



CEER

Council of European
Energy Regulators

Council of European Energy Regulators

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Marking 20 years of CEER, the association
established for cooperation of the independent
energy regulators in Europe!

2020 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPEAN ENERGY REGULATORS





This report provides highlights of the activities of the Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER) for the period 1 January to 31 December 2020.

Who is CEER?

CEER is the voice of Europe's national energy regulatory authorities (NRAs) at European and global level.

CEER's 39 Members and Observers are the independent statutory national energy regulatory authorities from across Europe.

CEER is legally established as a not-for-profit association under Belgian law.

How is CEER's work relevant?

Through CEER, national regulators cooperate at EU level and speak with one voice globally.

CEER supports its NRA Members/Observers in their daily responsibilities, sharing experience and developing regulatory capacity and best practices. It does so by facilitating expert working group meetings, hosting workshops and events, supporting the development of regulatory papers, and through our in-house Training Academy.

In terms of policy, CEER actively promotes an investment friendly, harmonised regulatory environment and the consistent application of existing EU legislation. A key objective of CEER is to facilitate the creation of a single, competitive, efficient and sustainable Internal Energy Market that works in the public interest.

CEER's work in shaping the energy regulatory framework and policy for energy markets to thrive is important not only in its own right but also because energy plays a pivotal role in the growth, competitiveness and sustainability of the entire European economy.

Further information including policy documents, reports, infographics, brochures and videos can be found on our website www.ceer.eu



HYDROGEN H₂

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01

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Challenges create opportunities

What a year! This is the least to say on this unusual year we experienced. Our lives dramatically changed when we suddenly had to stay at home and limit our social contacts. By the end of the year, we understood that the situation will, unfortunately, last longer than everybody would wish for. Despite that, we observed also positive actions as more countries worldwide announced the commitment to reach climate neutrality by 2050. The European Union even enshrined this political commitment into legislation. Everybody is aware of enormous challenges to achieve these targets, but this is the path to a sustainable and green future. As part of this initiative, CEER is fully devoted to helping in building a decarbonised, efficient and integrated energy system.

Pandemic crisis

Like other organisations, CEER had to adapt its way of working due to the health crisis and switch from business as usual into virtual life. Since March, all our physical meetings, including general assemblies, working groups and workstreams (and we have a lot of them every year) were turned into virtual ones. CEER Secretariat staff members had to largely vacate the Brussels headquarters office and work from home. The Training Academy courses changed from on-site to online-only, and conferences and workshops became webinars or online events. I am proud to say that this situation did not stop

us from being as productive as under normal circumstances, and the proof is this report presenting our delivered work.

National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs) have played an active role in the pandemic crisis and had to respond by taking various measures concerning the operators as well as consumers.

CEER proved well its function and served as a platform to exchange best practices and lessons learned as the situation evolved. For that purpose, CEER established a special ad hoc group that analyses the pandemic effects on the energy sector generally and regulation in particular, and will summarise its findings in a report that will be published in the first half of 2021. Overall, the fundamental regulatory principles worked well as markets and grids functioned well and absorbed the shock successfully, and the energy system proved to be resilient.

20th Anniversary

2020 marked a big milestone in CEER's history as the association was formed 20 years ago. For obvious reasons, we were unable to celebrate physically with our wide energy regulatory community. Many colleagues from regulators have contributed to CEER's success, and we dedicated a chapter in this report to express our gratitude to all of them as well as published a special issue of the CEER Newsletter in December.

“Energy regulators played an important role in safeguarding the energy supply during the COVID-19 pandemic by implementing various measures at national level. At the same time, they continued to exchange experiences at the European level and maintained the energy sector's stability and minimised disruptions.”

CEER's work

For the second year, CEER's work was driven by the 3D Strategy (Digitalisation, Decarbonisation at least cost, Dynamic regulation) along with the implementation of the Clean Energy for All Europeans package. This year we focused particularly (though not exclusively) on the decarbonisation at least cost area and published several reports in this respect, to name few, the Status Reviews of regulatory frameworks for innovation in gas and electricity transmission infrastructure, the 2nd CEER Report on tendering procedures for RES in Europe and the paper on DSO procedures on procurement of flexibility. We followed the European Green Deal and related initiatives such as the Commission strategies for smart sector integration, hydrogen, methane, offshore renewables and the proposed TEN-E revision and answered many public consultations related to energy regulators. We also followed the New Consumer Agenda released this year, and updated our own vision for energy consumers together with European consumer association BEUC. Since its beginning, CEER has placed the consumer at the centre of all its activities.

