Conference Programme

19th Inter-Parliamentary Meeting on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

HELSINKI, FINLAND, 22 & 23 NOVEMBER 2019

- Climate Emergency -
Faster Switch to Renewables and Energy Efficiency

In collaboration with the Energy Reform Group of the Finnish Parliament
Climate Emergency -
Faster Switch to Renewables and Energy Efficiency

From the Clean Energy Package
to an EU Green Deal
## Conference Overview

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>THU 21 NOVEMBER</strong></td>
<td>Welcome reception</td>
<td>Bar Adjutantti in Original Sokos Presidentti Hotel, Eteläinen Rautatiekatu 4, 00100 Helsinki</td>
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<td>19:00 - 22:00</td>
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<td><strong>FRI 22 NOVEMBER</strong></td>
<td>Inter-Parliamentary Meeting – Day 1</td>
<td>Parliament of Finland, Door F, Arkadiankatu 4, 00101 Helsinki</td>
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<td>09:00 - 18:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:30 - 22:00</td>
<td>Gala Dinner</td>
<td>City Hall of Helsinki, Pohjoisesplanadi 11-13, 00170 Helsinki</td>
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<td><strong>SAT 23 NOVEMBER</strong></td>
<td>Inter-Parliamentary Meeting – Day 2</td>
<td>Parliament of Finland, Door F, Arkadiankatu 4, 00101 Helsinki</td>
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<td>09:00 - 12:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:45 - 16:00</td>
<td>Closing Lunch on Tervasaari island with cozy cottage atmosphere</td>
<td>Savu Restaurant, Tervasaarenkannas 3, 00170 Helsinki</td>
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1.5° Celsius...!
Climate Emergency - Faster Switch to Renewables and Energy Efficiency

There is no doubt that climate change is happening. Devastating effects are to be seen all over the planet. Scientific evidence shows that there are maybe ten years left to implement the necessary steps to limit climate change and to implement the goals of the Paris agreement.

Members of Parliament will discuss how the European Union and its Member States shall speed up in implementing necessary measures to limit climate change. The energy sector is the key field of action to get to a drastic reduction of greenhouse gases.

IPM19 will discuss ways for a faster switch of the energy system towards renewables and energy efficiency. The EU Clean Energy Package is a huge step into that direction and its implementation must be secured. But it is not enough and it is clear that parliaments and public institutions together with all other actors in society must be much more ambitious and effective in the implementation of successful measures. The new EU Green Deal must give the necessary answers, direction and leadership to fulfill the promise of Paris - to keep the global warming under 1.5° C.

We need to be fast now - we need to deliver now.
Finnish Parliament at night
Photo © Julius Jansson
# Programme

**FRIDAY 22 November 2019**

**Session in Parliament of Finland**  
*Please always wear your name tag in any location!*

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>08:00</td>
<td><strong>Registration</strong> &gt; Parliament of Finland, Door F, Arkadiankatu 4, 00101 Helsinki, please bring ID</td>
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<td>Conference chair: <strong>Jan Geiss</strong>, Secretary General of EUFORES</td>
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| SESSION 1 - HIGH LEVEL OPENING  
Climate Emergency, the Clean Energy Package and an EU Green Deal  
Session Chair: Theresa Griffin, MEP UK, President of EUFORES |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 09:00 | **Welcome to the Finnish Parliament**  
**Tuula Haatainen**, First Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Finland |
| 09:15 | **Welcome by the Energy Reform Group of the Finnish Parliament**  
**Saara-Sofia Sirén**, MP Finland, Chair of the Energy Reform Group of the Finnish Parliament and Host of IPM19 |
| 09:30 | **Welcome to the EUFORES IPM19: Our Mission ahead**  
**Theresa Griffin**, MEP UK, President of EUFORES |
| 09:45 | **Message from the Future**  
**Laura Kolehmainen**, Founder, Ilmastoveivi2019 |
| 10:00 | **EU can move fast - Breakthrough Areas to tackle Climate Change**  
**Claude Turmes**, Energy Minister of Luxembourg, Honorary President of EUFORES (Video) |
| 10:05 | Discussion with MEPs and MPs |
| 10:15 | **Coffee Break** |

