## Council of European Energy Regulators



Council of European Energy Regulators

2022

ANNUAL REPORT

This report details the activities of the Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER) from 1 January to 31 December 2022.

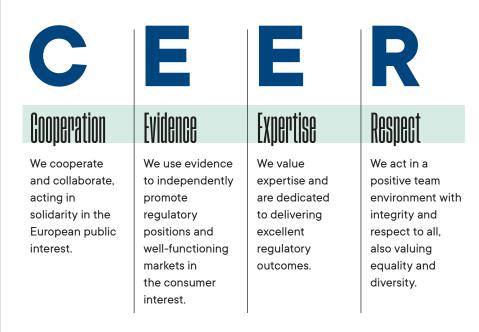
## **About us**

CEER represents the collective voice of Europe's energy national regulatory authorities (NRAs) on both the European and global stages. Our 39 Members and Observers are the independent statutory national energy regulatory authorities from all of Europe. They work together to promote an investment-friendly, harmonised regulatory environment and to foster the development of a single, competitive, efficient and sustainable Internal Energy Market.

Through expert working group meetings, training, workshops, and events, CEER facilitates cooperation among national regulators, sharing best practices and developing regulatory capacity. We are committed to shaping the energy regulatory framework and policy to ensure that energy markets operate in the public interest. Our work is pivotal to the growth, competitiveness and sustainability of the entire European economy.

As a legally established not-for-profit association under Belgian law, CEER is dedicated to upholding the highest standards of transparency and accountability in all our activities.

## CEER's values guide and inform our association's culture, behaviour and output.



To learn more and access our policy documents, reports, infographics, brochures and videos, visit our website at **www.ceer.eu** 

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# Empowering Consumers in the Face of Unprecedented Challenges



ust as the pandemic thankfully became less impactful on our lives as 2022 progressed, this past year has brought on new and unforeseeable challenges to the energy sector. The Covid-19 crisis ebbed away, and economies rebounded, only to be followed by Russia's unprovoked attack on Ukraine, as well as other factors impacting the energy sector. This prompted a collective response from European countries to wean their dependency on Russian gas, step up the EU's decarbonisation efforts and accelerate the energy transition.

As a result, CEER's mission is now timelier than ever. This extraordinary chain of events coincided with the launch of our new

consumer-centric strategy, "Empowering Consumers for the Energy Transition", which recognises the crucial role played by national regulatory authorities in mitigating the impact of crises such as the ones we are currently facing. At the heart of it lies the concept of consumer-centric dynamic regulation that underpins NRAs' commitment to promoting well-functioning and competitive energy markets for all consumers across Europe.

Under this new framework, CEER released key publications offering recommendations that aim to help regulators safeguard a smooth running of the energy system both at national and European level, such as the Regulatory Frameworks Report on European Energy Networks, as well as the ACER-CEER Market Monitoring Report volumes. We also released the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the Benchmarking Report on Quality of Supply, last published in 2016, and of particular importance during these challenging times for Europeans. This flagship report was for the first time done jointly with ECRB and covers data from 39 countries across Europe. We also finalised work from our previous strategy with the release of two complementary reports on dynamic regulation.

Throughout this tumultuous year, it remained vital not to let the situation compromise consumer choice. As energy prices reached unprecedented highs, European energy regulators strived to uphold the functioning of the market while providing targeted support to ensure that no consumer was left behind. CEER has been following more closely than ever the EU legislative process and provided input on a number of key dossiers such as the Hydrogen and decarbonised gas market package, collaborating with ACER when appropriate, to ensure that regulators' views are taken on board by policy decision makers.

With the reopening of frontiers and international travel, I am happy to report that CEER's work on the international scene has picked up again, as we reinitiated our meetings and close relations with our immediate neighbours and beyond. Although there have been disruptions in some Eastern Partnership countries, this did not keep the EU4Energy programme from delivering an exciting and rich set of public activities.

Finally, I would like to thank all those involved in CEER's work, first and foremost my esteemed colleagues on the Board, as well as the members of the General Assembly for their unwavering commitment to our shared mission while navigating difficult times. I also thank our Working Group members who have generously contributed their valuable experience, expertise, and determination to successfully execute the first phase of our ambitious strategy, despite facing numerous challenges and obstacles. Your steadfast dedication and hard work have been instrumental in shaping CEER's achievements during this challenging year, and I am grateful for your contributions. Lastly, I cannot forget the CEER Secretariat staff members for their continuous efforts to keep CEER's work on a smooth and professional path.

foregoed from

Together, we will continue to work towards building and maintaining sustainable and affordable energy markets for consumers across Europe.

# Delivering for our Members and Europe

eflecting on the extraordinary events of 2022, it is clear that the year brought unforeseen challenges to the energy sector and to CEER's Members. The war in Ukraine and its impact on Europe's energy system placed an unexpected burden on energy regulators, who had to take on extra responsibilities. Yet despite these difficulties, CEER's Working Groups continued to deliver an ambitious annual work programme, with publications serving stakeholders and the broader public, as well as reactions to European proposals and consultations.

2022 was a year in which CEER and ACER collaborated on a number of topics and delivered common positions. In the wake of

Russia's invasion of Ukraine, European energy regulators issued a statement "Europe's energy regulators stand with Ukraine", demonstrating a united front and a commitment to European solidarity. We reacted jointly to six public EU initiatives, including those on the Hydrogen and Decarbonised Gas Market Package, the proposal for a regulation amending the Security of Supply and Gas Storage regulations, and the EU initiative "Save Gas for a Safe Winter" Plan. CEER also provided input on the new versions of the Energy Efficiency and RES directives.

This past year also marked the progressive return to physical meetings at the CEER Secretariat after nearly three years of pandemic-affected arrangements. At the start of the year, we organised a highly interactive hybrid format Customer Conference. By December, we were holding a