In terms of capacity building projects, we transformed the planned activities into online and delivered three trainings with African countries through our agreement with the regional regulatory association RAERESA. At the end of the year, we were honoured to be selected by the European

Commission as an implementing partner for the EU4Energy programme where CEER will provide an expert assistance and capacity-building to the six Eastern Neighbourhood countries in the area of energy regulation.

Finally, I would like to thank all fellow Board members and General Assembly members for their dedication and hard work they provide to CEER. I should not forget to mention my gratitude to working group chairs and workstream chairs for their commitment to delivering our work programme and much more, as well as the many individual contributors to CEER deliverables. Last but not least, thanks to our small Secretariat team, providing first-rate assistance and support.

I look forward to 2021 with hope that we will overcome the pandemic and see each other in person again. The crisis – as disruptive as it is – should also be seen as chance to speed up the transition towards a climate neutral energy system, and more widely towards a decarbonised economy and society. At CEER, we will pursue the last year of our 3D Strategy focusing on “Dynamic Regulation” and will form a new strategy, which will provide the strategic focus for the development of our work in the following years.


Annegret Groebel, CEER President

02

CEER CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF EXISTENCE

2000
Established in 2000



This year marked a significant milestone in life of our association as we celebrated 20th anniversary!

CEER would not be where it is without having Presidents providing their leadership, strategy and vision skills. We would like to express our gratitude to the founding President Mr Jorge Vasconcelos (2000-2003), to Lord Mogg (2003-2017) who greatly raised the level of cooperation between energy regulators at international level, to Mr Garrett Blaney (2017-2018) and finally, the first female President Dr Annegret Groebel (2019-present). We cannot name here all the Vice Presidents, Working Group Chairs, General Assembly members, Work Stream Chairs, all other energy regulatory experts involved in meetings or drafting reports and all staff in the Secretariat, but thank you all for your hard work and enthusiasm, your contribution and dedication is vital for CEER.

“It was my great pleasure to chair CEER after Jorge Vasconcelos had become its first President. What was achieved initially by CEER in bringing the Union’s independent energy regulators together was a far greater understanding of each other’s national regulatory arrangements. This pioneered the formalisation of the cooperation among energy regulators which was an invaluable foundation for the new the EU Agency, ACER. CEER has become a cohesive group and the voice of European energy regulators at EU and international fronts. It developed



collective and visionary initiatives contributing to the creation of an internal energy market to the great benefit of consumers, many of these proposals formed the basis for European Commission proposals. CEER has significantly led the way to international cooperation and the sharing of regulatory best practice worldwide through the establishment of the International Confederation of Energy Regulators (ICER) and has brought together similar associations from across the globe. During my 10-plus years as President, I had the pleasure to serve alongside Europe's finest

regulators and four Secretary Generals, Una Shortall, Fay Geitona, Natalie McCoy and Andrew Ebrill. Along with the excellent headquarters in Brussels, CEER maintained its strong presence and contribution even after the Agency has been established.”

Thank you!

Lord John Mogg | CEER President, 2003-2017

03

CONSUMERS AT THE HEART OF CEER'S WORK



“Fostering energy markets, empowering consumers” CEER's motto

NOTEWORTHY ACHIEVEMENT

CEER and the European Consumer Organisation (BEUC) have renewed our **2030 Vision for Energy Consumers**.

Looking ahead to 2030 and the EU's 2050 sustainability and climate neutrality objectives, CEER and BEUC envision a future where effective policies and frameworks ensure that consumer rights are promoted and protected, whilst delivering these objectives.

Let's aspire to ensuring that the energy sector delivers Affordability, Simplicity, Protection, Inclusiveness, Reliability and Empowerment (ASPIRE) for all consumers!

The core principles are driven by the deep transformation of our society and economy towards a decarbonised and sustainable future.



AFFORDABILITY



PROTECTION



RELIABILITY



SIMPLICITY



INCLUSIVENESS



EMPOWERMENT

CEER CUSTOMER CONFERENCE

The new CEER-BEUC Vision 2030 for Energy Consumers was the focus of CEER's 2020 Customer Conference, which was held for the first time in virtual format. It began with the thoughts of five young voices, bringing fresh insights from across Europe as young energy consumers looking for an energy sector that corresponds to a sustainable future.