| SESSION 2: The National Energy and Climate Plans - What is in for Renewables in Electricity?  
Session Chair: Theresa Griffin, MEP UK, President of EUFORES |
|-----------------------------------------------|
| 10:45 | **The National Energy and Climate Plans: Do they deliver?**  
**Dirk Hendricks**, Secretary General, European Renewable Energies Federation EREF |
| 11:00 | **From Auctions to Zero Emissions? - Experience from Recent Years**  
**Robert Brückmann**, Head Policy Consulting Department, eclareon |
| 11:20 | **Status and Outlook for the Wind Sector**  
**Giles Dickson**, CEO, WindEurope |
| 11:35 | **An Industrial Strategy to Boost PV**  
**Naomi Chevillard**, Policy Advisor, SolarPower Europe |
11:50 **EU Flagship Initiatives to Fast-Forward the European Energy Transition**  
**Matthias Buck**, Head of European Energy Policy, Agora Energiewende

12:10 Discussion with MEPs and MPs

**KEY-NOTE**

12:40 **Implementing climate neutral Finland by 2035 with a view to EU net-zero 2050**  
**Krista Mikkonen**, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, Finland

13:00 Lunch Break

**SESSION 3: Renewable Power in the Baltics - Potentials and Market integration**  
Session Chair: Ville Niinistö, MEP Finland

14:00 **Sector coupling for high renewables in the case of Finland and electricity cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region**  
**Christian Breyer**, Professor of Solar Economy at Lappeenranta University of Technology (LUT)

14:20 **Supporting cross-border cooperation on renewables in the Baltics and beyond - the new Connecting Europe Facility**  
**Michaela Holl**, Policy Analyst, Renewables and CCS policies, DG Energy, European Commission

14:35 **The value of cooperation: Integrating the Baltic Sea energy systems and markets is a win-win-win**  
**Øyvind Vessia**, Head of European Affairs, Ørsted

14:45 Discussion with MEPs and MPs

15:00 Coffee Break

**SESSION 4: The National Energy and Climate Plans - What is in for Renewables in Heating and Cooling?**  
Session Chair: Niels Fuglsang, MEP Denmark

15:30 **The final NECPs - what to expect on Heating and Cooling**  
**Michaela Holl**, Policy Analyst, Renewables and CCS policies, European Commission

15:45 **Replacing coal with renewables in district heating, case Helsinki**  
**Karoliina Auvinen**, Smart Energy Transition Project, Aalto University

16:00 **Fast moves in Helsinki - examples for Transformation of a City**  
**Maiju Westergren**, Vice President, Sustainability and Public Affairs, Helen

16:15 **Sustainable Bioenergy solving energy & climate challenges**  
**Hannes Tuohiniitty**, CEO, Bioenergy Association Finland, President Bioenergy Europe

16:30 Discussion with MEPs and MPs
SESSION 5: **Hard Talk: Will we deliver? Faster Switch to Renewables and Energy Efficiency**
Moderation: Stuart Reigeluth, Journalist, Revolve Media

17:00 **Panelists**
- Saara-Sofia Sirén, MP Finland
- Johann Saathoff, MP Germany
- Cristina Madalina Pruna, MP Romania
- Karol Galek, MP Slovakia
- Miapetra Kumpula-Natri, MEP Finland
- Nils Torvalds, MEP Finland
- Ville Niinistö, MEP Finland

18:00 **End of Conference Day 1 - Private Break**

19:00 **Bus Transfer from Parliament to the Gala Dinner in the City Hall of Helsinki**
Bus stops in front of Finnish Parliament, Pohjoinen Rautatienkatu, Helsinki

19:30 **Gala Dinner in the City Hall of Helsinki**
City Hall of Helsinki, Pohjoisesplanadi 11-13, 00170 Helsinki
- Welcome Drink
- Welcome speech by **Anni Sinnemäki**, Deputy-Mayor of Helsinki
- Dinner Buffet

