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# Planning Europe's energy infrastructure: Unlocking benefits through deeper cooperation and cross-sectoral assessment

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Monday, 23 March 2026, 13:30–17:30 (networking reception afterwards)

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Residence Palace, Room Polak (ground floor), Rue de la Loi 155, 1040 Brussels | online

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Rising geopolitical tensions are changing Europe's energy landscape at the same time as the EU strives to strengthen its competitiveness and security on its path to climate neutrality by 2050.

There is significant, yet still underexploited, potential to reduce the costs of the energy transition and strengthen security of supply through better coordination of energy infrastructure planning at the European level. Substantial opportunities exist to design infrastructure to maximise efficiency, energy savings and electrification – as evidenced by a recent study by Agora Energiewende and think tank partners.

How can this be done in practice? The question will be at the core of our event.

Following the Commission's Grids Package proposal, the event features a high-level discussion of the EU-level priorities to ensure efficient infrastructure planning while addressing security concerns, Member State needs, and the further development of the European energy market. Participants will also have an opportunity to engage in facilitated discussions on country perspectives across Poland, France and Italy with think tank representatives from Forum Energii, IDDRI and ECCO.

## Registration

Participation at this event is free of charge. You can register by 19 March 2026 on our website: <https://www.agora-energiewende.org/news-events/planning-europes-energy-infrastructure>

## Recording

We are going to record the event and publish it on our website.

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## Programme

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- 13:30**      **Registration and light lunch**  
Moderation: **Sam Morgan**, Foresight Energy
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- 14:00**      **Welcome**  
**Frauke Thies**, Director Europe, Agora Energiewende
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- 13:35**      **Spotlights: WHY is an increased focus on infrastructure important right now?**  
Speakers to be announced shortly
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- 13:55**      **Panel 1: WHAT do we need to bring increased attention to energy infrastructure? What is missing in today's approach? Opportunities and challenges presented in the Grids Package**  
Panelists to be announced shortly
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- 15:10**      **Interactive coffee break and discussions**  
**ECCO**: Cross-border interconnections between Europe and Southern/Eastern Mediterranean countries  
**Forum Energii**: Industrial electrification in Poland  
**IDDRI**: Challenges and outlook for the French power system until 2035
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- 16:10**      **Panel 2: HOW do we implement a new approach? Compounding the benefits of a European energy system through European optimization and Member State expertise**  
Panelists to be announced shortly
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- 17:25**      **Wrap-up and closing remarks**  
**Frauke Thies**, Director Europe, Agora Energiewende
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- 17:30**      **Networking cocktail**
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