

9th ROMANIAN ENERGY DAY

**THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL
AS THE KEY RECOVERY MECHANISM AND
GROWTH STRATEGY FOR THE EU**

Date: Tuesday 20th of October 2020, 09:30 – 15:00 CET (RO 10:30 – 16:00)

Virtual venue: ZOOM Platform

Live streaming EN:

Live on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/CentrulRomanAlEnergiei>

Live on CRE Website

<https://www.crenerg.org>

Live streaming RO:

Live on Youtube

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCleuSivn7MDR5nIOFn8G6tQ?view_as=subscriber

09:00 – 09:30 CET (RO 10:00-10:30) CONNECTION TO THE ZOOM PLATFORM

09:30 – 10:15 CET (RO 10:30-11:15) INTRODUCTION & WELCOME SPEECHES

European Union is reinventing itself by embarking in its most ambitious project since its inception. The goal to become the first carbon neutral continent is taking on uncharted territories and will definitely test the cohesion of its member states. From uniting political elites towards common goals, to revolutionise the technical capabilities and strengthen the social cohesion and acceptance, the European Green Deal is in perfect symbiosis with the Energy Union project. Being a project of utmost importance post BREXIT, the European Green Deal will reaffirm Europe's relevance in the world while bridging the gap with the local politics' structures.

Moreover, the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic has seriously tested the global capacity to deal with major emergencies. The economic impact is more severe than the effects of the last financial crisis, hence the budgets of member states have been seriously tested. Is the Green Deal on track?

Corneliu BODEA, President, Romanian Energy Center

Kadri SIMSON, Commissioner for Energy, European Commission

Virgil POPESCU, Minister, Ministry for Economy, Energy and Business Environment of Romania

Luminița ODOBESCU, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Romania to the European Union

10:15 – 10:30 CET (RO 11:15-11:30) KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Tudor CONSTANTINESCU, Principal Advisor to the Director General for Energy, European Commission

Energy Investments in Romania in the light of political priorities.

10:30 – 12:00 CET (RO 11:30-13:00) PANEL DISCUSSION**MAKING THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL POSSIBLE – THE FINANCING & INFRASTRUCTURE CHALLENGES**

“Fortuna adiuvat – Fortune favours the strong”.

The extraordinary commitment of the European political elite towards carbon neutrality by 2050 is sending a clear and strong message of the pledge taken by Europe to preserve its relevance abroad, whilst assuring the wellbeing of its citizens in an environmentally benign manner. Making the European Green Deal a reality will involve, besides the full involvement of member states, unprecedented levels of investments. The European Green Deal Investment Plan is set to mobilise at least € 1 trillion in sustainable development over the next decade, of which the Just Transition Fund makes available € 100 billion for the fair and just transition for the period 2021-2027.

The economic realities after the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic will massively strain the European Union's and its members' budgets as well as their ability to reshuffle initial strategies and action plans. New mechanisms meant to ensure smooth economic recovery and resilience, such as the Next Generation EU¹, are meant to transform present challenges into opportunities.

The energy industry will emerge significantly changed from the SARS-CoV-2 crisis. Three key pillars are increasingly becoming of salience for companies' resilience and economic competitiveness, affordability and ultimately for security of supply, (1) digital technologies, (2) smart networks and (3) clean generation technology (as directly as possible) linked with consumers. These create the premises for clean, available and affordable energy for the next generation.

According to the International Energy Agency², the global energy investments are set to fall, as a result of the SARS-CoV-2 crisis, by 20% or almost USD 400 billion in capital spending compared with 2019, the largest decline on records. Some sectors, such as oil & gas witness even higher declines of around one third, compared to 10% for power sector and renewables and 9% for electricity networks. Overall, the share of energy investments in GDP fell at 2%, compared to 3% in 2014. These declines, besides the severe impact on the private and state owned energy companies, have a knock-on effect also on energy related government revenues.

One very important aspect of the EU energy policy is linking the energy infrastructures of member states, salient aspect for the energy and climate targets for 2030 and for the long-term decarbonization goal. For this purposes, the European commission is revamping the Regulation (EU) no 347/2013 (the TEN-E guidelines).

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_940

² <https://www.iea.org/reports/world-energy-investment-2020/key-findings#abstract>

MODERATOR:

Julian POPOV, Fellow, European Climate Foundation and Former Minister of Environment of Bulgaria

KEYNOTE SPEECHES:

Cristian BUȘOI, Member of the European Parliament, Group of the European People's Party, Chair of Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

The European Green Deal for Romania - Financing, Strategies, Challenges and Solutions

Cristian BĂDESCU, Special Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania on energy security

Capitalising upon indigenous energy resources, key element towards achieving the EU's carbon neutrality target by 2050

PANEL DISCUSSIONS:

Christian ZINGLERSEN, Director, Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators – ACER

Roland JUNCK, President, Liberty Steel Group

Roxana CALIMINTE, Deputy Secretary General, Gas Infrastructure Europe - *The future role of the gas infrastructure in a decarbonised energy system by 2050*

Anca-Iulia CÎMPEANU, Policy Officer, Unit B1 Internal Energy Market I: Networks and Regional Initiatives

Fiona WILLIAMS, Research Director, Ericsson

12:00 – 12:15 CET (RO 13:00-13:15) – Q&A SESSION

12:15 – 12:30 CET (RO 13:15-13:30) – COFFEE BREAK AND REFRESHMENT

12:30 – 14:00 CET (RO 13:30-15:00) INDUSTRY SESSION**LOOKING AT THE BIGGER PICTURE – A 360 DEGREES VIEW OF ROMANIAN ENERGY INDUSTRY'S RECONVERSION**

Carbon neutrality is Europe's most ambitious goal since the European leaders drafted the European Coal and Steel Community 70 years ago in order to secure political peace and restore the economy. Now, The Green Deal is pushing the boundaries of the cohesion among its member states and their relations on the international arena. The European competitiveness is the sum of its member states' competitiveness, consequently this panel attempts to decipher Romania's ability to address the European Green Deal and adapt it to its energy reality, by bringing into the debate the actors of change, the energy companies active in the Romanian energy sector.

MODERATOR:

Sorin ELISEI, Director of Energy and Resources Industry, Deloitte Romania

SPEAKERS:

Anca DRAGU, Deputy Director General, E.ON Romania

Adrian GOICEA, President of the Supervisory Board, Transelectrica

Carlo PIGNOLONI, CEO & Country Manager, ENEL Romania and President RWEA

Ondřej ŠAFÁŘ, Country Manager, CEZ Romania

Daniel BURLAN, President of the Board, Complexul Energetic Oltenia

Varinia RADU-ȘERBAN, Head of Energy and Projects Romania and CEE Deputy Head of Energy, CMS
Cameron McKenna

Overview of the current legal framework and critical aspects for ensuring a proper energy transition

14:00 – 15:00 CET (RO 15:00-16:00) Q&A SESSION, CONCLUSIONS AND FINAL REMARKS