



Video conference of energy ministers 14 December 2020

Chair: Peter Altmaier, German Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy

The **meeting** will **start** at 9.00.

Ministers will hold an exchange of views on **Energy system integration**.

Under any other business, the Commission will present ministers with information on recent developments in the field of **external energy relations**.

Lithuania will inform ministers about the commissioning of the **Ostravets nuclear power** plant in Belarus and its coherence with the implementation of nuclear safety recommendations.

Finally, the incoming **Portuguese presidency** will present its work programme for the first half of 2021.

Press conference: a presidency press conference will be held at the end of the meeting around 13:30.

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[Press conferences and public events by video streaming](#)

[Video coverage in broadcast quality \(MPEG4\) and photo gallery](#)

¹ This note has been drawn up under the responsibility of the press office.

Energy system integration

To become climate-neutral by 2050, Europe needs to fundamentally transform its energy system into an integrated energy system with high shares of renewable energy and significant energy efficiency improvements.

During the video conference, Energy Ministers are invited to exchange views on Member States' priorities in view of the forthcoming revision of European energy legislation, based on the Commission Communication on an [EU strategy on energy system integration](#).

The debate will be guided by questions from the Presidency. Specifically, ministers will be invited to answer two questions:

1) Which policy measures do you see as priorities when updating the EU regulatory framework in order to facilitate the integration of the energy system and to set the path towards a climate neutral Europe by 2050? What will be the greatest challenges and how should those in particular be addressed?

2) What is your view on a possible alignment of the 2030 EU energy targets with a higher climate ambition for 2030?

The EU's climate neutrality objectives by 2050 can only be achieved through a combination of energy efficiency and high shares of renewable energy. In order to achieve these reductions across all sectors, increased energy efficiency and a rapid penetration of renewables have to be accompanied and facilitated by a more integrated energy system. A big step forward in this direction was taken by the [Clean Energy Package](#) adopted in 2018.

In the Strategy for Energy System Integration, the European Commission proposes further measures to shape a new integrated energy system. The aim is to build a more circular energy system with 'energy efficiency first' at its core, to achieve a greater direct electrification of end-use-sectors building on a largely renewable-based power system and to promote renewable and low-carbon fuels, including hydrogen, for sectors which are more difficult to decarbonise.

The European Commission also proposes actions to make energy markets fit for decarbonisation and distributed resources, and move towards a more integrated energy infrastructure and digitalisation to support energy system integration.

Moreover, the Commission already announced legislative proposals for 2021 to reflect an increased climate ambition for 2030, possibly including new EU renewable energy and efficiency targets.

Any other business

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