With an diverse panel of speakers, we welcomed Members of the European Parliament and the youngest adviser to the European Commission. Finally, 12 different stakeholders provided reactions on the individual core principles.



“Core consumer rights must be safeguarded, and adapted, as we embark on the energy transition, underpinned by a commitment to not leave anyone behind.”

Anne Vadasz Nilsson | Customers and Retail Markets Working Group Chair

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Much of our consumer focus in 2020 related to implementation of the Clean Energy for All Europeans Package (CEP), including a dedicated CEER report on billing and billing information for electricity customers.
- ▶ We conducted a status review of national regulators' use of the framework developed by CEER for them to self-assess their national retail markets, including 17 pilots that show in a detailed way how individual NRAs are using the CEER metrics to better understand and improve their countries' retail energy markets.
- ▶ We conducted our usual extensive monitoring on consumer protection and enforcement and on the performance of Europe's retail energy markets, that drew on a first joint ACER-CEER Energy Retail and Consumer Protection Volume, as part of the wider annual ACER-CEER Market Monitoring Report (MMR).

WHAT'S AHEAD?

- ▶ CEER's priorities for 2021 and beyond will emphasise the evolution of energy markets and active involvement of consumers including implications of the digitalisation of the energy sector.
- ▶ We will promote efforts to embed across all energy policy discussions the Let's ASPIRE principles in the CEER-BEUC 2030 Vision for Consumers, translating these into concrete actions.
- ▶ CEER will prepare a case study report on innovative business models looking at examples of aggregation, peer to-peer trading and other innovative business models emerging in the energy sector and beyond. The challenges which may arise for consumer rights will be especially highlighted.
- ▶ CEER will also look at how green contracts are marketed and how customers are informed about them, including consumer protection against misleading marketing ("greenwashing") and which role they might play in delivering the renewable penetration goal at least cost.
- ▶ Our indicators for the next MMR will draw upon insights from our work on the CEER Roadmap to 2025 for Well-Functioning Retail Energy Markets. We will also design new indicators and metrics to monitor the CEP implementation.
- ▶ We will exchange experiences on digital comparison tools in customer journeys with regulators from other sectors.

04

DIGITALISATION

- ▶ PROTECT AND EMPOWER CONSUMERS
- ▶ COST-SAVING OPPORTUNITIES
- ▶ NEW BUSINESS MODELS
- ▶ CYBERSECURITY

DIGITALISATION IN THE CONSUMER INTEREST

CEER's work on digitalisation in 2020 and the upcoming year is set out in large part by the 2019 CEER conclusions paper on dynamic regulation to enable digitalisation of the energy system. The paper sets out recommendations for regulators, Distribution System Operators (DSOs) and others and outlines a pathway to get the best out of energy digitalisation in the consumer interest.



“The need for protecting critical network environments has never been higher than today and those who wait for all cybersecurity rules to be firmly defined and published might become victims of attacks.”

Veli Pekka Saajo | Distribution Systems Working Group Chair

HIGHLIGHTS

► The CEER Paper on Cybersecurity in the Clean Energy Package (CEP) which analysed the status of implementation of the CEP’s cybersecurity related measures and specified the roles of involved stakeholders. To particularly clarify to all regulators what is expected from them related to cybersecurity in the energy sector. In its response to the Commission’s consultation on the priority list of Network Codes, CEER acknowledged the need for a new Network Code on cybersecurity, yet emphasising that it is important to ensure cybersecurity in both the

electricity, gas and other relevant energy sectors now. A minimum level of cybersecurity is a prerequisite for the increase in data exchange necessary in the future to facilitate large-scale integration of renewable energy sources (RES).

- CEER started its work on its report on Innovative Business Models and Consumer Protection Challenges. This work will be completed in the new year.
- CEER published a report on implementing the technological provisions in the CEP that benefit consumers.

WHAT’S AHEAD?

