



EUROPEAN COMMISSION - PRESS RELEASE

Renewable energy: Finnish, Greek and Polish legislation still not in line with EU rules

Brussels, 22 March 2012 - Increasing the renewable energy share to at least 20% by 2020 in the EU overall energy consumption is an important precondition for a more sustainable and competitive Europe. Reaching this goal relies on the commitment of Member States to fully implement the requirements of the EU legislation.

The Renewable Energy [Directive \(2009/28/EC\)](#) had to be implemented by Member States by 5 December 2010. The timely transposition of EU legislation is a priority for the Commission, especially since unnecessary delays in implementing may jeopardize the achievement of the EU renewable energy objective. However, Finland, Greece, and Poland have not yet informed the Commission of the full transposition of the Directive into their national legislation.

Therefore, the Commission has today decided to send Reasoned Opinions to these Member States. If the Member States do not comply with their legal obligation within two months, the Commission may decide to refer them to the Court of Justice.

Background

The EU has committed itself to reach a 20% share of renewable energy in final energy consumption and a 10% share of renewable energy in transport. The regulatory framework laid down by the Renewable Energy Directive is a key element for reaching these objectives.

According to the Directive, every Member State has to reach individual targets for the overall share of renewable energy in energy consumption. For reaching these targets, Member States have to lay down rules, for example for improving the grid access for electricity from renewable energy and the administrative and planning procedures. The Directive also requires that provisions on guarantees of origin and information and training are in place. In addition, where biofuels are used to achieve the transport target, these must meet a set of sustainability requirements.

Further information

The Renewable Energy Directive can be consulted [here](#).

Commission web page on renewable energy:

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/index_en.htm

Current figures on infringements in general can be found at:

http://ec.europa.eu/eu_law/infringements/infringements_en.htm

For more information on EU infringement procedures, see [MEMO/12/200](#)

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