Regional Operational Centres (ROCs) by 2020, strengthening broader regional cooperation and centralising functions that are now executed by national Transmission System Operators (TSOs). These changes were discussed during a dinner-debate hosted by **Central Europe Energy Partners (CEEP)**. TSOs will continue to be responsible for the daily operation of the transmission systems, as well as data flow and analysis and at the same time they will continue cooperating bottom-up.

The operation of the transmission electricity system is today challenging. **Tomasz Sikorski, Vice-President and COO of the Polish Transmission System Operator PSE SA**, explained that *“the old system is reaching its boundaries while the new one has not yet arrived”*. According to Mr Sikorski, competition in the electricity market is disrupted because *“not all capacity is offered to the market and a huge part of the cost is socialised among customers through tariffs”*. Wholesale prices are based on approximate cross-border capacity, which does not reflect the situation in the system, he said.

Strong cooperation between TSOs, Member States and national energy regulators is crucial. **Daivis Virbickas, CEO of Litgrid**, Lithuanian grid operator, explained that operation is managed at national level with very close cooperation with the rest of the region. According to the Lithuanian expert, Regional Coordination Centres (RCCs) work very well and the EU does not need Regional Operation Centers (ROCs), as we can cooperate effectively with the existing set up. Mr Virbickas explained that at present markets are integrated and coupled and Member States benefit from cross-border interconnections, but costs are not shared accordingly.

The lessons learned from previous winter crises on energy supply have been helpful to set the future dynamics of cross-border cooperation. **Augustijn van Haasteren**, who works in the Unit for electricity and gas wholesale markets in **DG Energy**, acknowledged the importance of voluntary cooperation, although this is not always sufficient to bring all the necessary benefits. The ROCs will be a clear benefit for certain functions. They will deal with the preparation of the work of TSOs while operational decisions in real time will continue to be managed by TSOs.



Dinner-debates

Energy market design: keep all doors open to innovation



With the “Clean Energy for All Europeans” proposals, the European Commission is committed to supporting the market uptake of clean energy technologies. EEF Member **Eurogas** initiated a dinner-debate to discuss which innovative solutions have the potential to transform the European energy landscape. Eurogas invited a representative of Eurelectric to provide a complementary perspective on the matter.

How to make the European energy system smarter- secure, affordable and sustainable? According to Eurogas’ “Innovative Gas Scenario”, the energy system of the future will rely mainly on innovative gas solutions combined with wind and solar energy. As **Sabine Augustin, Chair of Eurogas Strategy Committee**, pointed out, the gas scenario foresees the possibility to have 76% of renewable gas in the system by 2050. The most promising gas technologies for decentralised production in homes include fuel cells and micro CHP. Power-to-gas, the production of hydrogen or synthetic gas from excess electricity, is another encouraging technology but which is not yet economically viable.

For **EURELECTRIC**, electrification will drive the decarbonization of the European economy. The European electricity sector is committed to providing carbon neutral electricity in Europe by 2050. **Alain Janssens, Vice-Chair of EURELECTRIC Markets Committee**, highlighted that 56% of electricity generated in 2015 was carbon-free (from renewables and nuclear). Unlike Eurogas which stands for more compressed natural gas (CNG) in road transport, EURELECTRIC calls for increased electrification of the transport system. Eurelectric has great hopes in technology developments, such as storage, flexible power plants and demand-response through smart meters and data management.

Driven by gas, electricity or both, decarbonization pathways will require unlocking different flexibility sources depending on the types of resources available in different locations. **Matti Supponen** from **DG Energy** encouraged participants to think about the scope of innovation in the Clean Energy Package. The session also addressed challenges linked to increased use of gas and electricity, such as gas dependency and the sustainability of batteries.