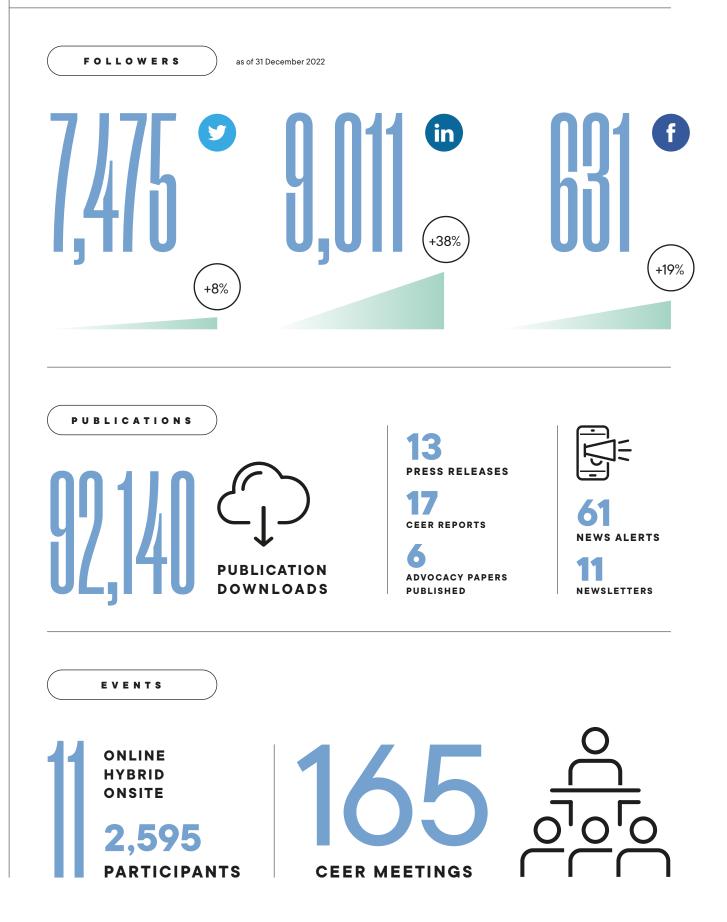
Chanles Essen secretary general

fully in-person Annual Conference. At the same time, CEER is ever more active online, communicating our activities and views in multiple platforms and CEER continues to expand its training programme.

Since I assumed the position of Secretary General in April 2019, numerous changes have taken place within the CEER Secretariat. These changes include an almost entirely new team and the addition of a small office in Tbilisi, Georgia that implements CEER's portion of the EU4Energy project, with the support of our Brussels-based staff. The Secretariat's commitment to a diverse and welcoming workplace remains.

The hard work continues, but I would like to thank all our member NRAs for their invaluable input and for making sure we deliver our ambitious annual work programmes, as well as the team of the CEER Secretariat for their determination and for taking up multiple challenging tasks. We also welcome the input and participation of our observer NRAs. Finally, I would like to thank President Annegret Groebel and the five Vice Presidents who comprise CEER's Board of Directors for their strong leadership and valuable support to the CEER Secretariat.

## 2022 in numbers



9

## 2022 at a glance



#### 08

CEER publishes its Second Analysis Report of the Covid-19 Pandemic's Effects on the Energy Sector.

#### 24 FEBRUARY Russia invades Ukraine

#### 16

CEER-ACER release a joint statement: Europe's energy regulators stand with Ukraine in power grid synchronisation with Continental Europe.

#### 23

The CEER Customer Conference is held in Brussels in hybrid format drawing hundreds of participants as the energy crisis grips Europe.

#### 28

CEER in collaboration with the EU4Energy programme publish the "Light Bulb" comic book in seven languages and launch an awareness raising campaign across Eastern European countries.

#### 29

ACER-CEER publish their views on the proposal for a regulation amending the security of supply and gas storage regulations.

#### 18 MAY

The European Commission publishes the REPowerEU Plan

#### 03

ACER and CEER react to the European Commission's Hydrogen and Decarbonised Gas Market Package.

# July



# October

# December

RENEWABLE ENERGY INVESTMENT CONFERENCE



Going

Europ

#### 20

Europe's energy regulators welcome the proactive approach of the European Commission's "Save Gas for a Safe Winter" Plan, supporting a welldefined crisis response process to adopt gas demand-adjustment measures early on to avoid higher costs later.

#### 29

CEER holds two timely events on renewable gases and empowering consumers at EU Sustainable Energy Week 2022.



#### 26-28

Renewable Energy Investment Conference RESInvestTbilisi2022: Energy leaders meet in Tbilisi to discuss investments in renewable energy projects in Europe, Eastern Partnership countries and internationally.

#### 12

CEER co-signs the European Commission's "Joint Declaration on Enhanced Consumer Protection this Winter".

#### 13

CEER Annual Conference: 150 energy stakeholders urge a careful approach to long-term electricity market reform.

#### 22

CEER and ECRB publish the flagship 7<sup>th</sup> Benchmarking Report on the Quality of Energy Supply in Europe.

# OUR WORK

Implementing a consumer-centric strategy 
> n 2022, CEER launched its new strategy entitled "Empowering Consumers for the Energy Transition," which will be in effect through 2025. This strategic plan was developed while Europe and the world were undergoing a series of crises, such as climate change and the decarbonisation challenge, the Covid-19 pandemic, and higher energy prices, all of which have had a significant impact on the energy system. The situation was further complicated by the Russian invasion of Ukraine, drought and other difficulties affecting the European energy sector.

Acknowledging the challenges posed by these crises, energy regulators reaffirmed their commitment to empowering consumers to participate in the energy transition. This involves actively promoting the transition towards a carbon-neutral society and enabling energy system integration, which are critical components in achieving the overarching goals of decarbonisation, climate neutrality, sustainability, and efficiency as outlined in the Green Deal and other initiatives of the European Commission.

- **1.** Enabling energy system integration: By integrating renewables and incentivising innovation.
- Placing consumers at the centre of energy markets with consumer-centric dynamic regulation: By empowering consumers to actively contribute to and benefit from a flexible energy system.
- **3.** Ensuring open, well-functioning and resilient markets nationally and across Europe: By delivering flexibility and new business models.

These three regulatory dimensions are broken down into six core areas from which CEER draws its annual deliverables and activities

To achieve these

plan focuses on

dimensions

three key regulatory

objectives, the strategic

- 1. Energy system integration
- 2. Sustainable and efficient infrastructure
- 3. Consumer-centric design
- 4. Decentralised and local energy
- 5. Well-functioning markets
- 6. Flexibility

Each one of these core areas is covered differently from one year to the next.

01. Fostering informed decision making on key regulatory issues

2022 was marked by a series of unprecedented events which will have a lasting impact on Europe's energy system.

Throughout the year, energy regulators played a constructive role in EU legislative discussions, particularly with regard to the REPowerEU plan launched by the European Commission in May. As part of our established engagement with EU Institutions, we closely monitored key dossiers and initiatives, providing feedback and responses to various public consultations and proposals.



CEER remains committed to provide input to the topics at stake on the EU policy agenda. We will continue to be engaged in the decisionmaking process to ensure that consumers across the EU are protected and that their rights to affordable energy are safeguarded.



#### Main highlights

¬ CEER and ACER responded jointly to the European Commission's strategy of creating bidding zones to integrate offshore renewable energy. We suggested that challenges needed to be further understood, including providing a stable investment framework for offshore renewables.

