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EGMONT Royal Institute
for International Relations

Development Group

Energy Transition: A multifaceted Challenge for Europe

1st Symposium: The impact of changing energy patterns on
EU competitiveness

30 April 2014, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm (followed by a lunch)
CCE - Conseil Central de l'Économie, 20, Avenue d'Auderghem, B-1040 Brussels



Background

2014 will be a critical year for both the EU and its energy policy. Therefore, Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations and the Development Group will convene a series of three “EU Energy Symposiums” followed by a “High Level Energy Conference” in Brussels in order to discuss various issues related to the multifaceted challenge of the EU energy transition towards a low-carbon economy.

The intense discussions held during the series of events organised in 2012 and 2013 (expert seminars and high level international conferences) showed that many questions related to the European Energy Transition towards a low-carbon economy require further in-depth analysis and debate. Therefore, the four upcoming events will address key issues that are currently at the core of the future European energy governance:

1st Symposium: The impact of changing energy patterns on EU competitiveness (30 April 2014)

2nd Symposium: How to finance the EU energy transition towards a low-carbon economy? (11 June 2014)

3rd Symposium: How to foster energy efficiency in the EU? (24 September 2014)

High Level Energy Conference: Designing the right 2030 EU framework for energy and climate policies (3 December 2014)

This forward thinking project aims at fostering an intense debate at the EU level by bringing together the views of the EU decision makers with those of the industry and other energy stakeholders active in Europe.

Programme

The issue of competitiveness has been brought to the top of the EU’s energy policy agenda. There are a number of key energy trends and factors which altogether impact the energy utilities, the consumers and the industry in Europe, with a particular concern for the energy intensive industry. The main energy issues at stake are the rise of energy imports within the EU, the increase of energy prices and price differentials with other regions of the world, the increasing public intervention in energy markets through new regulation(s), levies and subsidies, the integration of a growing share of renewable energy into EU markets, as well as the internalisation of environmental concerns into the energy sector via certain policies and tools (ETS, Energy Efficiency Directive etc.).

In light of the recent Commission’s proposal on the 2030 climate and energy framework, its Communication on energy prices and costs in Europe, as well as its Communication for a European Industrial Renaissance, and with regards to the conclusions of the forthcoming March European Council, this Symposium aims at addressing the issue of competitiveness in the field of energy.

09.00 - 09.15 Welcome address
Development Group &
EGMONT – Royal Institute for International Relations

09.15 - 09.30 Keynote address: The European energy policy in a global context
Dominique RISTORI, Director General, DG Energy, European Commission

09.30 - 11.00 Session 1: What is the impact of changing patterns in energy markets on EU competitiveness?

- Giovanni BRIANZA, Head of Strategic Planning and M.&A., Edison S.p.A.
 - Baudouin KELECOM, Fuels Executive, Refining and Supply Planning, ExxonMobil
 - Inge BERNAERTS, Head of Unit Internal Market II: Wholesale markets, electricity & gas, DG Energy, European Commission
- Discussant:** Jayesh PARMAR, Partner - Energy Advisory Services, Baringa Partners
Moderator: Clémentine d’OULTREMONT, Research Fellow, EGMONT Institute

11.00 - 11.15 Coffee break

11.15 - 12.45 Session 2: How to handle and mitigate the impact of high energy costs on EU competitiveness?

- Matthew GORDON, Director EMEA Government Relations, Honeywell Europe
 - Wolfram VOGEL, Director Public Affairs & Communications, European Power Exchange - EPEX SPOT SE
 - Alexandre AFFRE, Director of Industrial Affairs, Business Europe
- Discussant:** Claude MANDIL, Board member, SBC Energy Institute and former Executive Director, International Energy Agency (IEA)
Moderator: Sami ANDOURA, Senior Associate Fellow, EGMONT Institute, and Senior Research Fellow, Notre Europe – Jacques Delors Institute

12.45 - 01.00 Concluding address: How can the 2030 energy and climate package foster EU competitiveness?
Sandrine DIXSON-DECLÈVE, Director, Prince of Wales’ EU Corporate Leaders Group, and Executive Director, Green Growth Group

01.00 - 02.00 Lunch