Dinner-debates

24 OCTOBER - DINNER-DEBATE IN STRASBOURG

The Brexit impact on nuclear energy: how to ensure a smooth transition

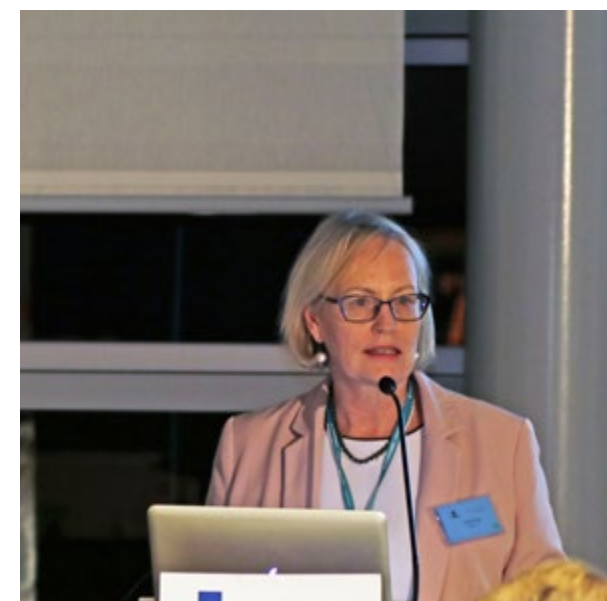
Further to the UK government's decision to leave the European Union, the Euratom Treaty will cease to apply to the UK on the date of withdrawal. The EU and the UK will have to cooperate to avoid disruption in the nuclear sector. The impact of this decision was discussed during a dinner-debate hosted by **FORATOM**, the voice of the European nuclear industry.

Once the UK leaves the European Union, the UK will still be bound by international treaties and conventions as a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). However, according to FORATOM, if the EU and the UK do not reach an agreement before the date of withdrawal of the Euratom Treaty, this is likely to have significant impact on the nuclear market in both the EU and the UK.

Yves Desbazeille, the newly appointed **Director General of FORATOM**, introduced the keynote speaker, **Adam Kanne**, who is **Senior Advisor at Uniper and Chairman of FORATOM's Brexit Task Force**. Mr Kanne reminded that 80% of energy production is still fossil based and the EU has to reduce emissions by more than 90% by 2050.

The Euratom Treaty does not only concern energy production, it provides a legal framework for civil nuclear operations within the EU. In practice, it facilitates research in the nuclear sector and ensures access to nuclear fuel supplies. It also enables freedom of movement of nuclear components, services and workers or correct disposal of nuclear waste, among other things. The UK is the second largest civil nuclear state in the EU and therefore cooperation disruptions with that country could affect nuclear supplies to Europe, as well as the smooth continuation of research activities, such as the JET programme on nuclear fusion.

Julie Girling was invited to offer some comments on the issue in her capacity as **British MEP**. Ms Girling insisted on the need to push for further progress concerning the cooperation between the UK and the EU after the "Brexitatom". She encouraged the EU side to start making preparations to move on.



Dinner-debates

Retail markets in the Clean Energy Package: the electricity industry and consumers debate

A key objective of the Commission's "Clean Energy Package" is to empower European energy consumers. But ongoing debates on the electricity market design have been more focused on wholesale than on retail markets. The Union of the Electricity Industry, **EURELECTRIC**, initiated a dinner-debate to discuss the key provisions on future retail electricity markets and consumers' engagement in the energy system.

EURELECTRIC invited the European Consumers Organisation, **BEUC**, to debate how to make retail markets in the EU more consumer-friendly. Three focused sessions allowed for an open exchange of views between **António Coutinho, Chair of EURELECTRIC Retail Customers Committee**, and **Monika De Volder, Energy Team Leader at BEUC**. The key points addressed included retail prices and energy poverty, bills and supplier switching, as well as self-consumption and demand-response.

Both associations agree that European consumers are not getting the full benefits of the wholesale market. Tax and levies on electricity have grown by 70% since 2008. This results in a significant increase of retail electricity prices- while wholesale prices are decreasing- and it leads to energy poverty. For EURELECTRIC, price regulation should be completely phased-out. BEUC sees a possibility for regulated prices when vulnerable consumers need to be protected.

