

Dear Reader,

The new year brings fresh wind in our daily work, new energy and enthusiasm, and new challenges. The top discussion topics of 2012 will definitely include the Energy Roadmap 2050, Infrastructure Package, Renewable Energy Strategy and the Energy Efficiency Directive. EUFORES will therefore organize several events in 2012 by means of which we will try to support the work of policy-makers.



Every event that we have organized so far – be it a workshop, conference, parliamentary dinner debate, Inter-Parliamentary Meeting or the very popular MEP breakfast discussions in Strasbourg – persuaded us how important it is to facilitate the discussion and exchange of ideas among parliamentary decision makers. The discussion plays a crucial role in the policy-making at all levels.

We live in exciting times – the times of energy (r)evolution. Now, more than ever before, it is needed to make various stakeholders and interest groups involved in the “energy game” aware of what is in stake. EUFORES will continue to support the information flow to European and national policy-makers.

Brussels, 20 February 2012

Jan Geiss
Secretary General EUFORES

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EUFORES Upcoming events

- **Workshop for national stakeholders:**
“Perspectives and Implementation of National Renewable and Energy Efficiency Action Plans in the Czech Republic”
When: Tuesday, 21 February 2012, 10:00 – 13:00
Where: Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, Prague
Background information: The workshop aims at discussing the specific national situation with regard to renewable energy and energy efficiency with national stakeholders. Participants representing the Senate, Chamber of Deputies, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Environment and other relevant energy stakeholders in the Czech Republic will look into the implementation of national energy efficiency and renewable energy policies.
- **Breakfast Roundtable: EEW2 Cypriot Presidency Briefing**
When: Tuesday, 27 March 2012, 8:00-9:00
Where: European Parliament, Brussels
Background information: This Breakfast roundtable, a part of the Energy Efficiency Watch 2 project, gathers MEPs, experts and representatives of the upcoming Cypriot presidency in the Council with the aim to discuss priorities of the Cypriot presidency concerning energy efficiency.
- **EUFORES Parliamentary Dinner Debate**
“Success or fiasco? State of implementation of national energy efficiency policies in the EU”
When: Tuesday, 24 April 2012, 18:00-21:30
Where: European Parliament, Brussels
Background information: What successful is the implementation of national energy efficiency policies? What is the role of local authorities in the implementation problems? What do energy experts from EU27 say about the level of implementation in their EU home country? Those are just few questions of those that will be addressed at this parliamentary debate organised within the project of Energy Efficiency Watch.
- **Breakfast Roundtable: Cypriot Troika Briefing**
When: Tuesday, 8 May 2012, 8:00-9:00
Where: European Parliament, Brussels
Background information: This breakfast roundtable, a part of our upcoming project of Keep on Track!, is an intense briefing with the upcoming EU country holding the presidency in the Council or with the TROIKA presidency on upcoming issues on the Council agenda with regard to renewable energy policies. More specifically, the further implementation of the RES Directive and the fulfilment of the interim goals will be the focal point of the briefing.
- **EUFORES General Assembly**
When: Tuesday, 26 June 2012, 18:30-20:30
Where: European Parliament, Brussels

EUFORES News

New EUFORES project *Keep-on-Track!* starts in April 2012

In April, EUFORES will launch its new project called *Keep-on-Track!* In fact, this project is a follow-up project of REPAP 2020 and aims at developing mechanisms to help Member States to “keep on track” for reaching its 2020 objectives outlined in the RES Directive. It will provide up-to-date market data and policy recommendations along-side the trajectory outlined in the RES Directive and a close-to-market monitoring of the fulfillment of the RES trajectory for each of the 27 EU Member States. It will also provide a platform for discussion and dialogue among different market actors such as European and national renewable energy industry associations, the energy efficiency sector, national and EU Parliamentarians as well as the scientific community. The project aims at providing early warnings and policy recommendations in case a Member State is lagging behind its trajectory and does not manage to overcome identified barriers for RES deployment. In this case, *Keep-on-track!* will suggest solutions how to compensate any possible delay encountered.

Upcoming results on the market feedback on energy efficiency policies

In the following months, EUFORES will disseminate the **results of the Europe-wide survey on the implementation of national energy efficiency policies** in the EU Member States. The survey looks into the implementation of the policies as they were set in the National Energy Efficiency Action Plans in 2007 and 2011. The survey has been executed by Upper-Austrian Energy Agency, Energy Cities, FEDARENE and eceee. The members of those networks and many other experts have provided a valuable feedback on the implementation of energy efficiency policies in their Member States. The results will be available in June 2012.

Past events

Parliamentary Debate: “Money creates markets: Tools to motivate public and private funds for renewables and energy efficiency projects”

Motivated by the recent [proposal for a regulation on "Guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure"](#), [the regulation establishing "Connecting Europe Facility"](#), and the negotiations of the next multiannual financial framework, EUFORES organized a parliamentary dinner debate on financial instruments for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects in the EU. This event was held on 29 November 2011 and gathered several MEPs, representatives of the European



Commission, international energy and financing organizations as well as the private sector. Our distinguished keynote speakers, representatives of the Danish Representation of the EU and New Energy Finance, briefed the participants on the priorities of the Danish EU's presidency in the energy field and the financing options and tools available in the market. Afterwards, a representative of the European Commission, KfW and First Solar exchanged their

views on how to make the financing tools more effective in an intense panel discussion moderated by MEP Anni Podimata.