 CEER responded to the Commission's public consultation on the EU Action Plan for digitalising the energy sector, focusing on the benefits of the digital transition for energy consumers, and the need for cybersecurity and data-sharing at the European level. We also recommended establishing a network code for gas operations' cybersecurity.
 Drawing upon regulators' expertise with distribution and transmission grids, CEER provided suggestions to improve the effectiveness of the proposals for new versions of the Energy Efficiency Directive and RES Directive.

#### Gas market initiatives

CEER provided feedback on the EC's initiative to revise the EU rules on market access of gas network, future-proofing Europe's legal and regulatory framework for the sector. Our feedback focused on the main parts of the H2 & decarbonised gas market package, reiterating regulators' previously published views on the proposals.

We reacted to the Commission's proposal on methane emissions regulation, emphasising the importance of assigning data verification to an independent entity such as a third-party auditing company or an independent EU agency referring to the EU domain.

CEER and ACER provided recommendations to improve the Commission's initiative to bolster the EU's security of supply (SoS) and gas storage regulations launched at the height of the geopolitical crisis in April. We offered practical reflections to achieve this objective, underlining the importance of exceptional, temporary and targeted measures in response to the circumstances.

CEER and ACER engaged with the Commission's proposals to establish a comprehensive system design with a clear target model for the hydrogen and decarbonised gas markets, to reinforce measures on integrated network development and focus on consumer protection issues.

#### Coming up

CEER is joining forces with ACER to respond to the public consultation and subsequent legislative proposals (tbc) on the reform of the EU's electricity market design which was called for by Heads of Government in 2022 in the wake of the energy crisis, to help secure European energy sovereignty while achieving climate neutrality. 02. Placing consumers at the heart of our mission



CEER is highly committed to promoting effective retail market functioning in the interest of consumers, with a focus on consumer protection and empowerment.

In the midst of the energy crisis, we remained dedicated to achieving a fair twin transition (green and digital), ensuring that no customer is left behind.

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#### Main highlights

We published the third edition of the CEER Roadmap to 2025 Well-Functioning Retail Energy Markets – Self Assessment Status Review, reflecting on the progress made in European energy retail markets in 2020. This analysis a looks at set of 25 metrics used by NRAs to evaluate the effective performance of retail markets, taking into account the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.

¬ CEER held its 2022 Customer Conference addressing the energy price spike and the green transition (more on page 28).

¬ We published our Guidelines of Good Practice on Future-proof Comparison Tools in the Energy Sector, which put forward 20 updated recommendations, covering aspects such as independence, transparency, exhaustiveness, clarity and comprehensibility, correctness and accuracy, user-friendliness, accessibility and customer empowerment so that comparison tools truly enable consumers to find the best contract for their needs and situation.

 We published the Retail and Consumer Protection Volume of the ACER/CEER Market Monitoring Reports (more on page 19).

In order to gather stakeholder views on trustworthy green offers and prevent "greenwashing", we launched a public consultation putting forward nine CEER recommendations for more transparent green offers in the energy market.

¬ In a common effort supported by the European Commission, CEER co-signed in December a Joint Declaration on Enhanced Consumer Protection this winter along with relevant stakeholders, including consumer organisations, energy retailers and distribution system operators.

 We published our report on "Digitalisation as a Driver for Better Retail Market Functioning", identifying opportunities, challenges and risks associated with the increasing digitalisation of the energy sector, while putting forward recommendations to NRAs on how to best benefit from it.

#### Coming up

¬ CEER's priorities for 2023 lie with promoting consumer-centric regulatory design and policy frameworks, drawing from lessons learned through the energy crisis.

Consumer empowerment and protection will remain high in CEER's
 Customers and Retail Markets Working Group with evidence-based
 monitoring, as well as sharing of best practices and guidelines.

¬ In light of the recent events affecting the energy sector, CEER will publish a report on identifying measures and strategies to protect consumers during various crisis scenarios, drawing lessons from the recent crises.



## Jana Haasová

CUSTOMERS AND RETAIL MARKETS WORKING GROUP CO-CHAIR AND CEER VICE PRESIDENT,



NATALIA MCCOY CUSTOMERS AND RETAIL MARKETS WORKING GROUP CO-CHAIR

Protecting consumers and championing their rights remain key priorities for CEER in these times of crisis. Equally, we must continue our work to promote well-functioning and inclusive retail markets that empower consumers to be active agents of the energy transition, while ensuring no one is left behind. Energy efficiency solutions, demand reduction measures and consumer information campaigns are invaluable tools in this regard.

## 03. Driving transparency and insight in European energy markets

Monitoring markets and compliance with laws, rules and recommendations is an important element of regulators' work at national and EU level.

In 2022, CEER analysed data collected on a broad range of topics and published recommendations related to energy market regulation, providing an evidence base that informs the energy debate and regulatory policy development.



Promoting a transparent, efficient and future-ready regulatory environment is an integral aspect of CEER's work. By enabling the gradual regulation of emerging energy vectors through a dynamic and agile framework, we can reinforce market principles and achieve the EU's decarbonisation goals at least cost, while ensuring security of supply for all consumers.

## Pedro Verdelho

GAS WORKING GROUP CHAIR AND CEER VICE PRESIDENT

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#### Main highlights

We collaborated with ACER to produce the Annual Report on the Results of Monitoring the Internal Electricity and Natural Gas Markets in 2021. In this edition, the volume on retail energy markets and consumer protection analyses some of the most significant impacts of the energy crisis for retail markets. The two other volumes address gas markets, one exploring conventional gas markets while the other focuses on decarbonised gases and hydrogen.

¬ CEER published its annual report on Regulatory Frameworks for European Energy Networks, which identifies the differences and parallels in regulatory regimes and characteristics in most European countries. The report provides valuable information, as robust regulatory frameworks are essential for the development of efficient energy markets.

¬ CEER and the Energy Community Regulatory Board (ECRB) jointly published the 7<sup>th</sup> Benchmarking Report on Quality of Electricity and Gas Supply. Covering 39 European countries, the report evaluates the technical characteristics of grids, technical properties of supplied electricity and gas, and the handling of customer requests. It enables easier benchmarking in Europe and provides key recommendations to improve quality of supply.

CEER published its report on the availability of liquefied natural gas (LNG) small-scale services in the EU, detailing their access conditions and tariffs in various European LNG terminals. The study aims to provide more transparency on this segment of the market.

In May, finalising work on dynamic regulation that was part of CEER's previous strategy, two papers were published that complement each other: the Paper on Regulatory Sandboxes in Incentive Regulation and the Dynamic NRAs to Boost Innovation report, informing regulators and policymakers on the need for regulatory reforms that would support the transition to a decarbonised economy.