BEUC and EURELECTRIC share the view that European consumers should have access to clearer information in order to make better informed choices. This implies more transparency in policy costs. When it comes to switching supplier, this involves guaranteeing free switching. Any early termination fees should be proportionate to real costs.

In the European Commission's view, the redesign of the electricity market represents an opportunity to address market issues on the consumer side, not only on the supplier side as it was the case in the past. The retail and wholesale markets will become less isolated from each other. According to **Eero Ailio, Deputy Head of Unit for Retail Markets, Coal and Oil at DG Energy**, demand response is one way for consumers to obtain financial benefits from their change of behaviour. But it will not work unless regulated prices for households come to an end.



Dinner-debates

27 NOVEMBER - DINNER-DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

Distributed energy: benefits for business customers and the European energy system

The revision of the Electricity Market Directive and the Energy Efficiency Directive have put on the table a transformation of the whole energy chain. The concept of distributed energy offers a joint approach to energy to optimise the possibilities of an electricity grid which is intended to become increasingly flexible. **MEP Peter Kouroumbashev** chaired a discussion hosted by **Centrica** that analysed the opportunities this concept can bring for business consumers with substantial energy needs.

Distributed energy is not a very common term in Brussels, it refers to the combination of new technologies to optimise the energy use of business customers. **Jorge Pikunic, Managing Director of Distributed Energy and Power of Centrica**, explained how the company is implementing this approach which can increase the resilience, performance, efficiency and/or sustainability of companies' production systems.

The solutions that this approach offers for business consumers include three areas, explained Centrica's representative. First, providing insights on the energy use of a particular customer. Second, creating value for it. Third, finding the right combination of technologies to solve a specific problem for a particular customer. This includes distributed generation, storage and highly efficient combined heat and power. Coca-cola bottling in Italy, for instance, has reduced its carbon print by 15% and saved 40% on energy costs with a combined heating and cooling system which is providing 60% of power demand and 80% of cooling.

The Clean Energy Package can boost the implementation of this new approach by allowing larger consumers to contribute to the system with their flexibility and enabling all types of flexibility in the market. Distributed energy can also help applying energy efficiency across the whole energy value chain allowing access to data to guarantee a more efficient consumption, said Mr Pikunic.

The Commission is aware of these needs. **Manuel Sánchez Jiménez, Senior Officer for Smart Grids at DG Energy**, agreed that distributed energy is an attractive option which offers consumers many opportunities to manage their consumption. Active consumption is already a reality in other sectors, but developments are slower in the energy field. In this sense, data management will be crucial, as a responsible and well monitored exchange of data will bring positive changes for consumers and new business opportunities.



Lunch-debate

6 DECEMBER - LUNCH-DEBATE IN BRUSSELS

Citizens' energy drives local economies - Current practice and Clean Energy Package perspective

The Commission's proposal for the Directive on the Internal Market for Electricity foresees the adoption of an umbrella term for citizens' energy initiatives – "local energy communities" (LECs) – as well as a set of basic provisions. This concept is not one of the most debated in ongoing negotiations, but it can become a crucial tool to empower energy consumers. The last EEF debate of 2017 was initiated by the European Commission's Directorate General for Energy to discuss the legal framework around the LECs.

MEP Adam Gierek welcomed **Michał Kurtyka** and **Andrzej Piotrowski, Polish Deputy Ministers for Energy**. He invited **European Commission's Director Klaus-Dieter Borchardt** to make introductory statements. Local energy communities are not something that was made up in the Clean Energy Package, they already exist. A number of successful examples across the EU have shown that they can empower consumers, create jobs and directly benefit local economies. The lunch-debate was an opportunity to introduce EEF members to the achievements of three communities with different structure, size and scope of activities.

Śławomir Kopeć presented the Polish energy cluster **Zielone Podhale** established in 2016. The cluster is a cooperation network that builds on a broad range of partners including municipalities, counties, municipal and energy companies, a regional hospital and academia. It provides a flexible structure for cooperation which can adapt to changing circumstances. Deputy Minister Piotrowski emphasized that this flexibility makes possible the association of different types of actors and prevents domination of the cluster by large corporations.

