

## **Towards clean, secure and affordable energy systems in Southeast Europe – Requirements, challenges and no-regret policy options**

**16 November 2018**

Labstelle Wien (Saal) | Wollzeile 1 | 1010 Vienna

Countries throughout Southeast Europe have high shares of electricity generated by an aging fleet of coal-fired power plants. Within the next decade, utilities and governments will decide whether to modernise or replace roughly 50 percent of the installed coal and lignite generation capacity. In the EU, a focal point for this debate is the development of integrated national energy and climate plans. Over the course of 2018 and 2019, member states must develop NECPs and consult them with their neighbours and the European Commission. Countries of the Energy Community have started a similar exercise. In this context, they discuss new national targets on greenhouse gas emissions, on renewable energy and on energy efficiency.

The combined effects of the EU targets – if delivered – will reduce EU greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 by well over 45 percent compared to emission levels in 1990. By 2030 on average 55 percent of electricity in the grid will be from renewable energy sources. Solar PV and wind power – driven by significant cost reductions – will almost certainly contribute the biggest share. Unlocking the renewables potential depends on a number of preconditions.

The cost-competitive potential corresponds directly with the perceived political, regulatory and financing risks of developing renewable energy projects. The higher these risks, the higher the cost of capital for RES investors and the lower the cost-competitive RES potential. Sound planning for the expected increase of intermittent renewable electricity will significantly reduce the costs and the practical challenges of power system operation. Here, regional cooperation can play an important role. A policy environment that enables increasingly coupled power markets, coordination w.r.t security of supply, renewable deployment and de-risking instruments are key.

This conference aims to look at the bigger picture of the regional energy transition, assessing the status quo and discussing options and requirements for clean, secure and affordable energy systems. The conference shall support a fact-based dialogue on the energy transition in Southeast Europe and create a space for making inclusive alliances comprised of governments, EU institutions, think-tanks, NGOs and citizens. The conference is part of two ongoing multi-country energy transition projects: The South East Europe Energy Transition Dialogue and the Western Balkans Energy Transition Dialogue. The projects are led by Agora Energiewende and are implemented with our national think-tank partners from the South East Europe Energy Transition Network.

*The project "South East Europe Energy Transition Dialogue" is part of the European Climate Initiative (EUKI) of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU). The project "Western Balkans Energy Transition Dialogue" is funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism (BMNT).*

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Federal Ministry  
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European  
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Sustainability and Tourism

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## AGENDA

8:45-9:15	<b>Registration and Welcome Coffee</b>
9:15-9:30	<b>Welcome and introduction by conference chair</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Matthias Buck</b>, Agora Energiewende</li></ul>
9:30-10:15	<b>Keynotes: Setting the stage for the clean energy transition in SEE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The challenge of climate change. Latest research on impacts in the SEE region, Regional Cooperation Council, <b>Goran Svalnović</b>, Regional Cooperation Council</li><li>• The EU's 2030 climate, energy &amp; financial framework: Challenges and opportunities for SEE countries, <b>Megan Richards</b>, European Commission</li><li>• Cross-border cooperation and alignment between the countries of the Energy Community and the EU, <b>Janez Kopač</b>, Energy Community Secretariat</li></ul> <i>followed by Q&amp;A</i>
10:15-11:30	<b>Towards clean, secure and affordable energy systems in South-East Europe. Unlocking the potential for low-cost renewables</b> <p>To reap the benefits of RES it is key that countries address barriers that make RES investments more costly than necessary</p> <i>Moderated by <b>Matthias Buck</b>, Agora Energiewende</i> <p><i>Impulse statement by <b>Frauke Röser</b>, NewClimate Institute</i> <i>followed by panel discussion and Q&amp;A</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Claudia Brandus</b>, ENEL Romania</li><li>• <b>Dimitri Lalas</b>, FACE<sup>3</sup>TS / NOA, Greece</li><li>• <b>Megan Richards</b>, European Commission</li><li>• <b>Frauke Röser</b>, NewClimate Institute</li></ul>
11:30-11:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>
11:45-13:00	<b>Just transition: the socio-economic challenge of phasing-down conventional generation</b> <p>Energy transition policies need to embrace energy-related and just transition dimensions. This session discusses options for integrated strategies.</p> <i>Moderated by <b>Sonja Risteska</b>, Agora Energiewende</i> <p><i>Impulse statement by <b>Ada Amon</b>, E3G</i> <i>followed by panel discussion and Q&amp;A</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Ada Amon</b>, E3G</li><li>• <b>Pippa Gallop</b>, CEE Bankwatch Network</li></ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mirza Kušljagić</b>, University of Tuzla and NERDA</li> <li>• <b>Megan Richards</b>, European Commission</li> </ul>
13:00-14:15	Lunch
14:15-15:30	<p><b>Boosting the SEE energy transition: Benefits from cross-border cooperation and integration</b></p> <p>For maximizing security of supply and minimising the flexibility challenge, regional cooperation and power system integration offer important ways forward. This session discusses options for strengthening regional cooperation in Southeast Europe and making power systems fit for flexibility.</p> <p><i>Moderated by <b>Christian Redl</b>, Agora Energiewende</i></p> <p><i>Impulse statement by <b>László Szabo</b>, REKK followed by panel discussion and Q&amp;A</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Joanna Maćkowiak Pandera</b>, Forum Energii</li> <li>• <b>Alija Mujčinagić</b>, State Electricity Regulatory Commission, Bosnia and Herzegovina</li> <li>• <b>László Szabo</b>, REKK</li> <li>• <b>Maja Turkovic</b>, Association for Sustainable Development</li> <li>• <b>Jasmina Trhulj</b>, Energy Community Secretariat</li> </ul>
15:30-15:45	<p><b>Summary Reflections and Closure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Matthias Buck</b>, Agora Energiewende</li> </ul>

## REGISTRATION

Participation at this conference is free of charge but registration necessary. Please register on our website <https://www.agora-energiewende.de/en/events/> by **11 November 2018**.

## CONTACT

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