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DG Energy Newsletter



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In focus

In focus: Methane emissions

Responsible for 30% of today's global warming – methane (CH₄) is second only to carbon dioxide (CO₂) in terms of its contribution to climate change. As part of the European Green Deal, the EU is addressing the need for reducing energy-related methane emissions.

[more](#)



News

Commission and all Member States sign Joint Declaration on European Energy Efficiency Financing

The Joint Declaration on energy efficiency financing and the European Energy Efficiency Financing Coalition (Coalition) underlines the importance of mobilising private investment for energy efficiency and of creating a long-term, viable funding framework for energy efficiency investments.

[more](#)



New Wind Charter and national wind pledges underline ambition for wind power in Europe

In the margins of the Energy Council held on 19 December, the vast majority of Member States and many leading wind industry representatives signed up to a European Wind Charter, with more expected to follow.

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EU to invest over €65 million to scale up innovative clean tech projects

17 small-scale innovative clean tech projects will receive over €65 million in project support under the EU Innovation Fund. These funds will help companies in Europe to bring breakthrough technologies to the market in energy-intensive industries, renewable energy, and energy storage.

[more](#)



Commission calls on Member States to improve their National Energy and Climate Plans to ensure collective achievement of the EU's 2030 targets

The draft updated NECPs bring us closer to meeting the EU's 2030 targets and to implementing recently agreed legislation. However, there is a clear need for extra efforts, also in light of the COP28 outcome and the global call to accelerate action this decade.

[more](#)



European Commission and Energy Ministers of France, Portugal and Spain strengthen cooperation on cross-border energy infrastructure in South-West Europe

On 19 December, the Commissioner for Energy, Kadri Simson, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the energy ministers of France, Portugal and Spain on cross-border energy interconnections in South-West Europe.

[more](#)



Commission, Baltic States and Poland commit to accelerated Baltic grid synchronisation with Continental Europe

On 19 December, the European Commission and representatives of the governments of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland signed a Political Declaration confirming their commitment to proceed at full speed to connect the electricity networks of the three Baltic States with continental Europe, via Poland, by February 2025. This is almost a year earlier than the previous deadline of end of 2025.

[more](#)



EU invests an additional €2 billion of emissions trading revenues in clean energy infrastructure projects in Member States via the Modernisation Fund

The €2.17 billion will contribute to modernise the energy systems in nine Member States through 19 selected projects. These investments will help lower-income EU countries to meet their 2030 climate and energy targets and will reduce greenhouse gas emissions in energy, industry and transport, and improve energy efficiency.

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EU primary energy consumption decreased 4% in 2022

In 2022, primary energy consumption in the EU reached 1 257 million tonnes of oil equivalent (Mtoe), a 4.1% decrease compared with 2021. Data show that in 2022 the EU moved closer to the 2030 target of 992.5 Mtoe with the gap narrowing to 26.7%.

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Drop in EU imports of energy products in the third quarter of 2023

The EU imported €35.4 billion worth of energy products amounting to a total of 65 million tonnes. Compared with the same quarter of 2022, imports decreased both in value (-49.1%) and in net mass (-11.3%).

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Drop in nuclear power production in 2022

In 2022, 13 EU countries with nuclear electricity production generated 609 255 gigawatt hours (GWh) of nuclear electricity (-16.7% compared with 2021). This is the lowest level registered in the period from 1990, the first year for which comparable data are available for all EU countries.

[more](#)



23% of energy consumed in 2022 came from renewables

The share of renewable sources in gross final energy consumption at the EU level reached 23.0% in 2022. Compared with 2021, this represents an increase of 1.1 percentage points.

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Energy fact of the month

Solar and wind capacity

In 2022, we installed 56 GW of wind and solar capacity in the EU, which represents a 16% increase from 2021 (353 GW). New installed capacity for 2023 is estimated at around 73 GW, which is a 18% increase on 2022 figures. The total renewable energy capacity in the EU is close to 480 GW and contributes to saving an estimated 13 bcm of natural gas.



Speeches by Commissioner Simson

Speech at the signature of the European Wind Charter (19 December 2023)

[more](#)

Press remarks at the end of the Energy Council (19 December 2023)

[more](#)

Upcoming events

Second Plenary Meeting of the Investors Dialogue on Energy



date

23/01/2024 - 23/01/2024



venue

Brussels and online.

[more](#)

Energy Transition Expertise Centre's studies



date

07/02/2024 - 07/02/2024



venue

Online only

[more](#)

Smart Readiness Indicator joint event



date

07/03/2024



venue

Brussels (Belgium)

[more](#)

38th Madrid Forum



date

25/04/2024 - 26/04/2024



venue

Madrid (Spain)

[more](#)

Latest studies and publications

Investors Dialogue on Energy: Financial instruments and models for transmission and distribution

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Investors dialogue on energy: Financial instruments and models for energy production

[more](#)

Investors dialogue on energy: Financial instruments and models for energy storage

[more](#)

Study on the allocation of costs and benefits for offshore infrastructure in EU sea basins

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Inventory of Member States' environmental radioactivity monitoring systems

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ETIP SNET, European Technology and Innovation Platform Smart Networks for Energy Transition

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Review and evaluation of national radon action plans in EU Member States

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[Commissioner for Energy Kadri Simson](#)

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