

# **CEER Citizens' Q&A**

## Status review TSO/DSO unbundling

### 20 March 2024

#### 1 What's in this report?

This <u>Status Review</u> assesses the status of DSO and TSO unbundling, highlighting new developments since summer 2018 regarding the implementation of the rules introduced by the Clean Energy Package and giving a brief outlook of the main novelties in unbundling-related provisions emerging under the recently agreed Hydrogen and Decarbonised Gas Market Package.

#### 2 Why is unbundling of TSOs and DSOs a relevant issue?

Under the EU Energy Directives and Regulations, energy networks are subject to unbundling requirements which oblige EU Member States to ensure the separation of vertically integrated energy companies, resulting in the separation of the various stages of the energy supply chain (generation, transmission, distribution, and retail).

#### 3 How was the data for this report compiled?

The information on the current unbundling status was collected via a survey among the CEER Member and observer countries, based on the information available to them until April 2022. Twenty-four CEER Members/Observers (out of 39) participated in the survey for this status review (Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Denmark, Slovenia, Slovakia, Czechia, Finland, Greece, Italy, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Croatia and North Macedonia). The input was provided to CEER in April 2022 and represents the status of TSO and DSO unbundling in the respective countries at that time.

#### 4 Are there any consequences on the energy transition?

When it comes to future policy developments in the context of the energy transition, many TSOs may diversify their activities, especially in the fields of hydrogen, power to gas or electrolysers, which might raise issues with regard to unbundling rules. This is why the development of a legislative framework for hydrogen networks and operators, including unbundling and certification rules was recently adopted at EU level. CEER will continue monitoring the developments in the unbundling practice in the future.

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