Coopérnico, Portugal's first renewable energy cooperative, opted for a cooperative model to engage citizens and companies. This model is based on citizens' ownership. The founder **Nuno Brito Jorge** explained that it puts citizens in the first place and it ensures they receive reasonable return on the investments they make through the cooperative. The cooperative also integrates social considerations as it collaborates with educational and socio-economic institutions.

In the third presentation, **Karl-Willi Beck** and **Marco Krasser** from the **Municipality of Wunsiedel**, Germany, introduced how the town has managed to revive its economy by creating a municipal utility. Wunsiedel has relied on renewable energy to build up decentralized energy production, and through that has supported local employment. In 2016, Wunsiedel was even awarded "Energy Municipality of the Month" by the Renewable Energies Agency.

These successful initiatives have shown that "there is no universal model for local energy communities", Mr Kopeć underlined. "The optimal solution depends on local circumstances." The different contributions generated much discussion between representatives of local initiatives, the European Commission, MEPs and energy companies and associations.



Study visits

2 MARCH - STUDY VISIT IN BRUSSELS

Experience the future today: "Living Tomorrow"

Consumers will be active players in the energy markets of the future. The Clean Energy for All Europeans package will define the possibilities for consumers to produce, store or sell the electricity they produce. In the initial phase of the Parliament's negotiations, the EEF was invited to visit the smart building "Living Tomorrow" in Brussels. EEF Associate Member **ABB** is partner in this innovative project which aims at researching and showing how the energy transition can concretely play out in residential houses.

During this visit chaired by **MEP Lambert van Nistelrooij**, the EEF delegation had the opportunity to witness some innovative technologies available today in homes to empower energy consumers:

- Integrated energy management systems which can be set up to control heating, cooling, ventilation, lighting and specific electric appliances in houses and commercial buildings;
- Small size batteries which allow home owners to store excess energy produced by their solar panels for periods with higher energy demands;
- Solar fast charging stations which, thanks to solar panels placed on the roof, allow customers to charge an electric car to 80% of its capacity within fifteen minutes;
- Microgrids which make local communities more resilient to extreme weather events and contribute to keeping the power system stable.

Digitalisation, for instance through integrated smart homes, can contribute to the energy transition. **Peter Van Den Heede, Head of Sales and Business Development at ABB Benelux**, explained EEF Members how gateways connect various smart homes appliances. So far, there is no gateway regulation for homes at the EU level. This launched a discussion on how EU legislation could best be adapted to new market models and integrate smart homes.

In addition to the energy side, the delegation had the opportunity to get hands-on information on the future of e-Health & Care and interactive home appliances.



Study visits

1 to 3 JUNE - STUDY VISIT TO VIENNA

Energy efficiency and renewables integrated in an urban area



The EEF was invited to Vienna with a delegation of MEPs and Associate Members to witness how a city integrates smart technologies, energy efficiency and renewable energy in an urban environment. This high-quality visit was chaired by **Paul Rübiger, Austrian MEP** and Vice President of the EEF.

Vienna attaches major importance to science and research. The city aims to be one of the five biggest European research and innovation hubs in 2050. Its energy and climate approach is defined by the Smart City Wien Framework Strategy launched in 2013 and based on five key objectives: cutting down emissions, reducing energy consumption, increasing energy production from renewable sources, reducing motorized individual transport and giving citizens a more active role in their energy consumption.

This initiative is in line with the Commission's proposal to introduce a higher share of renewables in the energy market, boost energy efficiency and reduce emissions. Austria, as the rest of EU countries, will have to put in place different measures in line with this approach. **Michael Losch**, Head of Section III "Energy and Mining" of the **Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy of Austria**, had an interesting exchange of views with the EEF delegation on how Austria sees the Commission's proposals and how it is trying to implement them both at national and local level. The group met the recently appointed **Minister of Science, Research and Economy, Harald Mahrer**. The local approach to energy was also discussed with **Mag. Josef Taucher, member of the Vienna State Parliament and City Council**, who was present during an informal dinner with the group organised by **Wien Energie**.