 With the CEER Reflection Paper on Regulation of Long-Term Energy Storage from a Sector-Coupling Perspective, we provided an analysis and lessons learnt from gas storage.

- CEER published our Second Report Analysis of the Covid-19 Pandemic's Effects on the Energy Sector. The report addresses the specific impact of the pandemic on consumers, energy suppliers, network operators, as well as the measures taken to support them.

#### Figures 2021\*

7.5%

Household electricity prices increased by 7.5% up to 22.9 eurocents/kWh in comparison to 2020.

Average gas prices across the EU increased by 4.4% for household consumers and 95.4% for industrial consumers. Demand for gas in the EU and UK rose by 4.4% in 2021.

By the end of the year, comparison tools for electricity exist in 25 MS and 19 for gas.

Approximately 70 electricity and 60 gas supplier failures resulted in the use of the SOLR (supplier of last resort) across Europe.

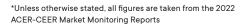
54% average in the share of final household consumers with intelligent (smart) meters among total households (metering points) as of 31 December 2021.

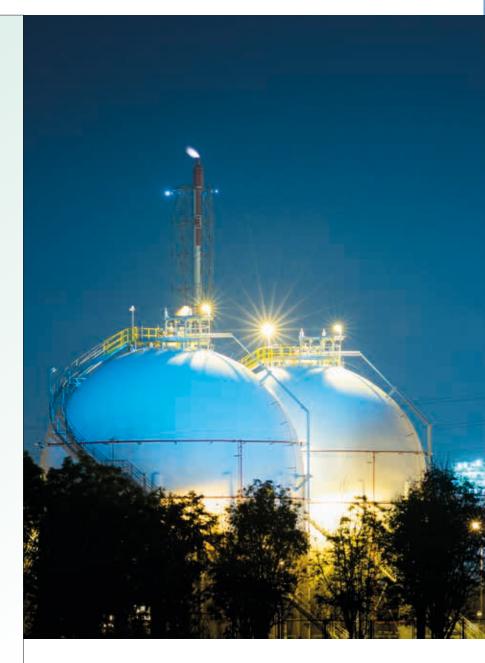


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Percentage of external switching rate of household consumers highest in NL and BE at around 25% in 2021.

As of Q2 2022, there are 21 LNG terminals planned in the EU and UK.





#### Coming up

Two webinars on the 7<sup>th</sup> Benchmarking report on quality of electricity and gas supply will be held in the first half of 2023. The first will focus on the findings and recommendations of the publication and the second will gather feedback from stakeholders.

 The CEER status review report on Renewable Energy Systems (RES) will be published this year, providing an overview on RES support schemes in Europe.

¬ We will publish a report that investigates how system operators can procure flexibility via alternative connection agreements to solve local network issues as an intermediate measure before grid reinforcements.

## 04. Strengthening regulators' capacities and expertise

The effective engagement of participants and the achievement of individual learning objectives are the main priorities for the CEER Training Academy.

While in 2022 the pandemic was still having an impact on the organisation of our courses, particularly in the beginning of the year, CEER introduced new formats and interactive learning methodologies to help drive participation. We opted mostly for hybrid formats and implemented short online courses, which allowed us to cover transversal topics and train NRA staff members on soft skills.

#### Main highlights

In 2022, the CEER Training Academy successfully delivered
 15 training courses.

 Throughout the year, we developed a broad set of interactive programmes including group work activities and discussions on reallife cases.

The first CEER mini training was held in December 2022 on the topic of EU Institutions and EU Legislative Procedures. 43 participants joined the course.

 As with the previous years, the courses on Energy Community and New Actors in the Energy Sector as well as the training co-organised with EFET on European Wholesale Electricity and Gas Market Trading were open to the public.

 The introductory modules on Fundamentals on Energy Regulation were jointly organised with the Florence School of Regulation (FSR) in March and April.

 Onsite participation in CEER Trainings has been enriched by the organisation of interesting outdoor visits such as the European Parliament, the European Commission and an energy trading floor.

¬ A "Training the Trainers" session was offered to course directors, advisors and trainers, as well as external speakers, to catalyse their creative input in the CEER training courses.



#### 1

EU4Energy training on Renewable Energy Support Mechanisms and Guarantees of Origin for Eastern Partnership (EaP) Countries 15-16 September, Tsinandali, Georgia

#### Coming up

 The CEER Training Academy will deliver 18 high-quality courses on the practice of regulation and job-related skills for regulatory staff in 2023.

 Three CEER training courses will be open to the public, including the Specialised Training on Energy Sector Integration.

¬ To facilitate the participation of NRA staff in CEER Training Courses, the 2023 portfolio will propose different training formats: fully onsite (two days), fully online (three half days), hybrid (two days), and mini trainings (half-day fully online, low cost).

 CEER Training academy will run two capacity-building trainings under the EU4Energy Programme Phase II.

¬ CEER is constantly involved in ICER activities and the organisation of the World Forum on Energy Regulation (WFER) in Peru in 2023. For this event, the CEER Training Academy is preparing one training on the independence of regulation and one on market integration and renewable energy, together with FSR.



Learning from peers is essential to effectively navigate the everevolving challenges faced by energy regulators.



CEER VICE PRESIDENT AND CHAIR OF CEER'S LEGAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE



CEER training courses



regulatory staff trained from **30 countries** 



trainers from **20 countries** 



regulatory staff from RAERESA trained from **5 African countries** 



regulatory staff trained from **5 EaP countries** 

#### Capacity building projects

¬ In May, the CEER Training Academy invited members of the Regional Association of Energy Regulators for Eastern and Southern Africa (RAERESA) for peer-to-peer capacity-building sessions. Twenty participants from five delegations from Burundi, the Comoros, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti and Madagascar met in Nairobi to discuss the role of energy regulators, the rights and obligations of consumers, tariffication elements, market mechanisms and competition, and the protection of consumers.

¬ In September, a two-day EU4Energy training on Renewable Energy Support Mechanisms and Guarantees of Origin for Eastern Partnership (EaP) Countries brought together eighteen energy experts from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine in Tsinandali, Georgia. Participants enhanced their knowledge in renewable energy support mechanisms as efficient policy tools for shifting towards a green generation. The training focused on the main support mechanisms such as feed-in tariffs, feed-in premiums and auctions.



05. Championing best regulatory practices internationally



CEER represents the voice of Europe's energy regulators and has a long history of cooperation with its neighbours, the regulators from the Energy Community, ERRA, MEDREG, and the six countries of the Eastern Partnership, in support of Europe's external policy objectives.

We organise regular bilateral meetings with fellow regulators from the Americas and actively participate in the work of the International Confederation of Energy Regulators (ICER). Annegret Groebel, CEER President, also currently holds the position of Vice Chair at ICER.