- CEER will share its views on the upcoming proposal for the Network Code on Cybersecurity and be involved where possible.
- Early 2021, CEER will host a webinar series on data accessibility. Focussing on market and consumer data and on system data from operators. A workshop on regulatory sandboxes is also planned for 2021.
- Cybersecurity is one area where enhanced cross-authority collaboration is needed. CEER is planning two PEER (Partnership for the Enforcement of European Rights) events in 2021, one of those events will focus on cybersecurity.
- CEER will publish a cybersecurity benchmarking analysis.
- CEER will assess the extent to which new technologies (e.g. high frequency trading) are reshaping wholesale energy trading.

05

DECARBONISATION AT LEAST COST

- ▶ PROMOTION OF FLEXIBILITY, INTEGRATION OF RENEWABLES FULLY INTO THE GRID AND THE MARKET
- ▶ WHOLE SYSTEM APPROACH
- ▶ MARKET-BASED SOLUTIONS

In the second year of CEER's 3-year '3D' strategy, CEER particularly focused on this aspect of the strategy. Regulators advocate strongly that energy decarbonisation must be achieved at least cost. This can be done by:

- ▶ Developing an energy market design that minimises the need for subsidy mechanisms; and
- ▶ Minimising the whole energy system cost of decarbonisation, in both the gas and electricity sectors, while maintaining a high level of security of supply. Making us of all the options already available with the current grids, thus urging operators to procure flexibility when this is available.

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ CEER published its second report on Power Losses on the transmission and distribution electrical grids. Reducing power losses contributes to greater energy efficiency, security of supply and it impacts consumers as well as the costs of power losses are often passed on to consumers.
- ▶ An important aspect for regulators is setting tariffs and tariff methodologies (these are generally set by NRAs). In 2020 CEER researched how distribution tariffs could be transformed to make them supportive of the energy transition, to deal with prosumers and more decentralised energy sources. Different tariff types are considered, e.g. static and dynamic network tariffs. Please read the CEER Paper on Electricity Distribution Tariffs Supporting the Energy Transition for more info.
- ▶ In 2020, CEER has also been active in issues related to sector coupling and system integration. A paper on a Whole System Approach was published where it was proposed to needed cooperation at three levels, the "whole-network-approach", the "whole-chain-approach" and the "cross-systems-approach". Furthermore, CEER submitted input to the Commission



“Today, carbon neutral gases account for a minor share of EU gas consumption (around 4%, mainly biogas which is not injected into the gas grid) while the objective is to fully decarbonise the gas sector by 2050.”

Pedro Verdelho | Gas Working Group Chair



“NRAs will through incentives ensure that system operators limit or reduce the volume of power losses and the cost of energy necessary to cover them.”

Christine Materazzi-Wagner | Electricity Working Group Chair

consultation on the proposal for an EU Strategy for Smart Sector Integration. Finally, CEER has started its work on several sector coupling white papers which were planned to be finalised in the next year.

- ▶ Flexibility is key for a cost-efficient energy transition, therefore CEER elaborated on it in Paper on DSO Procedures of Procurement of Flexibility how flexibility can be made available and how market-based procurement procedures could be arranged. European regulators have the view that market-based flexibility procurement by DSOs should be based on balanced incentives, adequate neutrality, technical prerequisites and have an overall framework for procurement.
- ▶ The upcoming revision of the Trans-European Energy Networks Regulation (TEN-E) Regulation will have a large impact on the energy sector, therefore European energy regulators have been active in providing their view on the proposed revision, via an ACER-CEER Position which was also explained in a webinar organised by both parties.
- ▶ As per a request made at the 2019 Copenhagen Forum (i.e. Energy

Infrastructure Forum) CEER published the Status reviews on Regulatory Frameworks for Innovation in Electricity and Gas Transmission Infrastructure to research how innovation is dealt with.

- ▶ The CEER Paper on Unsupported RES showed that the largest share of RES capacities running without support is off-shore wind. And the 2nd Report on Tendering Procedures for RES in Europe, identified a trend in CEER member countries to move to tendering procedures, a market-based approach, to determine the level of support for new RES installations.
- ▶ In 2020, CEER has also undertaken an analysis on the difference of measurements of the Delta In-Out problem, which affects discrepancies gas networks.
- ▶ Having close cooperation with the European Commission has always followed CEER’s action. Therefore, in the context of the Green Deal’s policy, CEER has also contributed to the Consultations on methane emissions and hydrogen.
- ▶ Another publication this year was the CEER Note on Stranded Assets in the Distribution Networks.

WHAT’S AHEAD?