Energy Commissioner Günther Oettinger at EUFORES MEP breakfast

Günther Oettinger, European Commissioner for Energy, attended the EUFORES MEP Breakfast Roundtable during the last plenary week before Christmas. In the view of the ongoing discussion about the EU's Multiannual Financial Framework as well as the inclusion of the [Intelligent Energy Europe](#) (IEE) programme in the framework, around 20 MEPs engaged in the roundtable with the Commissioner Oettinger.

Policy Overview

Two issues will remain main topics for the year of 2012: Energy Roadmap 2050 and Energy Efficiency Directive.

[Energy Roadmap 2050](#), adopted by the European Commission on 15 December 2011, bears several positive messages for the next decades. First, the Roadmap says that the decarbonisation of the EU's energy system (reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050 compared to 1990 levels) is feasible. Second, the Roadmap shows that prices will be rising until 2030, but then can fall to lower prices. However, this document fails to envisage the energy future in the EU in more concrete terms as there is a huge policy gap between 2020 and 2050. This hinders EU Member States to make relevant changes in the energy system and investments in the transformation of the energy system now with the consequence of higher investments in the following decades and numerous lock-in effects. The next step is to define the policy framework for 2030 which should offer more concrete targets.

[The Energy Efficiency Directive](#), as drafted by the European Commission in June 2011 and discussed with the European Parliament, is currently being discussed between the EU Member States. Not surprisingly, huge differences among them make those talks very difficult. For illustration, one of the provisions which EU Member States struggle with is the 3% renovation target of public buildings with the floor area over 250 m². This is already a very small fraction from the European building stock, which is about 30% of the total energy consumed in the EU. The EU Member States opposing this target suggest increasing the floor area to 500 m² of the public buildings that should be within the scope of the new directive. Then, the building renovation target in the new directive becomes only a negligible amount of public buildings. Should the EU Member States give up on this target, they risk a so-called "lock-in effect" in their buildings. As buildings are renovated in cycles, this could be a missed opportunity for several buildings to increase their energy standard and savings potentials.

This has significantly weakened the original proposal of the European Commission. Nevertheless, it is one of the most crucial moments in the EU history to decide on its energy efficiency gains. Hopefully, EU Member States will find the ways how to make use of the big energy savings potentials in their buildings.

Profiles of EUFORES Board of Presidents and Extended Board

In each of EUFORES newsletters, EUFORES presents some of its parliamentary members. We start with Claude Turmes, EUFORES President and two members of EUFORES Extended Board, Maria da Graça Carvalho and Silvia-Adriana Ticau.



Claude Turmes

After being Vice-President of EUFORES from 2003-2010, Claude Turmes was elected its President in February 2010. He has been a Member of the European Parliament since 1999 and is currently Vice-President of the Green Group. Being committed to the promotion of renewable energy sources, Claude Turmes performed as Rapporteur in the ITRE committee for e.g. the Directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources and the Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund. Claude Turmes is a deputy for Luxembourg. He studied physical and sports education, and worked as a teacher from 1986-1999. Already then, he was actively involved in several environmental organisations in Luxembourg and at European level, especially focusing on energy policies.



Maria da Graça Carvalho

A former Minister of Science and Higher Education in Portugal, Maria da Graça Carvalho has been a member of the European Parliament since 2009. Between 2006 and 2009, she was Principal Adviser to BEPA, the Bureau of European Policy Advisers, a department of the European Commission reporting directly to its President Barroso, in the areas of science, higher education, innovation, research policy, energy, environment and climate change. A graduate in Mechanical Engineering at the Technical University of Lisbon and with a Ph.D. at the Imperial College of London in the area of energy intensive industries, she has an impressive academic record in the areas of energy, environment, sustainable development and climate change.

In May 2010, Maria da Graça Carvalho has been appointed rapporteur for 'Simplifying the implementation of the research framework programmes' which, she believes, may have a role in the EU 2020 Strategy to motivate the most highly qualified researchers to participate. She is also standing rapporteur of the EPP group for all matters related to science and innovation discussed under the scope of the Budget Committee.



Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Silvia-Adriana Țicău has been a member of the Extended Board of EUFORES since 2010. She has been a Member of the European Parliament since 2009, as well as Vice-Chair of the Transport and Tourism Committee and member of the Delegation for relations with India. Silvia-Adriana Țicău is a deputy for Romania in the S&D group. She has a background in Computer Sciences, and has worked for the private sector as well as the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology of Romania, of which she was the Minister from July to December 2004.

Please click here to see the EUFORES [Board of Presidents](#) and the entire [Extended Board](#).

What is EUFORES?

[EUFORES](#) is a European cross-party parliamentary network with Members from all major political groups in the European Parliament as well as in the national EU Member States Parliaments. It is non-profit organisation founded in 1995 by Members of Parliament and other key actors.

Its core objective is to promote renewable energy sources and energy efficiency and to facilitate discussion between the parliamentarians, experts, relevant decision makers and stakeholders. It organises numerous events for parliamentarians each year, most of which take place in the European Parliament. The most important event is an annual Inter-Parliamentary Meeting on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency which is a meeting of parliamentarians from 27 EU Member States. This conference takes place in a different national parliament on a rotation basis.