#### Main highlights

An exchange with NEURC Chairman Kostyantyn Uschapovsky was organised on 22 March. After discussing the energy security situation in Ukraine, Mr Uschapovsky mentioned the successful integration of Ukraine to the continental European grid and recalled the will of NEURC to become a CEER observer.

¬ CEER is a member of ICER, a voluntary framework for cooperation through which energy regulators from across the globe address a broad spectrum of issues. The main activity of 2022 focused on preparations for the 8<sup>th</sup> World Forum of Energy Regulation (WFER VIII) to be held in Peru in 2023.

¬ In 2018, CEER signed a trilateral cooperation agreement with the ECRB and MEDREG to work jointly on promoting the integration of energy market in Europe and the EU Neighbourhood. The cooperation is usually in the form of a workshop on a specific topic, but also via joint publications. The most recent is the 7<sup>th</sup> Benchmarking Report on the quality of electricity and gas supply – see page 19.

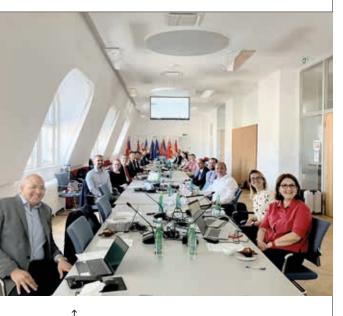
Together with the Energy Community Regulatory Board (ECRB) and the Association of Mediterranean Energy Regulators (MEDREG), CEER held its 4<sup>th</sup> Trilateral Consumer Workshop aimed at maximising the exchange of best practices and experiences in a context of rapid transformations and challenges in the energy sector. Later in the year,



CEER works with its international contacts in a spirit of mutual respect and is eager to learn from the experience of fellow regulators and related authorities, as well as provide its expertise and assistance to interested counterparts worldwide.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS GROUP CHAIR

#### OUR WORK



4<sup>th</sup> Trilateral CEER-ECRB-MEDREG Workshop, 15 June, Vienna

15<sup>th</sup> EU-US Regulators Roundtable, 13-14 October 2022, Washington D.C. ↓ a second workshop was held in Vienna to kick-start an initiative on sustainable empowerment, security of energy supply and interoperability of the systems.

¬ The 15<sup>th</sup> EU-US Roundtable was held in October 2022 in Washington. This closed event for regulators had for themes of discussion Grid Resilience, Clean Energy, Natural Gas as a Transition Fuel, Electrification & New Technologies, Dynamic regulation, and Cybersecurity.

COP 27 was held in November 2022 in Egypt. Claudio Marcantonini, Regulatory Gas Strategy WS Co-Chair, contributed to one of the events by speaking about ACER and CEER's proposals on the regulation of hydrogen.

#### Coming up

¬ The International Relations Group will review the CEER's core strategy and objectives regarding its international cooperation efforts with other energy regulators and regional regulatory associations.

CEER will be highly involved in the 8<sup>th</sup> World Forum of Energy Regulation. Held every three years, WFER is the leading international conference on energy regulation. It brings together key energy industry players, high-level policymakers, academics and regulators to engage in strategic discussions on a broad range of regulatory schemes.



## EU4Energy programme

CEER is one of three implementing partners of the EU4Energy Programme, Phase II which runs until 2024. CEER is specifically responsible for programme implementation in Armenia, Azerbaijan, as well as for regional coordination and overall communication and visibility for the programme in all five Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries. Multiple visibility activities were organised in 2022, targeting various age groups and articulated around diverse topics linked to the Programme's objectives.

#### Main highlights

CEER carried out a total of eight trainings and workshops in both Armenia and Azerbaijan covering various skills and topics from English to renewables and regulatory authorities' independence. In Armenia, the sessions drew participants from the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure and the Public Services Regulatory Commission. The sessions in Azerbaijan targeted the Ministry of Energy, the State Agency for Renewable Energy Sources under the Ministry of Energy and the Azerbaijan Energy Regulatory Agency.

In Armenia, our experts supported the development of a gas market concept design, natural gas network development plan, investment appraisal rules, RES integration in tariff setting, cost audit rules and quality of service rules. In Azerbaijan, CEER contributed to the development of market rules for gas and electricity and of the metering codes for electricity and gas.

The EU4Energy programme published and printed the comic book "Light Bulb" on energy



efficiency in English and six EaP languages, with the goal of raising climate and energy awareness among school children. The book was a major success and a powerful awareness raising tool, garnering more than 8.2 million impressions on social media, appearances in local press and media, school visits and other events.

→ With the aim of facilitating experience and knowledge sharing among students the 2022, Autumn Digital week was held in October and covered a broad range of energy and regulatory issues. Approximately 70 students from ten universities and five EaP countries participated in the event.

The "Women in Energy" blog, which addresses the underrepresentation of women in the energy sector, featured interviews of female professionals in the field highlighting their achievements.

#### Coming up

 Country action plans for 2023 will be developed in close cooperation with beneficiary institutions to best serve their needs and provide guidance according to EU legislation and best practices.

 Further visibility actions will be carried out including a second edition of the "Light Bulb" comic book, the Autumn Digital EU4Energy Week for EaP Universities and a regional conference in Vienna.

¬ Further work is planned for the development of the unbundling action plan for the gas sector, and the regional market gap analysis.

# Building thought leadership through stakeholder engagement

CEER is committed to engaging with its stakeholders by creating opportunities to gather expert views, inform our vision and policy advice, and share our findings and recommendations to the public.



You can access recordings of our hybrid and online events on our website at <u>www.ceer.eu</u> In-person conferences and hybrid events

#### 23 March 2022

2022 CEER Customer Conference (hybrid) "Survival 101! The energy price spikes and the Green Transition – empowering consumers"

This timely conference was held as Europe's energy prices soared in light of the ongoing Russia/Ukraine crisis and allowed participants to engage in lively discussions with energy and policy experts who provided insight and advice on the tools available for consumers to tackle high prices and manage their consumption sustainably.

#### **29 September 2022**

EUSEW 2022: The potential of renewable gases to support the energy transition and guarantee security of supply

Highlighting different models and use cases at European and national level, the session explored the steps that can be taken to support the sustainable development of new renewable gas industries and markets, with the end goal of diversifying Europe's energy supplies and enabling a fair energy transition for all Europeans. The event was organised in partnership with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the Florence School of Regulation (FSR), FEL Portugal and the Centre on Regulation in Europe (CERRE).