- ▶ We will build on our work on innovation in the gas sector and we will report on gas infrastructure and the energy transition.
- ▶ CEER will continue to monitor, in collaboration with the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER), the performance of Europe’s electricity and natural gas markets, including a broader analysis and understanding of consumer rights issues through the design of new sustainability indicators.
- ▶ We will finalise the biennial status review of renewable support schemes in Europe. Once again, we will update the CEER paper on unsupported RES, as the first edition showed that many support schemes finish in 2020 so to analyse the new status of RES installations after support time ended.
- ▶ We will work on short papers on the market test for flexibility and storage and on distribution network planning. A webinar and short paper are planned on the topic of regulatory sandboxes.
- ▶ We will continue our work on sector coupling and system integration.
- ▶ CEER will explore the reduction of methane emissions in the gas sector by reporting on the regulatory mechanisms to incentivise its reduction.
- ▶ We will also continue the investigation on the implementation of long-term storage under technical, economic and regulatory aspects.
- ▶ We stand ready to support the EU Institutions with upcoming legislation on climate and sustainability issues.

06

DYNAMIC REGULATION


- ▶ COHERENT AND ADAPTIVE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK WITH EUROPEAN SOLUTIONS OVERSIGHT TO ENSURE TRUST IN THE MARKET
- ▶ FUTURE-PROOFED REGULATORY FRAMEWORK THAT ENABLES THE ENERGY TRANSITION AND DIGITALISATION
- ▶ CROSS-SECTORAL COOPERATION


CEER considers that regulation must be stable, but not static, and coherent with the fast-changing environment and market evolutions that digitalisation and decarbonisation bring about, whilst continuing to protect the European energy consumers' interests effectively. Regulators need to adapt and evolve to facilitate the changes emerging from smart technologies, decarbonisation policies and decentralisation of energy generation.




“CEER’s monitoring of European retail energy markets enables regulators to understand how the energy markets affect consumers and is used by European institutions.”


Deniz Erdem | Monitoring Retail Markets Workstream Co-Chair


3.1% increase
in average household
gas prices


3.7% increase
in average household
electricity prices


16 countries
reported some form
of price intervention
in electricity prices
for households



16 countries
reported some form
of price intervention
in gas prices for
households



9 countries
have completed
electricity smart meter
roll-out


9 countries
have started
gas smart meter
roll-out


20 countries
have reliable comparison
tools for electricity


15 countries
have reliable comparison
tools for gas


80%
of Europe's consumed
gas was imported
into the EU


8% fall
in gas demand in 2019

Source: various CEER reports and the ACER-CEER Market Monitoring Report published in 2020 with 2019 data unless otherwise specified.

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ CEER collected and analysed data on a range of European issues, providing a solid evidence base that informed energy debates and regulatory policy development.
- ▶ Working with ACER, we published the ACER-CEER Market Monitoring Report (MMR). CEER also published NRAs' national country reports.
- ▶ CEER reported on the regulatory aspects of conditions for investments in electricity and gas networks.
- ▶ We also worked to improve the comparability of continuity indicators for electricity networks.

WHAT'S AHEAD?

- ▶ We will continue to work with ACER to closely monitor Europe's electricity and gas markets, producing both EU wide and national country reports.
- ▶ In 2021, monitoring consumer protection and competitive retail markets will continue to be a major focus of CEER with an emphasis on enabling consumers to engage more effectively in energy markets.
- ▶ We will publish an introduction to CEER's work toward achieving more dynamic and adaptive regulation in practice.
- ▶ We will review the use of quality regulation regimes in CEER Members and Observers.
- ▶ CEER will finalise our triennial benchmarking report on the quality of energy supply.
- ▶ With the development of green gases, we will look at the new role that gas distribution is playing and how access and tariffs must adapt.
- ▶ We will continue to report annually on the regulatory aspects for investments in electricity and gas networks.

07

BOOSTING BEST PRACTICE REGULATION AT HOME AND ABROAD



Like other CEER's activities, the CEER Training Academy had to redesign its training courses to adapt to the pandemic situation. Despite the challenges, the newly designed online courses still attracted a large number of participants.

What training participants say about our courses:

"This training allowed me to have a better understanding on how the National Regulatory Authorities try and find the best appropriate tariff methodology to fix the transmission and distribution costs of their TSOs/ DSOs, covering aspects that I had no knowledge on before."

