

EEF INFORMATION BULLETIN

MARCH 2019 EDITION



European elections are only a few weeks away. Before MEPs go on campaign, the EEF Board took an opportunity to discuss with its Associate Members the programme of the after elections period. The EEF Board is indeed preparing a programme of events that will start as of July 2019. During the ITAC breakfast on the 20th of February, Associate Members presented their proposals for 2019, and the beginning of 2020. Mr Jerzy Buzek – EPP, Poland and President of the EEF, reminded of the reception that will be held on 12th March 2019 in Strasbourg and gather MEPs, current EEF active members and potential new active members, to give them the opportunity to exchange on the “EEF experience” through spontaneous speeches.



EEF Energy Discussion - « The EEF before and after the elections » 12 March 2019 - STRASBOURG

Jerzy Buzek - MEP, EPP Poland, President of the the European Energy Forum
Neena Gill - MEP, S&D UK, Vice-President of the European Energy Forum



EEF General Assembly & Reception 2 July 2019 - STRASBOURG

Roads to an affordable energy transition towards 2050

Tuesday 12 February 2019, Strasbourg

Hosted by ENGIE

ENGIE, which hosted the event, also invited CEPI to give a complementary view to the topic developed: roads to an affordable energy transition to the 2050 targets. The speakers represented three sides particularly involved in the energy transition process: the production side, the consumer side and the European Commission.

The MEP **Miapetra Kumpula-Natri**, **S&D Finland**, **Vice-president of the EEF**, was the chairwoman of the discussion. **Didier Holleaux**, **Executive Vice-President of ENGIE** underlined a series of topics such as the importance of having a dispatchable source of power to back up renewables, the need to account for peak demand and carbon footprint



issues due to a hasty electrification of the system. He explained ENGIE's vision concerning the role of gases in the transition process. He touched upon various issues: the coordination between the gas and power network, the bright future foreseen for hydrogen and types of biogases needed in the energy mix to achieve a full decarbonisation. He concluded his intervention with an optimistic message for the future on the achievability of the 2050 decarbonisation targets in a sustainable way and added some policy recommendation to help the process.

Sylvain Lhôte—**Director General of CEPI** (Confederation of European Paper Industries) underlined the role of natural gas in the transition process. It will keep an important role in high intensity industries such as paper, petrochemicals or iron and steel. Mr Lhôte put forward the issue of market design and explained how to coordinate the aims of the energy transition with the need for industries to remain competitive. He urged European Institutions to take decisive steps towards a

comprehensive legislative framework for the gas market which mirrors the electricity one. We need to take in consideration the balancing of regional differences in terms of investments for low carbon gases, at the world and at the European level.

The European Commission's speaker, **Rémi Mayet** – **Deputy head of Unit of Security of Supply at DG ENERGY** – focused on the role that gases such as biogas and e-gas will have in the future and underlined the importance in security of supply to reduce the current 55% gas import dependency to the forecasted 20% in 2030. Mr Mayet welcomed the bilateral efforts in regional cooperation between Member States in order to secure gas delivery, highlighting the importance to protect ourselves from new security challenges arising from the interdependency among European countries. He sketched three important topics for the future gas market: the issue of methane leakages, the crucial



role of long-lasting infrastructure convertible and fit for hydrogen and CO₂ storage during the transition, and sector coupling to develop the complementarity between the electricity and the gas network. He concluded his speech remarking the great opportunity that energy transition is for economy: the shift to a decarbonised economy can both boost the overall European growth and create millions of jobs.

Geopolitics of Energy Transition

Monday 18 February 2019, Brussels

Hosted by Terna

Terna hosted the last Dinner Debate of this parliamentary term and gave the opportunity to all our members to discuss the topic of Geopolitics of energy transition. Thanks to the cooperation of **Director General of EU Commission's DG Energy Dominique Ristori**, Terna invited **Mr Adnan Z. Amin - Director-General of the International Renewable Energy Agency IRENA**.



Mr Adnan Z. Amin took the floor as the first speaker and he spoke about challenges lying ahead: the energy transition may have massive disruptive consequence for society if we do not plan it. The future energy market will have implication for millions of jobs and trillions of dollars in assets. Climate change and global warming are in the center of the preoccupations for global instability. Mr Adnan Z. Amin reminded us of the importance of RES in strengthening the position of countries that rely on energy imports. He spoke about the role of the emergence of new decisive actors in the energy field in the geopolitical scenario. Old energetic players such as fossil fuel exporter countries will need to transform and diversify their production in order to survive. "There are disruptive changes coming and it is going to move fast. We need to invest in the right things today and we need to be aware of the challenges ahead if we want to be able to achieve the objectives."

Mr Guido Guida, Head of Terna's Brussels Office, took the occasion to thank the participants and to remark what a fundamental year 2018 has been for the EU in order to achieve full decarbonization. Mr Guida underlined how crucial the role of TSOs is to achieve the 2030 target first and the full decarbonisation after. As general strategy, he stressed the importance to act in three major directions in order to guarantee the securi-

ty of supply in the fast-changing framework of energy: (1) Infrastructure; (2) Digitalisation and (3) Innovation. The importance of a secure development has not been overlooked. The grids development and the digitalisation process have to go together with transparent managing of data and protection from cybersecurity threats.

An in-depth analysis of situation from the Italian perspective was brought by **Mr Fabio Bulgarelli Terna's Head of Regulatory Affairs**. Mr Bulgarelli, focused his presentation on the specific challenges and the key enablers of Italy's energy transition. He provided an in depth analysis for the regulatory framework of the electricity market. He underlined the critical role played by regulatory framework to support investments and he draw a scheme of possible improvements for it.



Director General of DG Energy, Dominique Ristori reminded us of how Europeans have suffered the use of energy as a weapon in the international scene though oil and gas crisis. The importance of renewables for energy security cannot be overstated. We have to keep in mind that the energy transition has to be fair and sustainable, without forgetting to develop fair competition and fair market.

ON OUR MEMBERS' SIDE

Eurogas annual conference

Wednesday, 3 April 2019



Eurogas will organise its annual conference on the 3rd of April, from 12.30 to 17.30, an interesting discussion that will be followed by a networking reception.

Several speakers from various horizons will present their speech during the event such as **Sean Kelly, EPP Ireland** or **Megan Richard Director of Energy Policy, European Commission**, challenging the energy situation.

More Information on:

<https://events.eurogas.org/programme/>

Women in Energy

The Women Energy Club celebrates 20 years and launches the website

<https://www.womenergyclub.eu/>

The Women Energy Club, an informal network of women working with energy questions, gathers skilled, passionate and powerful women who are based in Brussels and advocate European energy issues.

The core principles :

- ◇ to be an informal network;
- ◇ to serve as platform enabling open and inclusive debates, where all sectors, technologies and approaches are represented;
- ◇ to use collective resources to the advantage of members and enable first-class in-depth analysis of energy policy issues

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