#### 29 September 2022

## EUSEW2022: Achieving energy independence and the green transition: REPowering consumers

Speakers from the European Consumer Organisation (BEUC), the European consumer voice in standardisation (ANEC) and SolarPower Europe discussed the barriers to shift to renewables and drive the energy transition. The talk explored how investments in self-consumption can shield consumers from volatility in gas and electricity markets, how to unlock flexibility resources as an alternative to conventional gas and how to ensure security of supply.

#### 26-28 October 2022

### Renewable Energy Investment Conference 2022 CEER Customer Conference (hybrid)

More than two hundred participants gathered at RESInvestTbilisi2022 to find ways forward to accelerate the energy transition and catalyse investments in renewable energy projects. The high-level discussions involved energy regulators and policymakers and covered renewable energy policies and the investment climate in Europe, Eastern Partnership countries and beyond. The event was co-organised with the Energy Regulators Regional Association (ERRA) and was hosted by the Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission (GNERC).

#### **13 December 2022**

#### 2022 CEER Annual Conference "Short-Term Measures vs Long-Term Design: Regulating the Future Energy Market"

More than 150 participants were brought together to analyse the emergency measures put in place by the EU and national governments, with speakers urging a careful approach to long-term market reforms, distinguishing them from well-structured measures to deal with the crisis. Highlevel speakers from energy regulators (CEER and ACER), DG ENER, industry associations, and consumer organisations from across Europe joined the conference – CEER's first fully in-person conference since the start of the pandemic.

#### Webinars and online events

#### **17 May 2022** ACER-CEER Webinar on Gas Storage Regulation

While discussing their analyses on gas storage and security of gas supply, the discussion provided a space for the European Commission to present its proposal to mitigate high energy prices with common gas purchases and minimum gas storage obligations.

#### 25 May 2022

## ACER-CEER Public Workshop on the potential amendments to the European Grid Connection Network Codes

CEER and ACER presented the ongoing work for scoping the EC's amendments on European Grid Connection Network Codes (GC NCs) and sought inputs from relevant stakeholders to define the main areas to consider.

#### **29 June 2022** CEER Webinar on Dynamic Regulation

This online event served to present recent work on dynamic regulation and regulatory sandboxes to shed light on dynamic regulation in the current context of the energy market and its role in stimulating innovation.

#### 6 July 2022

#### ACER-CEER Public Workshop on the possible developments of the EU electricity forward market

The workshop introduced the joint consultation paper to stakeholders as part of a public consultation on the possible developments of the electricity forward market.

#### 10 July 2022

#### ACER-CEER webinar on the main findings of the Gas Wholesale Markets Monitoring Report

Presenting the main findings and recommendations of the Gas Wholesale Volume of the Market Monitoring Report (MMR), the webinar focused on the main gas market developments across 2021 and in the first half of 2022, as well as the policy responses to secure supplies and hedge price exposure.

#### **12 October 2022**

#### ACER-CEER Webinar on the Energy Retail and Consumer Protection Market Monitoring Report

Following the publication of the Energy Retail and Consumer Protection Volume of the Market Monitoring Report (MMR), the webinar focused on the main energy retail market developments across 2021 with some pricing insights for 2022.

# The faces behind CEER

We owe our achievements to the commitment of our Board, General Assembly, Working Group and Work Stream chairs, NRA staff volunteers, the Training Advisory Board and course lecturers, the Secretariat and of course the support from many external parties.

#### **Presidency and Board**

The CEER Board is composed of a President and five Vice Presidents. The Board members have a 2.5-year term of office; the current terms of Vice Presidents run to 11 May 2025. The President is elected also for a 2.5-year term, the current term runs to 23 January 2024.



As of 25 October 2022, CEER had six Board members: President Annegret Groebel (BNetzA – Germany) and Vice Presidents Jana Haasová (ERÚ – Czech Republic), Koen Locquet (CREG – Belgium), Alda Ozola (PUC – Latvia), Wolfgang Urbantschitsch (E-Control – Austria) and Pedro Verdelho (ERSE – Portugal). Jean-Laurent Lastelle (CRE – France) also served as a Board member (VP) from 1 January through 31 August 2022.

#### **General Assembly**

The General Assembly held eight meetings in 2022 and is composed of senior representatives from member national energy regulatory authorities.



#### Secretariat

Mr Charles Esser is CEER's Secretary General and oversees the day-to-day business in the Brussels-based Secretariat. During most of 2022, the Secretariat had twelve staff members.



#### Training Advisory Board

Our Training Academy benefits from the active contribution of an Advisory Board, comprising academics, energy sector professionals and former regulators who bring the external knowledge to our courses. Former CEER Vice President Anne Vadasz Nilsson chairs the Training Advisory Board (TAB) since the beginning of 2022.

#### **Current Advisory Board members**



**Anne Vadasz Nilsson** TAB Chair



**Mike Bostan** European Federation of Energy Traders (EFET)



**Richard Cowart** Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP)



Adrien De Hauteclocque General Court of the European Union



**Monica Giulietti** University of Loughborough



**Tomás Gómez** Engineering School of Universidad Pontificia Comillas



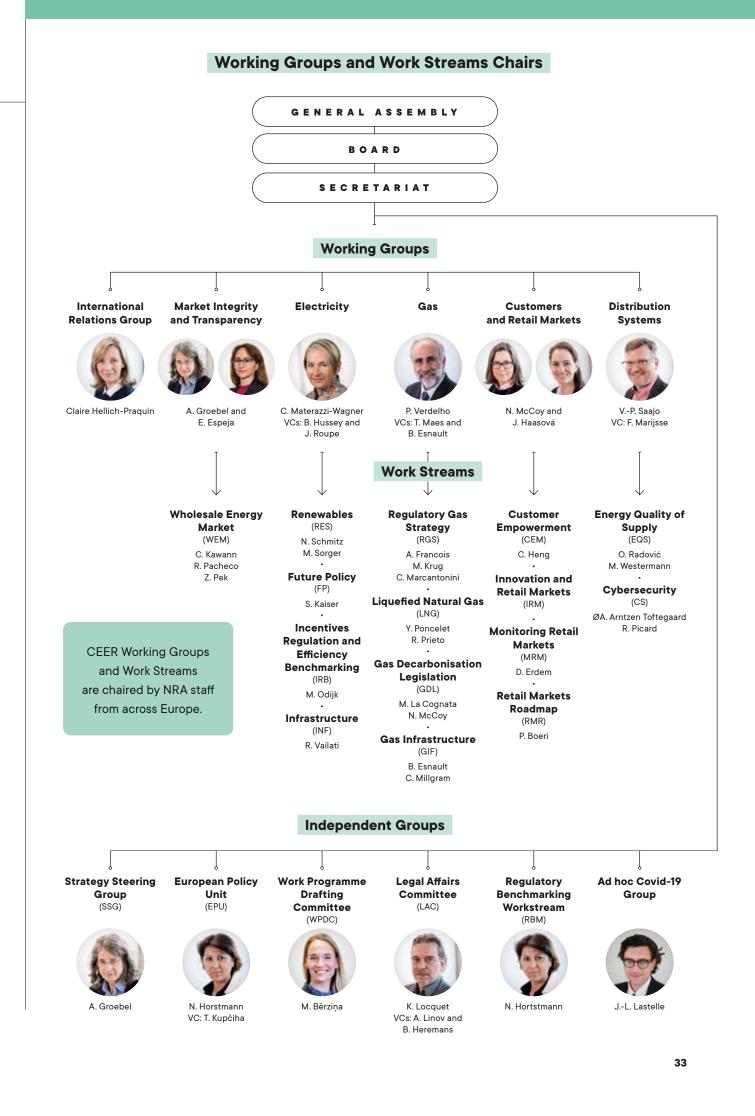
**Tooraj Jamasb** Copenhagen School of Energy Infrastructure