In addition to the discussions with government representatives, the delegation met with other key energy players. One of them was **E-Control**, the National Regulatory Authority (NRA) for the electricity and gas markets. The **Director, Wolfgang Urbantschitsch**, briefed the delegation on the NRA assessment of "ACER 2.0" and opened an exchange of views on the Clean Energy Package which was extended during an informal discussion organised by **Verbund**.



Study visits

Changes in EU policies do not only have consequences on Member States, but also on neighbouring countries. The relations of the EU with its neighbours are especially important in the energy field. The **Energy Community** was created to extend the EU internal energy market to South East Europe and beyond on the basis of a legally binding framework. The delegation took the opportunity to visit the Energy Community premises, situated in Vienna. **MEP Jerzy Buzek**, President of the EEF, took over the chair for this meeting. The group had the possibility to discuss with the **Energy Community Director** of the organisation, **Janez Kopac**, how its different members are adopting EU legislation, the so-called *acquis communautaire*, in energy and related areas.

The programme was also packed with visits to innovative energy sites. The development of energy research in the city, according to the local government plan, was the reason why the delegation visited **Aspern smart city**. This quarter of Vienna, still under development, was created on the joint initiative of a network operator, an energy generation and supply company, a technology company and the City of Vienna. Aspern integrates different research projects on energy consumption, smart buildings, grids and ICT.

Vienna obtains most part of its renewable energy from hydro power. **Freudenau** power plant, which received the visit of the delegation, can supply around half of all Viennese households with green electricity. When it opened in 1998, it was the first large-scale river power plant worldwide in a city of over one million inhabitants. Freudenau hydropower plant has a capacity of 172 megawatts, generating an average of around 1,050 gigawatt hours annually by damming the Danube for around 28 kilometres at a height of 8.6 metres.

In addition to boosting the use of renewables, the city is also trying to improve energy efficiency. One of their local initiatives focuses on the use of waste to produce energy. **Spittelau** is one of Vienna's waste incineration plants with a particular touch, as it was designed by the Austrian artist Friedensreich Hundertwasser. The energy generated from this plant is used to produce electricity and the remaining heat is inserted into the district heating network. The Spittelau waste incineration plant processes around 250,000 tonnes of household waste every year. The heat produced is enough to heat more than 60,000 households in 12 months. The plant produces around 40,000 MWh of electricity, 470,000 MWh of district heating, 6,000 tonnes of scrap iron and 60,000 tonnes of clinker, ash and filter cake.

The guided tour of the EEF delegation through the plant premises showed the waste hopper of approximately 7,000 m³ in size, where a gripper arm takes the refuse to the two waste furnaces. The hot flue gases produced after the incineration are passed through a heat exchanger, which produces steam. This is used to produce both district heating and electricity. Flue gases produced during the incineration are purified and released from the chimney at 126 metres.

The **Simmering** biomass and cogeneration plant is another example of how the city of Vienna is trying to improve energy efficiency. Simmering began supplying electricity in 1902. Since 2009, the plant supplies electricity to 730,000 households and over 7,000 business customers. In addition, the Simmering 1 power plant provides district heating for almost 270,000 households. A gas and steam-powered plant supplies the energy and the additional use of combined heat and power or cogeneration (CHP) technology provides an efficiency ratio of more than 81 percent. The delegation was also briefed on the flexibility and storage mechanisms of the plant.

Vienna is putting in place a sustainable city development model taking into account the available resources and developing research and innovation. The mix of meetings with government representatives and energy players, together with the different visits to energy sites, helped building a picture on the efforts the city is doing in that direction. A different way to meet, discuss and get informed with practical examples on policy and technology developments in the energy field.



