

## CEER Annual Conference 2026

### United in Regulation: National Authorities, European Impact *Implementing the CEER 2026–2029 Strategy: National Regulators Driving the European Energy Transition*

**Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026, 14:00 – 17:30**

**Online**

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Following the January launch of the [CEER 2026–2029 Strategy](#), the 2026 Annual Conference serves as a critical forum to translate its high-level objectives into concrete regulatory practices, helping shape the next phase of EU energy policy.

The event focuses on bridging the dual challenges of the energy transition: keeping consumer prices affordable while incentivising the massive infrastructure investments required for grid modernisation. Discussions will be anchored in CEER’s three strategic pillars: optimising market-oriented solutions, empowering and protecting consumers, and deepening the integration of a fully decarbonised energy system.

The conference will address these three core areas through dedicated panel discussions. The first panel will explore the balance between pan-European market convergence and national realities. Regulators will discuss regional cooperation mechanisms, cross-border capacity calculation, and how to prevent market fragmentation without resorting to rigid, top-down governance.

The second panel will tackle the practical regulatory friction of implementing the EU Grids Package. Using the North Seas Energy Cooperation (NSEC) as a case study, it addresses fast-tracked permitting, cross-border cost-sharing for hybrid projects, and integrating offshore wind safely.

The third session moves away abstract policy and macroeconomic realities through a fireside chat between the CEER President and Secretary General. They will explore how wholesale trends and massive grid investments impact final consumer bills, and how regulators can ensure costs are allocated fairly and efficiently.

#### **Full Agenda:**

##### **14:00 - 14:25 | Opening Remarks and Keynote speech**

- **Opening remarks by CEER President Annegret Groebel**
- **Lisa Underwood - Energy Attaché, Permanent Representation of Ireland to the EU**

##### **14:25 – 15:25 | Panel 1: Market Integration: Balancing European Convergence with National Realities**

This panel explores implementing the updated EU electricity market design from the perspectives of policy makers, regulators, and market participants. The discussion will focus on how all stakeholders can cooperate to build a cohesive pan-European wholesale market while respecting national realities and delivering secure, efficient infrastructure.

**Moderator: Johan Roupe – EI and CEER Electricity Working Group Chair**

### Speakers:

- **Mathilde Lallemand - Team Leader, Electricity Market, DG Energy, European Commission**
- **Max Schneider – Advisor, Wholesale Markets, Eurelectric**
- **Alda Ozola - CEER Vice-President, PUC**

### 15:25 – 15:40 | *Coffee Break*

### 15:40 – 15:50 | **Keynote speech II**

- **Eamon Ryan, Associate at Catalyse Europe and E3G and former Energy Minister in the Irish Government**

### 15:50 – 16:50 | **Panel 2: Financing the grid: cross-border cost allocation and infrastructure realities**

This panel addresses the practical challenges of financing and building the infrastructure required for the energy transition. The discussion will focus on cross-border cost-sharing, examining how to fairly allocate the immense costs of network expansion when the benefits are shared across Europe.

The discussion will focus on resolving the regulatory friction behind funding these large-scale grid projects. While examining the macro financial challenges, the session will use practical examples like offshore grid developments and the NSEC initiative to look at how we can integrate massive volumes of renewable energy across borders while keeping onshore grids stable.

**Moderator:** Koen Locquet, CREG President and CEER Vice-President

### Speakers:

- **Kevin Magner - Future interconnection and offshore hybrid assets, OFGEM**
- **Andreja Zevnik - Co-Convenor of ENTSO-E Finance Advisory Group**
- **Ines Bouacida - Research fellow, Climate and Energy, IDDRI**

### 16:50 – 17:15 | **Poolside chat: Affordability and the cost of energy**

Moving away from abstract policy and into macroeconomic realities, this fireside chat between the CEER President and Secretary General will explore how wholesale trends and massive grid investments directly impact final bills for European citizens and industries. Together, they will debate what national regulators can do to ensure infrastructure costs are allocated fairly and efficiently, maintaining public trust while advancing toward climate neutrality.

**Discussion:** Bram Claeys, CEER Secretary General and Annegret Groebel, CEER President

### 17:15 – 17:30 | **Concluding Remarks**

- **Concluding remarks by Annegret Groebel, CEER President**