Jorge Vasconcelos Technical University of Lisbon



**Roberto Zangrandi** E.DSO



## Membership



## **Finances**

As an independent organisation, CEER takes pride in being financed mostly through our membership and observer fees. To safeguard our impartiality, we refrain from partnering or entering in sponsorship contracts for our events and activities.

Graphical breakdown of CEER's 2022 revenue per category:

GNERC

Training and capacity building projects

10%

Member fees

82%



## **Appendixes**

## I. Reports and papers

An overview of CEER's key messages was published in two reports "What regulators stood for in the first half of 2022!" and "What regulators stood for in the second half of 2022!"

#### **Cross-Sectoral**

- CEER Response to the European Commission's consultation on the Action Plan for digitalising the energy sector
   19 JANUARY 2022
- CEER Report on Regulatory Frameworks for European Energy Networks 2021 31 JANUARY 2022
- CEER Analysis of the Covid-19 Pandemic's Effects on the Energy Sector -Second Report 08 FEBRUARY 2022
- CEER Paper on Regulatory Sandboxes in Incentive Regulation
   25 MAY 2022
- Dynamic NRAs to Boost Innovation
   31 MAY 2022
- Guide For Investing In Renewable Energies In Eastern Partnership 2022
   26 OCTOBER 2022
- 7<sup>th</sup> CEER-ECRB Benchmarking Report on the Quality of Electricity and Gas Supply
   22 DECEMBER 2022

#### Electricity

 ACER-CEER Reflection on the EU Offshore Renewable Energy Strategy
 11 APRIL 2022

#### Gas

 CEER feedback to EC on EU rules on market access of gas networks
 12 APRIL 2022

- CEER feedback to EC on methane emissions regulation
   18 APRIL 2022
- CEER Reflection Paper on Regulation of Long-Term Energy Storage from a Sector-Coupling Perspective 27 APRIL 2022
- ACER-CEER views on the proposal for a regulation amending the SoS and gas storage Regulations
   29 APRIL 2022
- ACER-CEER Reaction to the European Commission's Hydrogen and Decarbonised Gas Market Package
   O3 JUNE 2022
- CEER Report on Liquefied Natural Gas Small-Scale Services in the European Union
   29 JUNE 2022

L/ UONE 2022

 ACER-CEER Gas Wholesale Markets Volume Market Monitoring Report
 15 JULY 2022

#### Customers and Retail Markets

- CEER Roadmap to 2025
   Well-Functioning Retail
   Energy Markets 2020 Self Assessment Status Report
   23 FEBRUARY 2022
- Guidelines of Good Practice
   on Future-proof Comparison
   Tools in the Energy Sector
   O4 AUGUST 2022
- ACER-CEER Energy Retail and Consumer Protection Market Monitoring Report 07 OCTOBER 2022
- Joint Common Principles for Enhanced Consumer Protection this Winter
   12 DECEMBER 2022
- Digitalisation as a driver for better Retail Market functioning
   20 DECEMBER 2022

## II. Press Releases

- Europe's energy regulators stand with Ukraine in today's power grid synchronisation with Continental Europe
   16 MARCH 2022
- In midst of energy crisis, CEER brings regulators, policy makers and consumers together for open discussions on ways forward
   23 MARCH 2022
- EU4Energy in Collaboration with EUNeighbours East Launch Energy Efficiency Campaign for Children
   28 APRIL 2022
- EU4Energy Holds a Workshop on the Role of Renewable Energy Sources – the Concept of a Smart City/ Village
   25 MAY 2022
- European and Mediterranean regulators join efforts to accelerate the energy transition
   15 JUNE 2022
- Europe's energy regulators welcome proactive approach of the "Save Gas for a Safe Winter" Plan
   20 JULY 2022
- EU and CEER Launch Training on Renewable Energy Support Mechanisms and Guarantees of Origin for EaP Countries
   15 SEPTEMBER 2022
- EU4Energy Strengthens Knowledge of EaP Students in Clean Energy Transition 03 OCTOBER 2022
- CEER elects five Vice Presidents to two-and-ahalf-year terms
   26 OCTOBER 2022
- Top-Tier Energy Regulators Meet in Tbilisi To Spur Investments in Renewable Energy
   26 OCTOBER 2022

- At CEER Annual Conference, energy stakeholders urge careful approach to long-term market reforms distinguished from considerations of wellstructured measures to deal with current crisis
   13 DECEMBER 2022
- Regulators from across Europe and the Mediterranean region kick-start initiative on sustainable empowerment, security of energy supply and interoperability of the systems
   19 DECEMBER 2022
- CEER and ECRB publish flagship report on quality of energy supply in Europe
   22 DECEMBER 2022

- III. CEER representation at external events
- GROEBEL, Annegret, CEER President, USAID- ICER-NARUC Joint Webinar Series on the Cost-Reflective Tariff Toolkit: Tariff Toolkit Webinar 2: Primer on Depreciation 3 MARCH 2022
- SAAJO, Veli-Pekka, Chair of the CEER Distribution Systems Working Group, SmartEn and European Commission's Online workshop on "The road towards a European energy data space with consumers at its core": Panel discussion: The necessary conditions to boost data exchange between grid operators and all market parties
   MARCH 2022
- McCOY, Natalie, Co-Chair of the CEER Customers and Retail Markets Working Group, FSR Debate on "Electricity Retail Market Liberalisation: 15 years on": Liberalisation of the EU electricity market
   MARCH 2022
- GROEBEL, Annegret, CEER President, Online conference on the EU Solar Strategy
   MARCH 2022
- HORSTMANN, Nadia, Chair of the CEER Regulatory Benchmarking Work Stream, Madrid Energy Conference 2022: Present the outcome of our views on adaptative/ flexible regulation 6-8 APRIL 2022
- ESSER, Charles, CEER Secretary General, European Energy Efficiency Conference: Panel on Engaging and Empowering Citizens