22:00 **Bus Transfer back to Parliament**
Saturday 23 November 2019

Session in Parliament of Finland
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<td><strong>SESSION 6: Energy Efficiency - More ambition to tackle Climate Change</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Session Chair: Satu Hassi, MP Finland</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Energy Efficiency and the NECPs: Status and Outlook</td>
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<td>Anne Weidenbach, Policy Officer, Unit Energy Efficiency, DG Energy, European Commission</td>
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<td>9:25</td>
<td>Lighthouse Projects on Energy Efficiency in the years to come</td>
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<td>Almut Bonhage, Senior Consultant, Coalition for Energy Savings</td>
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<td>9:40</td>
<td>The importance of the right message: Effective Narratives to make energy efficiency popular</td>
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<td>Daniel Becker, Director Energy, Navigant</td>
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<td>10:30</td>
<td><strong>Coffee Break</strong></td>
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<td><strong>SESSION 7: Just Transition, Energy Poverty, Cities &amp; the Citizens: Where things come together</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Session Chair: Michael Bloss, MEP Germany</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>A Just Transition Fund - How to get everyone on board for structural economic change</td>
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<td>Theresa Griffin, MEP UK, President of EUFORES</td>
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<td>11:20</td>
<td>Cooperatives: organising citizens in the energy transition</td>
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<td>Josh Roberts, Advocacy Officer, REScoop.eu</td>
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<td>11:35</td>
<td>Electro-Mobility in the City Context - Integration into the Grid with Benefits for all</td>
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<td>Julia Hildermeier, Associate EU Programme, Regulatory Assistance Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:50</td>
<td>Discussion with MEPs and MPs</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td><strong>Closing Remarks, Theresa Griffin, MEP, President of EUFORES</strong></td>
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<td>12:15</td>
<td><strong>End of Conference</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>14:30</td>
<td><strong>Bus Transfer to Helsinki Airport for early departures</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00</td>
<td><strong>Bus Transfer to Helsinki Airport</strong></td>
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Speakers’ List

PRESIDENT OF EUFORES

Theresa Griffin is the Chair of the European Parliamentary Labour Party. Theresa is a full member and Labour Party Spokesperson on the Industry, Research and Energy Committee and a substitute member on the Transport and Tourism Committee in the Parliament. Theresa’s parliamentary work centres on energy poverty, energy security, renewables and energy efficiency, equalities, industrial strategy, universities, health research and the promotion of the digital single market. Theresa received the 2017 Energy MEP of the Year award for her work promoting renewable energy and energy poverty reduction across Europe. She is a committed trade union activist and has campaigned closely with all unions on employment rights, rights for young people and against the far-right. Theresa is President of EUFORES.

CONFERENCE CHAIR

Jan Geiss is the Secretary General of EUFORES - the network of Members of European Parliament and the EU28 national parliaments with the mission to promote renewable energy and energy efficiency in the EU. Mr. Geiss has been running the Brussels-based organisation since 2006. Before his career in Brussels, he completed a PhD in Political Science and Economics in the field of “Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Service Contracting” at the University of Passau, Germany. 1999-2013, he was Chair of the Sustainable Development Forum Germany. He finished his studies of International Cultural and Business Management in 1997.
SPEAKERS IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Tuula Haatainen is the First Deputy Speaker of Parliament, a long-term Member of Parliament and a former municipal director. As a member of the Government, Ms. Haatainen served in the governments of Prime Ministers Jäätteenmäki and Vanhanen, first as the Minister of Education in 2003-2005 and later as the Minister of Social Affairs and Health in 2005-2007. Ms. Haatainen is a qualified nurse and Master of Social Sciences. As a politician, she has especially focused on social affairs and health, education and promoting equality. During her career, Ms. Haatainen has held several positions of trust at the governmental level and in international and non-governmental organisations. Ms. Haatainen is married and has two adult children.

Saara-Sofia Sirén is Member of the Finnish Parliament since 2015. She is Member of the National Coalition Party and a Member of the Environment Committee of the Finnish Parliament. Since June 2019 she is also the Chair of the Energy Reform Group of the Finnish Parliament. She holds a master’s degree in both economic sciences and future studies. Ms. Sirén was employed in the public sector and various companies. Her political priorities are the promotion of nature conservation, sports and culture, youth work, equality, sustainable economy and international development policy. Her decisions are aimed at the future generation and she pursues a Finland where economy maintains a sustainable growth and emissions are reduced.

