



High-level conference:  
**Looking at the future Energy  
Union beyond the crisis**



**20 April 2023**

***Berlaymont Building - Schuman Room, Rue de la Loi 200, 1000 Brussels***

## **Agenda**

**08:30-09:30** Security Check and Welcome coffee

**[NB. Please do not arrive later than 09:00]**

**09:30-09:40** Opening remarks by **Kadri SIMSON, Energy Commissioner**

**09:40-09:50** Opening remarks by **Daniel LILJEBERG, State Secretary to Minister for Energy, Business and Industry, Swedish Presidency of the Council** (video message)

### **Session 1**

#### **Role of strategic planning to strengthen energy security and affordability**

***(09:50-10:50)***

The EU has established a clear and structured path by tabling the REPowerEU Plan and paving the way for completely replacing Russian fossil fuels, while strengthening the EU energy security. Member States are now implementing the REPowerEU Plan at national level in full speed and will reflect this work in their updated National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs).

Participants will discuss how strategic planning and coordinated action is key to strengthening energy security in the years to come, including reinforcing preparedness, diversification of energy supplies, demand reduction and ultimately complete substitution of fossil fuels in the EU energy system towards a future clean and resilient energy system, also in the context of the NECPs revision.

*Chair: Mechthild WÖRSDÖRFER, Deputy-Director General, Directorate General for Energy, European Commission*

*Panelists:*

- *Kadri SIMSON, Commissioner for Energy*
- *Fatih BIROL, Executive Director, International Energy Agency*
- *Claude TURMES, Minister of Energy and Spatial Planning, Luxembourg*
- *Ana FONTOURA GOUVEIA, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate, Portugal*
- *Laurence TUBIANA, Chief Executive Officer, European Climate Foundation*

*Floor interventions*

*Closing remarks and outlook for the Spanish Presidency of the Council by Ambassador Raúl FUENTES, Deputy Permanent Representative, Spain*

**Session 2**

**Enabling the clean energy transition and building a resilient EU energy system**

**(10:50 – 14:20)**

**10:50-11:10** Keynote speech by **Bertrand PICCARD, President Solar Impulse Foundation**

**11:10-12:00** **Roundtable 1: Regional cooperation and local involvement to reinforce energy security and affordability**

Building on the achievement of the European integrated energy market, regional cooperation and solidarity were instrumental to address the energy crisis and ensure secure and affordable energy for all Europeans. Local involvement and regional cooperation at local level will also ensure that no one is left behind by strengthening consumer empowerment and ultimately affordability.

The Governance of the Energy Union and the NECP provide Member States a unique tool to integrate regional and local aspects of their energy policies, while drawing lessons of the main achievement of the EU response to the energy crisis.

Participants will discuss how regional cooperation, solidarity and local involvement can build a more resilient EU Energy system, and ultimately ensure secure and affordable energy for all Europeans presenting concrete examples.

*Chair: Massimo GARRIBBA, Deputy Director-General, DG Energy, European Commission*

*Panelists:*

- *Elizabeth PRESS, Director of Planning and Programme Support, Executive Office, International Renewable Energy Agency*
- *Giles DICKSON, CEO of WindEurope*
- *Josko KLISOVIC, President of the Zagreb city Assembly, Member of the Committee of Regions*

- *Dario NARDELLA, President of Eurocities*

*Floor interventions*

**12:00 – 12.45 Networking interval (light meal foreseen)**

**12:45-13:40 Roundtable 2: Removing remaining regulatory and physical barriers hindering the clean transition**

Participants will discuss how robust and comprehensive plans will enable to identify and address economic, regulatory and physical barriers, while providing certainty to private investors to trigger the massive investments needed.

The NECPs, as strategic integrated planning tool, will bring closer national objectives and key policies and measures to regulatory and physical constraints in one single document allowing for investment certainty (long term schedule of renewable energy capacity volumes-small and large scale, costs of ancillary services and grids, role of public and private financing, policies), alleviating regulatory and physical barriers in national administrations and thus a smoother decision process for projects to materialise.

*Chair: Stefano GRASSI, Head of Cabinet, Energy Commissioner*

*Panelists:*

- *Ivo MILATIĆ, State Secretary, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Croatia*
- *Sonya TWOHIG, Secretary General, ENTSO-E*
- *Walburga HEMETSBERGER, CEO of Solar Power Europe*
- *Monica FRASSONI, President of European Alliance to Save Energy*

*Floor interventions*

**13:40-14:20 Roundtable 3: Preserving and Reinforcing Competitiveness of the EU Energy System**

Participants will discuss how a strengthened Energy Union and the updated NECPs will contribute to foster research, innovation and competitiveness to ensure a strong and competitive EU energy market with skilled people as well as diversified and strong supply chains and clean energy equipment.

Earlier this year, Commission tabled the European Green Deal Industrial Plan notably based on the need to ensure predictable and simplifies regulatory environment, skills and open trade of supply chains. In this context, participants will discuss how strategic planning with the NECPs and strong Governance of the Energy Union will serve the implementation to strengthen EU competitiveness while paving the way to the Net-Zero Age.

*Chair: Clara DE LA TORRE, Deputy Director-General, DG Climate Action, European Commission*

*Panelists:*

- *Anna LUKASZEWSKA-TRZECIAKOWSKA, Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Climate and Environment, Poland*
- *Agustin DELGADO, CTO Iberdrola, representing the Steering Committee of European Roundtable of Industry*
- *Federica SABBATI, General Secretary of European Heating Industry*
- *Kim JØRGENSEN, Permanent Representative of European Investment Bank in Brussels*

*Floor interventions*

**14:20-14:30 Conclusions and way forward**

*Ditte Juul Jørgensen, Director-General, DG Energy, European Commission*

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