

# FSR European Energy Policy and Law Conference

## Energy priorities for the next European Commission

 @FSR\_Energy #EnergyPriorities

### 12 September 2019

Venue: Cercle de Lorraine - Club van Lotharingen, Place Poelaert 6, 1000 Bruxelles, Belgium -

Scientific Organisers:

**Christopher Jones** | Florence School of Regulation / RSCAS / EUI

**Andris Piebalgs** | Florence School of Regulation / RSCAS / EUI

Scientific Coordinator:

**Maria Olczak** | Florence School of Regulation / RSCAS / EUI

### Introduction

The next Commission will play a decisive role with respect to the future of European energy policy.

It will need to ensure the successful implementation of the current Commission's legacy; delivering on highly ambitious renewables and energy efficiency targets, completing the infrastructure linking all Member States to multiple gas sources, and finalising the detailed regulatory changes following from the gas and electricity Network Codes.

But the challenges go way beyond this. It will need to find the path to implement these challenges in a way that keeps Europe competitive and creates jobs; developing the infrastructure to make the decarbonisation vision a cost-effective policy, and finding ways to catalyse the development of the huge North and Baltic Sea wind potential and PV resources of the South.

Equally, the EU will be facing some tough challenges; the increasing level of intermittent renewable electricity in its system will make battery and hydrogen storage essential by the mid-2020's.

And, above all, it will need to develop the longer term EU energy policy, as the Council and Parliament set the EU's long-term climate vision to 2050. In the longer term, should we continue on a renewable energy sources (RES) and energy efficiency 'target-based' model, or should the EU allow the ETS system to do the job that it was designed to do?

Central in this respect is sector coupling; it is clear that low-carbon gas, notably hydrogen and biomethane, will need to be an important part of the EU's decarbonised energy system, but there is currently an investment 'valley of death' that will be difficult to climb out of in the foreseeable future. The Commission will need to set the regulatory framework for the future, so that all sources and vectors of energy are able to compete equally with one another. The principle is simple, implementing it far less so.

The event is aimed to discuss these issues and to draw some first conclusions on what, indeed, should be the next Commission's energy priorities.

Session 1 will look at the challenges in delivering a cost-effective and competitive EU electricity system, and achieving the EU and Member States' renewables targets whilst meeting the goals of competitiveness and energy security. It will examine progress in developing offshore wind in the Baltic and North Seas and the challenges that need to be met, floating offshore wind, photovoltaics (PV) in the south of Europe, the role of corporate PPAs, developments in support schemes and the role of spatial planning, and the new cross-border renewable energy support mechanism.

Session 2 will look at the role of gas - natural, biomethane, green and low-carbon - in the EU's long-term energy system:

- What measures need to be taken to create the business case to invest in bio-methane, green and low-carbon gas and carbon capture and storage?
- How to define 'sector coupling' - is it more than simply creating the conditions to enable all energy sources and vectors to compete freely in a carbon priced market?
- What needs to be done to make sector coupling a reality?
- What needs to be done to make markets work more effectively?
- What will be the future long-term role of gas infrastructure?
- What should the Gas Market Design address and how?
- How to address the issue of fugitive methane emissions?

Session 3 will look at what will be the key infrastructure challenges moving forward, and what the next Commission will need to do to deal with them:

- The offshore grid: what type of grid will be needed, and how to make it happen?
- The EU's gas grid: the end of European assistance or more investment for energy security?
- Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS): how to catalyse investment?
- Is the current Trans-European Networks for Energy (TEN-E) and Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) legal framework fit for purpose?
- What will be the role of the ETS Innovation Fund?
- How will the grid cope with increasing RES generation in 2030, 2040 and 2050: a new 'super-grid', or failure to finance and give planning permission to new needed infrastructure leading to congestion and curtailed RES?

Session 4 will look at the challenges facing the EU's competition policy to evolve and to meet the rapid changes taking place on EU energy markets:

- Consolidating markets to meet the renewables challenge on how to address market power in evolving and integrating markets: when will geographic market definition on gas and electricity markets widen?
- Competition policy as a driver for creating a competitive Internal Energy Market, what will be the next steps?
- The role of data in the medium term;
- Increasingly sophisticated economic analysis in merger cases, what next?
- State aid in the light of the new Court of Justice of the European Union judgements and the review of the Environmental Guidelines.