"I highly recommend the course on the Electricity Market Design and Implementation of the Clean Energy Package in 2020. Brilliant virtual set up. I enjoyed it very much and even better than a previous course in person. Very well done!"

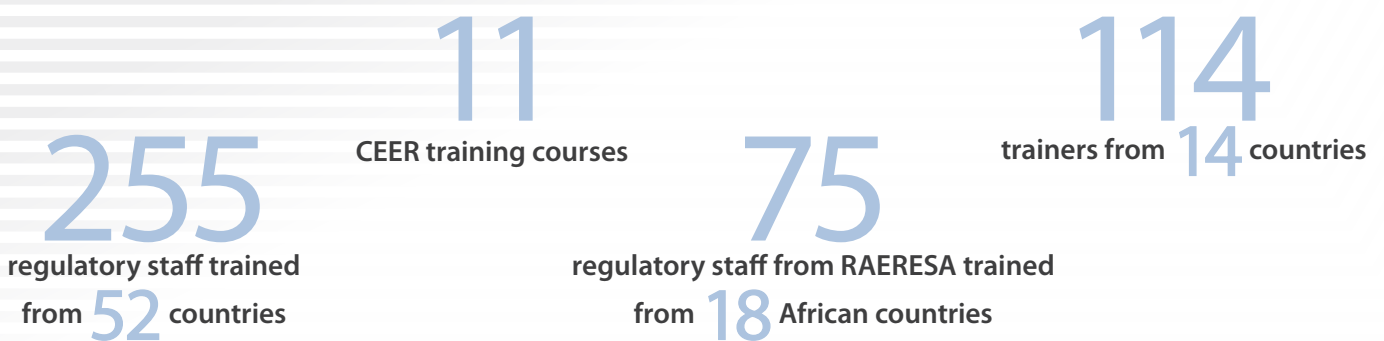
HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ In 2020, we managed to organise 2 on-site training courses and 1 blended course (combined online and on-site) before the COVID-19 outbreak. We quickly redesigned and delivered successfully 7 online training courses.
- ▶ Our training courses are developed by energy regulators for regulators and are ranging from the fundamentals of energy regulation to specialist areas such as market monitoring or legal issues. We introduced new topics in our courses to reflect new developments and new frameworks in the energy sector such as electricity market design and implementation of the Clean Energy Package, gas regulation and new developments on regulatory approaches in Europe, energy communities and new actors in the energy sector.
- ▶ We continued to deliver on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by CEER and RAERESA (the Regional Association of Energy Regulators of Eastern and Southern Africa) in 2019 to provide short-term



“The CEER Training Academy is where national regulatory authorities in Europe go to be trained on the day-to-day job of being an energy regulator. We are also committed to sharing our experiences and expertise with energy regulators from around the world and regulators outside of the energy sector”

Annegret Groebel | CEER President



WHAT'S AHEAD?

- capacity-building for regulators in Africa on a range of issues. The pandemic situation in 2020 did not allow study tours and on-site training in Africa. However, two activities with the online format could still be arranged under this MoU. A tailor-made training on Energy Utility Benchmarking was organised with the online format in October with 26 participants from RAERESA. The second activity was an online workshop on Gender Equity in Energy Regulatory Authorities and Energy Sector in December with 49 participants from RAERESA. In addition, a peer review activity for AREEN (Burundi regulator) was carried out with mostly desk research work in 2020.
- ▶ Our deep involvement continued within the International Confederation of Energy Regulators (ICER) where CEER's President, Dr Annegret Groebel, became a Vice Chair.
 - ▶ CEER will continue to offer a full programme of training courses, adding new topics on emerging issues that are of high priority for energy regulators. We will introduce new online and blended formats in our course programme in order to adapt to the changing situation and to offer efficient training solutions that accommodate new and varying learning needs of staff of regulatory authorities.
 - ▶ CEER will continue the cooperation with RAERESA and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).
 - ▶ We will renew our cooperation agreement with the ECRB and MEDREG via the trilateral workshop in 2021.
 - ▶ We will continue to co-host the Eastern Partnership workshop with the European Commission and the ECRB.
 - ▶ CEER will continue to be actively involved in ICER and organisation of the World Forum on Energy Regulation (WFER) which was postponed to March 2023 in Peru.
 - ▶ We are honoured to have been selected to be an implementing partner of the EU4ENERGY project to carry out part of Phase II between 2021-2025. The aim of the components implemented by CEER is to strengthen capacities of the Armenian, Azerbaijani and Belarusian energy regulatory authorities through identifying priorities and providing assistance on the topics via knowledge transfer and experience sharing. Furthermore, the project will promote regional cooperation among all six Eastern Partnership countries, adding to the previous three countries Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine and raise visibility and the presence of the European Union in the Eastern Neighbourhood.

