

## Energy Transition: A multifaceted Challenge for Europe

### Concept for a series of high level energy debates

**Brussels 2013**

#### Background

In a partnership, **Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations** and the **Development Group** (D Group) are going to organise a series of Symposiums and an International High Level Conference that will take place in Brussels in 2013.

The intense discussions during the different events organised in 2012 (Expert Seminars and Conference) showed that many questions related to the EU Energy Transition require further in-depth debates and analysis. Therefore, the upcoming events will focus on the multifaceted challenge of the European Energy Transition towards a low carbon economy, addressing key issues related to the European energy governance, and in particular EU energy markets, finance and investments, international relations, and innovation strategies.

Egmont and the D Group aim at setting an intense debate at the EU level and bringing together the views of the industry and other energy stakeholders from Brussels and beyond with those of EU decision makers.

#### Main facts

**Format** A series of debates: 4 Symposiums and an International High Level Conference

**Symposium** - The key questions and issues will be addressed by selected representatives from the EU institutions, industry and other stakeholders in the field of energy. The format will be of a half day event (9:00 – 14:00) gathering around 50 - 60 participants.

**Conference** - The Conference is dedicated to discuss the overall framework of the European Energy Transition. Selected high-level speakers and around 80 participants from EU institutions, industry and other stakeholders in the field of energy will address significant issues regarding the global governance of EU common energy policy.

**Target** Representatives from key stakeholders inside and outside the European Energy Community such as:

- European institutions: EU Commission, EU Parliament, Council of Ministers, EIB, EBRD, European regulators (ACER, ENTSO-E/G, CEER, etc.) and EU advisory bodies (EESC, CoR)
- European energy companies: suppliers, transporters and buyers

- EU Member states : Permanent Representations in Brussels, National Ministries, etc.
- Missions and Embassies of External Partners to the EU, country related institutions and organisations (Norway, North Africa, Middle East, Eastern Europe, North America, etc.)
- Energy representative organisations: Eurelectrics, Eurogas, EREC, EWEA, etc.
- International Organisations: IRENA, IEA, World Bank, etc.
- Experts from NGOs, think tanks, private sector (consultants and lobbies), representatives of international financial institutions, specialised media, etc.

<b><u>When</u></b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Symposium:	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2013 (21 <sup>st</sup> February)
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Symposium:	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2013 (16 <sup>th</sup> April)
	High Level Energy Conference	June (10 <sup>th</sup> June)
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Symposium:	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2013 (October)
	4 <sup>th</sup> Symposium:	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2013 (December)

**Where** Brussels - Close to the Schuman area/EU headquarters

**Topics** **1<sup>st</sup> Symposium: The completion of the internal energy market by 2014: feasible or illusory?**

In light of the "Communication on the internal energy market" released by the European Commission on 15th November 2012, this 1st symposium focused on the specific and concrete issues linked to the liberalisation, integration and (de/re)regulation of gas and electricity markets within the whole European Union.

A report has been published at:

[http://www.dgroup.de/tl\\_files/Events/Bruessel%202013/1st%20Symposium/Report%201st%20Symp%20Internal%20Energy%20Market\\_final.pdf](http://www.dgroup.de/tl_files/Events/Bruessel%202013/1st%20Symposium/Report%201st%20Symp%20Internal%20Energy%20Market_final.pdf)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Symposium: The external dimension of the EU energy policy in transition**

In light of the Communication on security of energy supply and international cooperation entitled "The EU Energy Policy: Engaging with Partners beyond Our Borders" and the "Roadmap for moving to a competitive low-carbon economy in 2050" released by the Commission at the end of 2011, the 2nd Symposium addressed specific issues linked to the external dimension of the EU's energy policy – with a special focus on the role of gas and the importance of the diversification of supply.

A report has been published at:

[http://www.dgroup.de/tl\\_files/Events/Bruessel%202013/2nd%20Symposium/130426\\_Report\\_2nd\\_Symp\\_External\\_Dimension.pdf](http://www.dgroup.de/tl_files/Events/Bruessel%202013/2nd%20Symposium/130426_Report_2nd_Symp_External_Dimension.pdf)

**High Level Conference: Beyond the 2020 horizon: Moving towards a common EU energy policy by 2030**

In the light of the conclusions of the European Council of May 22nd 2013, the Green Paper on the EU post-2020 energy and climate policy framework released by the European Commission in March 2013, and the EU Energy Roadmap released in 2011, this High Level Conference will focus on the future of the European energy policy framework, and look concretely at what could potentially be the next climate and energy targets for 2030, and the European energy policy framework to support them.

Among a wide range of issues related to the energy policy by 2030, **the High Level Conference will address the following key questions:** What are the positive and negative aspects of the EU 2020 energy policy framework? How should the EU strike the right balance between the three long-term objectives of competitiveness, sustainable development and security of supply? What should be the main objectives/instruments of the EU energy policy post 2020? What will be the influence of the global context when adopting the 2030 policy framework? What will be the main drivers for selecting new energy resources and technologies? How to address the main factors of uncertainty to invest in the energy sector? How to introduce more flexibility in the market? What is the role/responsibility of public/private actors/partnerships? How to reconcile and combine the various levels of energy governance: global, EU, regional, national and local? How to enhance cooperation between national energy policies?

**3<sup>rd</sup> Symposium: How to finance the transition towards a low-carbon economy?**

This symposium is aimed at addressing the following questions: Financial challenges: How to cope with the massive investment needs in a period of public debt crisis? Where will the money come from (private, public, carbon market)? To what extent should low-carbon energy technologies be subsidised, and how long before they can be cost competitive? Is carbon pricing the main driver for the deployment of low-carbon technologies or one amongst many others? Where do the main factors of uncertainty to invest in the energy sector come from? How to address them?

**4<sup>th</sup> Symposium: How to foster innovation in a fast changing energy landscape?**

Potential focus on a special field like CCS, storage, Power to gas, etc. This symposium is aimed at addressing the following questions: What are the main obstacles and drivers for innovation in energy? How can the cooperation between MS be encouraged in the field of R&D? What are the core elements of the EU strategy to develop low-carbon technologies? What should be the criteria of investment in R&D? How to choose the criteria in order to invest in the most cost-efficient way?

**Who**

**Development Group and Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations**

Potential additional partners related to specific topics: policy institutions, Permanent Representations to the EU, international associations with representation in Brussels e.g.: Eurelectric, Energi Norge, etc.