Laura Kolehmainen is a law and world politics student from Helsinki. She became a climate activist after the IPCC 1,5 degree report in 2018, and founded a youth climate campaign Ilmastoveivi2019 (wwwilmastoveivi2019fi) to steer EU climate and energy policy to meet the Paris Agreement threshold to global warming. The campaign with its young agents collected wide support in the Finnish society, including the signatures of over 60 000 people and over 200 entities including schools, all universities, student organizations, trade unions, libraries, sport clubs, theatres, companies, cities and NGOs in social media, by arranging demonstrations and events and various activities across the country. The current Finnish government agreed to use the Finnish EU Council Presidency to strive for safer climate policy as one of the priorities of the Presidency, and the active of the campaign continue now to mobilize citizens to pressure the government to fulfill the promise of the carbon neutral Finland by 2035 in practice.
Claude Turmes is Minister for Energy and Minister for Spatial Planning for Luxembourg since December 2018. From June 2018 to October 2018, he was Secretary of State for Sustainable Development and Infrastructures. Claude Turmes was a Member of the European Parliament from June 1999 to June 2018. He was the vice president of the parliamentary group of the Green Party in the European Parliament and was a member of the Committee on Environment, Health and Consumer Protection as well as a member of the Committee on Industry, Energy, Telecom and Research. He was the rapporteur of a large number of European directives, in particular on renewable energies, energy efficiency, the electricity market and climate plans, as well as on the European lobby register. From 2004 to 2018, he was President of EUFORES. He is Honorary President of EUFORES since 2019.

Dirk Hendricks is Secretary General of the European Renewable Energies Federation (EREF) and focuses on the planned EU energy system transformation and acts as liaison between national renewable energy associations and European and international institutions and organisations. Mr Hendricks has been closely involved in the development of the EU legislation for the EU Energy Union. As former Secretary General of the European Small Hydropower Association (ESHA) and Director of the EU Liaison Office of the World Future Council Foundation, Dirk Hendricks focussed on the promotion of renewables in the EU and Africa. He participated in the development of the current Renewable Energy Directive and its implementation and specialised in renewable financing schemes. His previous positions in the environment sector in Europe and Africa have provided him with an in-depth knowledge of a wide range of environmental topics. Mr Hendricks studied Economics, Economic History, International Relations and German Linguistics in Dublin, Fiesole, Münster, and Washington, D.C. (M.Econ.Sc.; M.A. and 1. Staatsexamen).

Robert Brückmann is the Head of the eclareon Policy Department. He is specialized in researching and analysing political and legal frameworks for the deployment and use of renewable energies. His focus is on support schemes, non-technical barriers, integration of renewable energy and financing as well as investment risks. Within the Policy Department, Robert Brückmann has managed (among others) the projects RES LEGAL, DIA Core and RE Frame. He has also consulted the European Commission during the preparation of the Winter Package and supported Agora Energiewende with the development of the Cost reduction Facility. He is a regular speaker and moderator at international conferences and workshops.
Giles Dickson is the Chief Executive Officer of WindEurope (formerly EWEA), a position he’s held since 2015. WindEurope is the voice of the European wind industry. It represents the whole value chain of onshore and offshore wind across Europe and has more than 400 members. It engages Governments and other stakeholders on policy and regulation. It organises industry exhibitions, conferences and workshops. And it coordinates publicly-funded R&D in wind. Dickson is also Chairman of the Advisory Council of ENTSO-E. Prior to joining WindEurope he was a UK civil servant for 16 years then ran public affairs at Alstom.

Naomi Chevillard is responsible for advocacy on the market design files of the Clean Energy Package, as well as following the Transport dossier, on which she coordinates SolarPower Europe’s contribution to the Platform for Electro-mobility. Naomi also leads the National Associations task force and contributes to the Solar Mobility, Solar & Storage, and Digitalisation & Solar Task Forces. Prior to joining SolarPower Europe, she worked for the French TSO RTE in Brussels on the Clean Energy Package. Naomi has a degree in International Affairs from Sciences Po Toulouse in France.