08

2020 EVENTS AT A GLANCE



CEER is committed to wide stakeholder engagement to gather expert views to inform our vision and policy advice and share our findings and recommendations to the public.

This year did not allow for many events in person, but we organised online events instead. For the first webinars, we partnered with other organisations (IRENA, NARUC, ERRA, ACER) and then organised our own events. We delivered a series of exciting and topical webinars.

We continued our well-established engagement with the EU Institutions and closely followed the European Green Deal and related initiatives. We provided our input and responses to various consultations such as smart sector integration, hydrogen, methane, offshore renewables, the TEN-E revision and New Consumer Agenda.

EVENTS

23 JANUARY 2020

CEER Annual Conference

The conference focused on the European Green Deal, a whole system approach (gas, electricity, heat, mobility) to decarbonise and empower consumers in the energy transition.

WEBINARS & ONLINE EVENTS

4 JUNE 2020

Covid-19 and renewables – impact on the energy system

Webinar co-hosted by CEER-IRENA
CEER and IRENA speakers discussed implications of the pandemic on the energy transition, shared insights on the consequences faced by the renewable power sector and the possible reactions of regulators.

10 JUNE 2020

Regulatory tariff considerations due to the pandemic

Webinar co-hosted by CEER-ERRA-NARUC

Experts discussed constraints due to lack of payments or delayed payments and regulators' role to ensure firms remain viable in competitive markets.



“Continuous contact with other organisations helps to create a relationship and facilitates the exchange of information.”

Jean-Laurent Lastelle | International Relations Working Group Chair

6403
Twitter followers

5051
LinkedIn followers

6
Press Releases

25
CEER documents published

12
Webinars, with 3500 participants

202
Meetings

68372
Website users

17 JUNE 2020

Regulatory role in supporting cybersecurity investments
Webinar co-hosted by CEER-ERRA-NARUC
This webinar was part of a series on Implications of the Global Pandemic on Tariff Design and Utility Finances.

24 JUNE 2020

Transition plans and cost recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic
Webinar co-hosted by CEER-ERRA-NARUC
This webinar was part of a series on Implications of the Global Pandemic on Tariff Design and Utility Finances.

29 JUNE 2020

EU Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW)
CEER, AIB and FSR co-organised a webinar on “Understanding renewable gases, hydrogen and power-to-gas: empowering consumers to make informed choices” during Sustainable Energy Week.

20 JULY 2020

Dynamic regulation and digitalisation for a renewable-power future
Webinar co-hosted by CEER-IRENA
CEER and IRENA speakers discussed digitalisation.

14 SEPTEMBER 2020

ACER-CEER Webinar on TEN-E Revision
Webinar co-hosted by CEER-ACER
The webinar’s objective was to discuss the key messages from their position paper on the revision of the Trans-European Energy Networks (TEN-E) Regulation and Infrastructure Governance published on 19 June.

21 SEPTEMBER 2020

The Future Role of LNG in Europe
The event aimed to discuss the global perspectives for LNG as well as future trends in the LNG market in the context of decarbonisation.

20 OCTOBER 2020

CEER Customer Conference - Let’s Aspire: CEER-BEUC 2030 Vision for Energy Consumers
CEER’s annual Customer Conference was online, but went beyond an ordinary webinar in look, feel and presentation. CEER presented the updated “2030 Vision for Energy Consumers” jointly drafted with the European Consumer Organisation (BEUC). See chapter 3 for more information.

23 OCTOBER 2020

Webinar on DSO development plans and network planning
The purpose of the webinar was to discuss the future developments of NDPs from the perspectives of NRAs and DSOs, but also to facilitate further developments in the European countries where they already exist and their introduction in the remaining countries.

28 OCTOBER 2020

Webinar presenting the Annual Report on the Results of Monitoring the Internal Electricity and Gas Markets
ACER and CEER presented the key findings of their latest Annual Report on the results of monitoring the internal electricity and gas market, the Market Monitoring Report (MMR).