The final keynote session will focus on a blueprint for the new Commission. What needs to be done to ensure that the EU meets its sustainable goals, guarantees energy security and delivers jobs and growth; an impossible triangle or an energy policy for EU citizens?

## Programme

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09.00 - 09.15 Welcome address:  
**Jean-Michel Glachant** | Florence School of Regulation / RSCAS / EUI

09.15 - 09.45 **Keynote address:**  
"Challenges for European Energy and Climate Policy; building on the achievements of the Juncker Commission"  
**Miguel Arias Cañete** | European Commissioner, Climate Action & Energy

### SESSION 1: DELIVERING THE EU'S RENEWABLE ENERGY OBJECTIVES

09.45 - 10.30 Chair: **Andris Piebalgs** | Florence School of Regulation / RSCAS / EUI

Introductory remarks:  
**Paula Abreu Marques** | European Commission, DG Energy

Roundtable:  
**Paula Abreu Marques** | European Commission, DG Energy  
**Jasper Vis** | North Sea Wind Power Hub  
**Wojciech Cetnarski** | Polish Wind Energy Association  
**Roberto Purcaro** | Macquarie Capital  
**Julio Castro** | Iberdrola  
**Simone Mori** | ENEL

10.30 - 11.00 *Coffee break*

### SESSION 2: DELIVERING A GAS MARKET OF TOMORROW

11.00 - 12.15 Chair: **Christopher Jones** | Florence School of Regulation / RSCAS / EUI

Introductory remarks:  
**Florian Ermacora** | European Commission, DG Energy

Roundtable:  
**Florian Ermacora** | European Commission, DG Energy  
**Thierry Bros** | Oxford Institute for Energy Studies  
**Dennis Hesselning** | ACER  
**Simon Worthington** | BP  
**Gerald Linke** | GasNaturally / Marcogaz

### SESSION 3: INFRASTRUCTURE CHALLENGES AND THE NEW FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK

12.15 - 13.30 Chair: **Thierry Bros** | Oxford Institute for Energy Studies

Introductory remarks:

**Jane Amilhat** | European Commission, DG Energy

Roundtable:

**Jane Amilhat** | European Commission, DG Energy

**Alberto Pototschnig** | ACER

**Anne Boorsma** | ENTSOG

**Inés de la Barreda** | ENTSO-E

**Jochen Kreuzel** | Wind Europe / ABB Power Grids

13.30 - 14.30 *Lunch*

14.30 - 15.00

**Keynote address:**

“How will the EU’s Energy market look in 2050 and what does the next Commission need to do to make it happen?”

**Péter Kaderják** | Minister of State for Energy Affairs and Climate Policy of Hungary

#### **SESSION 4: COMPETITION POLICY CHALLENGES**

15.00 - 15.45

Chair: **Christopher Jones** | Florence School of Regulation / RSCAS / EUI

Introductory remarks:

**Lluís Sauri Romero** | European Commission, DG Competition

Roundtable:

**Lluís Sauri Romero** | European Commission, DG Competition

**Luis Gomez** | Baker McKenzie

**Norbert Maier** | Copenhagen Economics

**Tony Adam** | Nordex SE

15.45 - 16.15

*Coffee break*

#### **FINAL KEYNOTE SESSION: A SUSTAINABLE, COMPETITIVE, JOB CREATING AND SECURE ENERGY POLICY FOR EUROPE**

16.15 - 17.00

Chair: **Jean-Michel Glachant** | Florence School of Regulation / RSCAS / EUI

**Christopher Jones** | Florence School of Regulation / RSCAS / EUI

**Andris Piebalgs** | Florence School of Regulation / RSCAS / EUI

**Giles Dickson** | Wind Europe

**Kristian Ruby** | Eurelectric

**Boyana Achovski** | GasNaturally / GIE

**Walburga Hemetsberger** | Solar Europe