Matthias Buck directs the European energy policy work at Agora Energiewende with activities in Brussels, France, Poland, the Pentalateral Forum region, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Romania, and the six Western Balkan countries. Before joining Agora Energiewende in September 2015, Matthias Buck worked for more than ten years with the European Commission: in the Commission’s Directorate-General for Energy; as a Commission expert seconded to the German government advising on EU aspects of the German energy transition; as member of the cabinet of Janez Potocnik, former EU Commissioner for the environment; and as EU negotiator for multilateral and regional environmental and free trade agreements. Matthias Buck studied law, political science, economics and sociology in Germany, Spain, the US, and the UK. He is the author or editor of several books and has written numerous papers and book chapters. He was co-founder and a long-year editor of the Journal for European Environmental & Planning Law.
European Parliamentarians for a Sustainable Energy Future

EUFORES…

➢ is the European cross-party parliamentary network with Members of the European Parliament and the EU national Parliaments

➢ promotes the systemic integration of renewable energy and energy efficiency as key solutions for a sustainable development

➢ facilitates the exchange of views on EU and national legislation

Become a member of EUFORES!
**Krista Mikkonen** is Minister of the Environment and Climate Change of Finland since June 2019. Before, she was a member of parliament for four years and three years for the Green Party parliamentary group chairman. In the spring 2015 parliamentary elections, she was the first Green Member of the new Savo-Karelian constituency, and in the spring 2019 elections she became Minister of the Environment and Climate Change. The work in the Parliament on the environment, education and the fight against poverty is her mainly goal.

**Ville Niinistö** is a Member of the European Parliament. He is the Greens/EFA groups coordinator in the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy. Niinistö served as Finland’s Minister of the Environment from 2011 to 2014. Niinistö is a former member of the Finnish parliament, former party leader of the Green Party of Finland and a current member of the city council of Turku. Niinistö has a master’s degree in political science from the University of Turku. Before being elected to the parliament in 2007 he worked as a doctorate student in political history (Finnish foreign policy) at the University of Turku in Finland. Besides politics, Niinistö enjoys both playing and following football, walks with his dog and spending time in the nature of the archipelago southwest of Finland. Now he is living between Helsinki, Turku and Brussels, previously he has been staying in Stockholm, Indonesia and London.

**Christian Breyer** is Professor for Solar Economy at LUT University, Finland. His major expertise is the integrated research of technological and economic characteristics of renewable energy systems specialising in energy system modeling for 100% renewable energy, on a local but also global scale. His team published the most studies on 100% renewable energy for countries or major regions globally. Publications cover integrated sector analyses with power, heat, transport, desalination, industry and negative CO2 emission options. Carbon capture and utilisation as part of comprehensive Power-to-X investigations is a core research field for his team. He worked previously for Reiner Lemoine Institut, Berlin, and Q-Cells (now: Hanwha Q Cells). He is member of ETIP PV, IEA-PVPS, scientific committee of the EU PVSEC and IRES, chairman for renewable energy at the Energy Watch Group, reviewer for the IPCC and a co-founder of Desertec Foundation.
Michaela Holl has been working for the European Commission since 2004, for DG ENERGY since 2009. Past responsibilities included the Energy Efficiency in Buildings Directive and the impact assessment supporting the Clean Energy Package proposed in 2016. She is currently a member of the unit on renewables policies at the European Commission where she works mainly on investment, infrastructure and renewables within the EU budget. Before joining the European Commission, she was the parliamentary assistant to MEP Claude Turmes from 2002-2004. She holds a Master Degree in European Economic Studies (Bruges).

Niels Fuglsang is a Social Democrat by heart. Born and raised in the small Danish province, Thy, Niels believes firmly in the Danish welfare model, but has always kept an eye across Danish borders. Majoring in Political Science with a Master’s degree from the University of Copenhagen, the complex world of politics is not new to Niels. Besides working for Greenpeace and the Danish policy institute, Cevea, Niels has formerly acted as a campaign manager and advisor, to the former MEP, Dan Jørgensen, who is currently the Danish Minister for Climate, Energy and Utilities. Other than acting as a MEP for S&D, Niels is also working on a PhD-thesis scrutinizing the economic models of the Danish Ministry of Finance. On the 26th of May 2019, Niels was elected as a Member of the European Parliament for the first time. In the Parliament, he is instructed with a seat in the ITRE and the ECON committees, respectively the committees for Industry, Research and Energy, and Economic and Monetary Affairs. He is fully determined to use his experience to set a strong new green agenda in the European Parliament.