7 APRIL 2022

#### • GROEBEL, Annegret,

CEER President, Canada's 2022 Regulator Conference 'Deep Dive into Distribution' in Vancouver: Digitalization Panel Empowering Dynamic Digitalization 4 MAY 2022

- VERDELHO, Pedro
   CEER Vice President and Gas
   Working Group Chair, 36<sup>th</sup>
   European Gas Regulatory
   (Madrid) Forum

   11-12 MAY 2022
- LA COGNATA, Marco, Co-Chair of the CEER Gas Decarbonisation Legislation Work Stream, 36<sup>th</sup> European Gas Regulatory (Madrid) Forum
   11-12 MAY 2022
- McCOY, Natalie

   Co-Chair of the CEER
   Customers and Retail
   Markets Working Group,
   BEUC event on "Helping
   consumers out of energy
   poverty one STEP at a time"
   18 MAY 2022
- MATERAZZI-WAGNER, Christine,

Chair of the CEER Electricity Working Group, 37<sup>th</sup> EU Electricity Regulatory (Florence) Forum 9-10 JUNE 2022

- SAAJO, Veli-Pekka, Chair of the CEER
   Distribution Systems Working Group, 37<sup>th</sup> EU Electricity Regulatory (Florence) Forum
   9-10 JUNE 2022
- GROEBEL, Annegret, CEER President, Eurelectric Power Summit 2022: Game Changers: Power Talk DSOs – Their role in the grid investment toolbox
   15-16 JUNE 2022

#### • MATERAZZI-WAGNER, Christine,

Chair of the CEER Electricity Working Group, Eurelectric Power Summit 2022: Game Changers: Power Talk Climate adaptation: the game plan for resilience 15-16 JUNE 2022

#### ESSER, Charles, CEER Secretary General, SPARK 2022: Regulatory frameworks in the context of development plans and renewables

21-22 JUNE 2022

 GROEBEL, Annegret, CEER President, "Bloomberg Markets: The European Open"
 11 AUGUST 2022

ESSER, Charles, CEER Secretary General, EUSEW (European Sustainable Energy Week) extended programme: Skills for the twin green and digital transition 22 SEPTEMBER 2022

• ESSER, Charles, CEER Secretary General, CERRE: The Active Distribution System Operator 27 SEPTEMBER 2022

- IZHYK, Valeriya,
   CEER Working Group
   Coordinator, EUSEW
   (European Sustainable
   Energy Week): The Potential
   of Renewable Gases
   to Support the Energy
   Transition and Guarantee
   Security of Supply
   29 SEPTEMBER 2022
- GROEBEL, Annegret, CEER President, EUSEW (European Sustainable Energy Week): Achieving Energy Independence and the Green Transition: REPowering Consumers 29 SEPTEMBER 2022
- HAASOVÁ, Jana,
   Co-Chair of the CEER
   Customers and Retail
   Markets Working Group,
   Capacity subscription

contracts for the electricity markets: Introductory Remarks, Polls and Comments 5 OCTOBER 2022

- **GROEBEL, Annegret,** CEER President, ENTSO-E Vision Event: A Power System for a Carbon-Neutral Europe 10-12 OCTOBER 2022
- ESNAULT, Benoît, Vice-Chair of the CEER Gas Working Group, MEDREG Regulatory Outlook Workshop
   12 OCTOBER 2022
- LEDERMANN-TAPPEINER, Katharina, Member of the CEER

Regulatory Benchmarking Work Stream, MEDREG Regulatory Outlook Workshop: Crossborder Coordination for Interconnection Capacity Development 13 OCTOBER 2022

- MARCANTONINI, Claudio, Co-Chair of the CEER Regulatory Gas Strategy Work Stream, COP27, Energy trade in a low carbon world: what role for hydrogen?
   14 NOVEMBER 2022
- JURIS, Andrej, Member of the CEER General Assembly, Citizens' Energy Forum
   24 NOVEMBER 2022
- ESSER, Charles, CEER Secretary General, 46<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Energy Charter Industry Advisory Panel (IAP): Views from institutions and industry 6 DECEMBER 2022
- GROEBEL, Annegret, CEER President, The Coming Storm: Electricity Resilience 7 DECEMBER 2022

## IV. Training Courses

- Specialised
   Training on REMIT
   and REMIT Enforcement
   **22 NOVEMBER**
- Fundamentals of Energy Regulation Module 1: CEER-FSR Introduction to EU Energy Regulatory Framework and Policy 28-30 MARCH

Module 2: CEER-FSR Introduction to European Electricity and Gas Market Regulation 4-6 APRIL

Module 3: Specialised Training on Network Incentive Regulation and Benchmarking 8-10 MARCH

**Module 4:** Specialised Training on Network Tariffs for Transmission and Distribution

6-8 SEPTEMBER

Module 5: Specialised Training on Electricity Market Design and Renewables 21- 23 SEPTEMBER

- Executive-level Seminar on Regulatory Policy and Dynamic Regulation 28 NOVEMBER
- Specialised Training on Retail Market Monitoring and Consumer Protection
   22-24 FEBRUARY
- Specialised Training on Legal Challenges in an Evolving Regulatory Framework
   19-20 OCTOBER
- Training on Cybersecurity: Risk Management and Preparedness, Legal and Policy Developments
   31 MAY-2 JUNE
- Training on Regulation of Infrastructure to support the Energy Transition 26-28 APRIL

- Special Interest: Training on Regulation of Energy Communities and New Business Models in the Energy Sector
   27-29 SEPTEMBER
- Special Interest: Training on Regulation of DSOs, Digitalisation and Flexibility Markets
   14-16 JUNE
- Special Interest: CEER-EFET Training on European Wholesale Electricity and Gas Market Trading
  - 30 NOVEMBER-1 DECEMBER
- Mini training: EU Institutions and EU Legislative Procedures
  - 6 DECEMBER

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> Source fact quotes: CEER database, CEER and ACER reports

> > Design by www.extra-bold.be



#### Learn more about us

Our public documents are available for download from <u>www.ceer.eu</u> or can be obtained from the CEER Secretariat upon request.

We also produce tailored communication material such as press releases, non-technical fact sheets and Citizen Q&A memos in an effort to better communicate with a wider audience.

Each month we dispatch a free electronic newsletter, CEER Newsletter, directly to the e-mail inbox of interested subscribers. You can sign up at www.ceer.eu/eer\_publications/newsletters



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