

Energy Community Parliamentary Plenum Meeting (hybrid) - Draft Agenda

Premises of the Energy Community Secretariat, 6th floor, Am Hof 4, 1010 Vienna

May 23, 14.30 -16.30

- 1. Welcome by Ms. Marina Pendeš, Deputy Chair of the Committee on Foreign and Trade Policy, Customs, Transport and Communications of House of Peoples of Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina***
 - 2. Statement by Mr. Artur Lorkowski, Director, Energy Community Secretariat***
 - 3. Advancing Green Transition– Empowering National Frameworks for an Effective Implementation of NECPs***
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Recognizing the significance of achieving climate neutrality by 2050, underscored by the recent adoption of the Fit for 55 Package and ongoing formulation of 2040 targets, the European Union (EU) reaffirms its commitment to fostering a green transition. This transition not only promises economic growth through the deployment of new technologies and the creation of green jobs but also heralds a reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and pollution.

As we strive towards these goals, it becomes imperative to discuss the role of national frameworks including parliaments in fostering the necessary reforms via policies and measures stipulated in the National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) and facilitating an efficient allocation of resources towards green energy transition.

Aspiring EU member states, guided by agreements like the Energy Community Treaty, are urged to align with sustainable trajectories while maintaining competitiveness. While governments set targets and policies via National Energy and Climate Plans, the indispensable role of parliaments in both design and implementation cannot be overlooked. Parliaments, as supreme legislators and budgetary authorities must ensure legal frameworks for reforms are provided and financial resources are allocated effectively to mobilize the green transition in line with NECP priorities.

This discussion explores how parliaments can effectively fulfil this role, addressing challenges and sharing successful practices in incentivizing reforms and financing the green transition amidst growing demand for legislative action.

- 4. Accelerating a successful EU integration process – the importance of compliance with the Energy Community Treaty***
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The opening of EU accession negotiations with Moldova and Ukraine and granting candidate status to Georgia in December 2023, and the subsequent opening of accession negotiations with Bosnia and Herzegovina in March 2024, gave a new impetus to the EU enlargement process. The political priority for advancing the integration of the EU's neighbourhood acts as a catalyst also for the already ongoing accession negotiations with other Contracting Parties.

The Energy Community was established 18 years ago on the principle of assisting EU aspirant countries in approximating their legal framework with that of the EU in order to be better prepared for the accession. This principle continues to have a key relevance today with the constant evolution of the EU *acquis* in energy and the related areas, and with major policy changes taking place in the EU to facilitate the green transition.

Thanks to the Energy Community Treaty, Contracting Parties have been offered with phasing-in into European energy markets upon the full harmonisation with the EU acquis. The EU legislative acts are required to be transposed in national law, the latest batch being the clean energy package of 2021 and 2022. The failure to comply with Energy Community Treaty obligations will have an adverse impact on the EU's evaluation of the national progress. On the other hand, a timely, comprehensive and correct transposition could open the door for an accelerated integration.

This session will discuss the importance of the clean energy package transposition and implementation in the context of the potential accelerated integration with the EU in electricity. Contracting Parties will be invited to share their experience in other policy areas where an accelerated integration with the EU would be mutually beneficial.

5. Closing remarks by Mr. Lorkowski and Ms. Pendeš (TBC)

19:00 Dinner

Venue TBC