Karoliina Auvinen is a Senior Specialist at the Finnish Environmental Institute SYKE and Expert on smart & clean energy systems. She is facilitator of the transition arenas co-creating ambitious climate roadmaps. Ms. Auvinen is also one of the authors of the “Clean district heating - how it works?” report (Aalto University, 2019) including fossil fuel-free scenario for Finland.
Maiju Westergren is a Vice President at Helen ltd. Her responsibilities are sustainability and public affairs. She has also been acting HR-director. During her 6-years career in Helen, she has witnessed the big change in the energy field. She is on her part making the energy transition, including carbon free energy production as well as encouraging the customers to participate to the energy market. Before Helen ltd she worked in Finnish Forest Industries Federation. Maiju holds a master’s degree in technology from Aalto University and she is currently doing eMBA studies.

Hannes Tuohiniitty is currently the president of Bioenergy Europe, umbrella organisation based in Europe. He has been working as Sector Manager for Bioenergy Association of Finland and CEO of Finnish Pellet Energy Association since 2008.

Stuart Reigeluth is Founder of REVOLVE and a senior executive advancing the triple bottom-line of sustainability: what is good for the environment is good for society and can be great for business. He holds a MBA (2015) from the Solvay-Ponts business school (Brussels-Paris) and a MA (2005) in Arab and Middle East Studies from the American University of Beirut, Lebanon. He has worked for action-think tanks in Spain on security-development issues and has been a journalist for over 10 years and is involved in connecting water and energy issues around the Mediterranean. He is Vice-President of Revolve Water, a non-profit about communicating the value of water. He is founder and editor of Revolve Magazine, the international award-winning quarterly magazine focusing on sustainability. Stuart has contributed to many newspapers and magazines, including Foreign Policy, al-Hayat, European Voice, Gulf News, al-Ahram Weekly and other Arab and European outlets.

Johann Saathoff is a German MP since 2013. He is the Coordinator on the energy policy for the Social Democratic Party in the German Bundestag. The main objectives he works towards are the successful further development of the energy transition, grid expansion and energy efficiency.
Cristina Pruna is a Member of Parliament since December 2016, where she serves as a member of the Industries and Services Committee and European Affairs Committee and is actively involved in energy topics, from gas to coal and renewable energy. Ms Pruna is a strong advocate of clean and renewable energy and believes in the potential of clean energy transition to create jobs and growth in Europe. She also supports a just transition for the people living in coal dependent mono-industrial regions, such as the Jiu Valley (Romania).

Karol Galek is a representative of the National Council of the Slovak Republic since 2016, member of the Economic Committee and chairman of the Technological Development and Innovation Subcommittee. He is a teamleader of Energetics in the opposition political party in Slovakia - Freedom and Solidarity (Sloboda a Solidarita). His main agenda is ending of subsidies to the production of coal-fired electricity, transparency of regulation, elimination of political intervention in electricity prices, electricity trade, renewable energy and climate change. In 2004 he obtained a Master’s degree in Hydrogeology and Engineering Geology and in 2008 was titled as Master of Science at Vienna University of Technology with specialization in Renewable Energy in Central and Eastern Europe. Since 2004 he has been working professionally in the energy sector, starting as a project manager for geothermal systems in Slovakia. In 2008 completed an internship program as a development analyst for solar, wind and geothermal power plants in the USA. After resumption to Slovakia, he started an own business with small and medium scale PV projects. Among other activities he had been involved as a coordinator into several cross-border cooperation projects between Slovakia and Austria and in issues related to energy production and savings.

Miapetra Kumpula-Natri is a Member of the European Parliament representing Finland and the S&D Group for the second term. Digitalization and teleoperation markets are close to her heart, and in EP Mrs Kumpula-Natri is also known as “Madame Roaming” and “Digi-MEP”. She is also eager to find sustainable solutions to climate change and the energy sector. She strives to enhance sustainable development and Europe’s ability to create jobs and wellbeing with help of European integration, innovations and trade. She is a member of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) and a substitute of the Committees on International Trade (INTA) and on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO) as well as a member of the US delegation. Prior to her election to the EP, she was a member of the Finnish Parliament for 11 years and acted as the chairperson of the Parliament’s Grand Committee (EU affairs) and 3 years special advisor for Prime Minister on parliamentary affairs. She is an engineer by education.
Nils Torvalds has been a MEP since 2012 and is currently member and coordinator for Renew Europe in the ENVI-committee of the European Parliament. He is also member in the BUDG-committee and substitute in the ITRE-committee. Before becoming a MEP, Torvalds had a long career as correspondent for the Finnish Broadcasting Company YLE posted in both Moscow and Washington DC.