Briefing for MEP assistants

8 JUNE - BRIEFING FOR MEP ASSISTANTS IN BRUSSELS

Discussing key energy issues and the clean energy proposals with energy regulators

The EEF organised a briefing for MEP assistants during which energy regulators commented on the current clean energy transition. Five speakers from the **Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER)**, the **Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)** and **DG Energy (European Commission)** exchanged views with MEP assistants and industry members of the EEF.

The clean energy transition is transforming the energy market and the role of energy regulators is crucial to coordinate this transformation. The Commission's proposal to reform ACER is an important step in this direction. However, energy regulators see some points for improvement on the proposed functioning of the agency. **Lord Mogg, CEER President and Chair of the ACER Board of Regulators**, requested more budgetary independence of the National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs), as well as access to information for ACER and NRAs to perform their monitoring functions. He also proposed higher protection of the ACER Board from political institutions and a staff selection made by the ACER Director, rather than by the Board.

The transformation is particularly important in the electricity market due to the introduction of a higher share of renewables. Regulators support the Commission's proposal of addressing barriers to flexibility. This will increase the share of electricity produced from variable renewable energy sources, including electricity produced by consumers. According to the **chair of the ACER/CEER Electricity Group, Fernando Hernández**, the proposal from the EU executive should take into account market needs and all participants should be responsible for the balancing of the market. This market evolution will also require a better integration of regional markets and cross border trade, as explained by **Alberto Pototschnig, ACER Director**.

In addition to generation and transmission, distribution and consumption are also changing. **Andrew Ebrill, CEER Secretary General**, explained that energy consumers and local networks will play a central role in this new market. The package, according to **Oliver Koch, Deputy Head of the Internal Market Unit of the Commission's DG Energy**, is ultimately designed to bring prices down for consumers and allow them to better control their consumption.





Meetings with members

The active involvement of EEF members is crucial for the functioning of the forum. The EEF gives high importance to keeping an open and regular dialogue with its members in an environment of mutual trust and respect. The EEF holds a number of internal meetings throughout the year with both Active and Associate Members to set up the programme of events and discussions and keep them informed on issues concerning the management of the association.

The internal meetings are organised taking into account the different levels of governance:

- A **Bureau meeting** was held in February in Strasbourg: the EEF President, the Vice-Presidents and Treasurer were invited.
- A **Board meeting** was held in March in Strasbourg: the EEF President, the Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer and the Directors were invited.
- An **Industrial Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) Meeting** was held in March in Brussels: the EEF Board and Associate Members were invited.
- A **General Assembly** was held in April in Strasbourg: EEF Active Members (Bureau, Directors and all other MEPs who are members of the EEF) were invited.

Active Members

President Jerzy Buzek: EPP, Poland

Treasurer Julie Girling: ECR, United Kingdom

Vice Presidents

- Pilar del Castillo Vera: EPP, Spain
- Neena Gill: S&D, United Kingdom
- Miapetra Kumpula-Natri: S&D, Finland
- Paul Rübig: EPP, Austria
- Vladimir Urutchev: EPP, Bulgaria

Directors

- Daniel Caspary: EPP, Germany
- Jo Leinen: S&D, Germany
- Morten Helveg Petersen: ALDE, Denmark
- Inese Vaidere: EPP, Latvia
- Lambert van Nistelrooij: EPP, Netherlands

Active Members

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Richard Ashworth: ECR, United Kingdom | • Peter Kouroumbashev: S&D, Bulgaria |
| • Bendt Bendtsen: EPP, Denmark | • Zdzisław Krasnodębski: ECR, Poland |
| • Franc Bogovič: EPP, Slovenia | • Werner Langen: EPP, Germany |
| • Ashley Fox: ECR, United Kingdom | • Miroslav Mikolášik: EPP, Slovakia |
| • Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy: ALDE, Netherlands | • Csaba Molnár: S&D, Hungary |
| • Adam Gierak: S&D, Poland | • Angelika Niebler: EPP, Germany |
| • András Gyürk: EPP, Hungary | • Sven Schulze: EPP, Germany |
| • Barbara Kappel: ENF, Austria | • Davor Škrlec: Greens/EFA, Croatia |
| • Krišjānis Kariņš: EPP, Latvia | • Evžen Tošenovský: ECR, Czech Republic |
| • Seán Kelly: EPP, Ireland | • Derek Vaughan: S&D, United Kingdom |
| • Jaromír Kohlíček: GUE/NGL, Czech Republic | • Henna Virkkunen: EPP, Finland |