Anni Sinnemäki is Deputy-Mayor for City Planning and Real Estate of Helsinki since 2015. She was Member of the Finnish Parliament from 1999 until 2015. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from the Faculty of Arts of the University of Helsinki.

Satu Hassi is the chairperson of the Grand Committee and former Member of the European Parliament for the Green League. In 1991, she was elected to the Parliament of Finland, and became the chair of the Green Parliament Group for the years 1991-1993 and again in 1997. Between 1999 and 2002, she was the Minister for Environment and Development Co-operation in the Finnish Government.

Anne Weidenbach is a lawyer and policy officer at the European Commission, DG ENERGY, Energy Efficiency Unit - Policy & Financing. Her work is focussing on the implementation of the Energy Efficiency Directive, in particular on the consistent interpretation and practical implementation of the energy savings obligation. Prior to joining the European Commission she worked as deputy head of section at Bundesnetzagentur/Germany, chaired the ACER Task Force responsible for the capacity allocation in the gas sector and worked for several years as an attorney-at-law, inter alia in Brussels with an international law firm where she practiced in competition and energy law.
Almut Bonhage is Senior Consultant working for the Coalition for Energy Savings at Stefan Scheuer Consulting. She is communication and project manager and, among others, responsible for the 2050 Energy Efficiency Vision. Almut joined Stefan Scheuer Consulting in December 2017. She is an association manager, consultant, lobbyist and communications professional with 20 years of work experience in Switzerland and Brussels.

Daniel Becker, MA economist and political scientist, works as director at the Navigant Berlin office where he is head of the government international client segment. He is an expert on market conditions and support schemes for renewable energies and energy efficiency. Becker joined the Navigant Berlin office in January 2006. Here he has built up an international energy policy team consisting of 25 experts in four countries (DE, NL, UK, BE), specialized on designing and analyzing policy instruments for renewable energies, energy efficiency, energy security and public private collaboration in energy transition. Daniel has been involved in numerous international projects on RE and EE support mechanisms, international market conditions and promotional schemes for renewable energies and energy efficiency, as well as on network approaches for strengthening international activities of renewable energy companies. Regions of focus are EU-28, MENA, and former Soviet Union. Prior to Navigant, Daniel worked from 1999-2001 as an energy expert for the German Bundestag, the national Parliament. From 2001-2005, he was employed at the German Federal State Energy Agency as manager of the German Federal Governments export promotion program for renewable energies, a program which he had developed.

Michael Bloss grew up in Stuttgart and studied International Relations and Globalisation and Development in Dresden and London. He worked as a consultant for the United Nations Development Group, in the regional parliament of Baden-Württemberg and for Ska Keller in Brussels, before he was elected to the EP in 2019. There, he is a full member of the Committee on ITRE and a substitute member of the ENVI Committee. Moreover, he is the coordinator of the Climate Core Group within the Greens/EFA Group. Mr Bloss became engaged in the Greenpeace youth wing early on and then joined the Grüne Jugend in 2008. He is a member of the party board of Bündnis 90/Die Grünen in his home region, Baden-Württemberg.
Josh Roberts has served as an Advocacy Officer of REScoop.eu since January 2017. REScoop.eu is a federation that represents and supports citizens and community energy initiatives around Europe that work on renewable energy, energy efficiency, and other clean energy technologies. A qualified lawyer in California since 2010, Josh has been actively involved in the European energy policy debate since 2012. As climate and energy lawyer for ClientEarth, an environmental law NGO, Josh worked on issues related to the internal energy market, renewables, infrastructure, and community/citizen participation in the energy sector. Josh earned his Juris Doctorate from McGeorge School of law, and he has an LL.M. in Environmental Law & Policy at University College London. He is also a member of the World Commission on Environmental Law.

Julia Hildermeier joined RAP’s Europe team as an electro-mobility and transport expert to explore the benefits of integrating electrified transport in a smarter and decarbonized power market. Before coming to RAP in 2018, Dr. Hildermeier worked for the European Federation for Transport & Environment, advocating for a cleaner, fairer, and more sustainable transport system. Dr. Hildermeier holds a doctorate in sociology from Humboldt University Berlin and Ecole Normale Superieure Cachan in Paris. In her academic work she studied environmental regulation in the European automotive and transport sector, and she keeps publishing in scientific journals.
Map overview of main conference locations

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