Associate Members

The EEF welcomes companies, associations, energy-intensive industries, research organisations and regulators operating in the energy field. The activities carried out by EEF members include regulation, research, exploration, production, transmission, distribution and storage of all different energy sources, but also energy intensive industrial production.

EEF Associate Members as of 1st January 2018

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3M • ABB • AEGPL Europe • Amprion • AREVA • Aurubis • BDEW (German Association of Energy and Water Industries) • BP • CEA (Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission) • CEEP (Central Europe Energy Partners) • CEER (Council of European Energy Regulators) • CEFIC (European Chemical Industry Council) • Centrica • CEWEP (Confederation of European Waste-to-Energy Plants) • CEZ Group • Chevron • COGEN Europe (European Association for the Promotion of Cogeneration) • Consorzio RFX • Danish Energy Association • DTEK • E-Control (Austrian Energy Regulator) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EASE (European Association for Storage of Energy) • EDF • EDSO for Smart Grids (European Distribution System Operators) • ENEDIS (French Electricity Grid Distributor) • ENEL • Energiföretagen Sverige- Swedenergy • Engie • Eni • ENTSO-E (European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity) • ENTSG (European Network for Transmission System Operators of Gas) • E.ON • EPPSA (European Power Plant Suppliers Association) • ETN (European Turbine Network) • EUGINE (European Engine Power Plants Association) • EURACOAL (European Association for Coal and Lignite) • EURELECTRIC (Association of the electricity industry in Europe) • Eurogas (Association of the gas industry in Europe) • EUTurbines (European association of the gas and steam turbine manufacturers) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EWE • ExxonMobil • Fertilizers Europe (Association of fertilizer producers in Europe) • Finnish Energy • FORATOM (European Atomic Forum) • FoSG (Friends of the Supergrid) • FuelsEurope • Gas Natural Fenosa • GEODE (Association of local energy distributors in Europe) • GIE (Gas Infrastructure Europe) • GRDF (Gas Distribution System Operators in France) • Hellenic Petroleum • Hitachi • IBERDROLA • Ifiec Europe • INTER RAO • IOGP (International Association of Oil & Gas Producers) • Lukoil • NIS (Naftna Industrija Srbije) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naftogaz of Ukraine • National Grid Belgium • Neste • OMV • PGNiG (Polish Oil and Gas Company) • PKEE (Polish Electricity Association) • PKN Orlen • Repsol • RTE (French Transmission System Operator) • RWE • Shell • SHV Energy • Snam • Statoil • The Dow Chemical Company • Total • Tractebel Engineering • UFE (French Union of Electricity) • Uniper • Wärtsilä Corporation • Westinghouse Electric Company • Wintershall |
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EEF Secretariat



Pascale Verheust

Director General

Tel. +32 2 227 04 60 Mobile +32 475 85 34 27
pascale.verheust@europeanenergyforum.eu

Ángela Sainz Arnau

Communications and Events Officer

Tel. +32 2 227 04 62
angela.sainz@europeanenergyforum.eu

Maud Michiels

Administrative and Financial Advisor

Tel. +32 2 227 04 61
maud.michiels@europeanenergyforum.eu

Pauline Maldague

Projects and Events Officer

Tel. +32 2 227 04 63
pauline.maldague@europeanenergyforum.eu

European Energy Forum

Square Eugène Plasky, 92-94 bte 14 - 1030 Brussels (Belgium)

+32 2 227 04 60 - assistant@europeanenergyforum.eu

Transparency register: 45953576620-17

www.europeanenergyforum.eu



@EEF_EnergyForum



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