09

THE FACES BEHIND CEER

CEER'S VALUES ARE:

Cooperation: we cooperate and collaborate, acting in solidarity in the European public interest..

Evidence: we use evidence to independently promote regulatory positions and well-functioning markets in the consumer interest.

Expertise: we value expertise and are dedicated to delivering excellent regulatory outcomes.

Respect: we act in a positive team environment with integrity and respect to all, also valuing equality and diversity.

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



“I’m proud to lead the Secretariat who proved their high professionalism and flexibility in this difficult year. All members quickly adapted to a new situation and continued to work hard in providing excellent service to our members.”

Charles Esser | Secretary General

CEER BOARD



Annegret Groebel
BNetzA, Germany
President



Roland Irklis
PUC, Latvia
Vice President



Jean-Laurent Lastelle
CRE, France
Vice President



Koen Locquet
CREG, Belgium
Vice President



Wolfgang Urbantschitsch
E-Control, Austria
Vice President

The CEER Board comprises a President and 4 Vice Presidents. The Board members have a 2.5-year term of office. Dr Groebel was elected CEER President in January 2019. Messrs Irklis, Locquet, Lastelle and Urbantschitsch have been in office since 12 May 2020.

CEER GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly held 8 meetings in 2020 and is made up of the senior representatives of the national energy regulatory authorities.

CEER SECRETARIAT

Mr Charles Esser is CEER's Secretary General and oversees the day-to-day business in Brussels based Secretariat. The Secretariat has 10 staff members.



Andra Banea



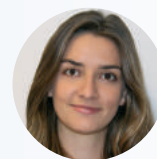
Anh Tran



Antonella Del Figliolo



Brian Huxley



Catarina Santos



Charles Esser



Elena Donnari



Liselotte Gijzemijter



Martina Schusterova



Myriam de Meyer



Una Shortall

CEER TRAINING ADVISORY BOARD

Our Training Academy benefits from the active contribution of an Advisory Board, comprising academics, energy sector professionals and former regulators who have broadened the external base of knowledge for our courses. Mr Kindler

succeeded Ms Sihvonen-Punkka as chair of the Training Advisory Board from June 2019. Messrs Jamasb, Vinois, Bostan and Zangrandi joined the Advisory Board in 2020 to replace Messrs Hilbrecht, Thomadakis, Styles and Ms Sihvonen-Punkka.



Johannes Kindler
Chair



Prof. Tomás Gómez
(Pontificia Comillas University)



Prof. Monica Giuliatti
(University of Loughborough)



Jorge Vasconcelos
(Technical University of Lisbon)



Margot Loudon
(Eurogas)



Richard Cowart
(RAP)



Jean-Arnold Vinois
(Jacques Delors Institute)



Tooraj Jamasb
(Copenhagen Business School)



Mike Bostan
(EFET)



Roberto Zangrandi
(E.DSO)

Former Advisory Board members



Asta Sihvonen-Punkka
(Fingrid)



Michael Thomadakis
(Grant Thornton)



Peter Styles
(EFET)



Heinz Hilbrecht

CEER WORKING GROUP AND WORK STREAM CHAIRS

Market Integrity & Transparency Chair: A. Groebel	Electricity Chair: C. Materazzi-Wagner Vice-Chair: B. Hussey & J. Roupe	Gas Chair: P. Verdelho Vice-Chair: T. MAES, & B. Esnault	Customers and Retail Markets Chair: A. Vadasz Nilsson Vice-Chair: N. McCoy	Distribution Systems Chair: V-P. Saajo Vice-Chair: L. van Rensburg	International Relations Group Chair: J-L. Lastelle
Wholesale Energy Market C. Kawann R. Pacheco Z. Pek	Renewables N. Schmitz M. Sorger	Regulatory Gas Strategy A. Francois M. Krug C. Marcantonini	Customer Empowerment S. Arent C. Heng	Electricity Quality of Supply O. Radovic M. Westermann	
	Future Policy S. Kaiser A. Marien	Liquefied Natural Gas Y. Poncelet R. Prieto	Innovation and Retail Market J. Haasová A. MacMillan A. Paillard	Cyber Security S. Bracco R. Picard	
	Incentives Regulation and Efficiency Benchmarking M. Odijk	Gas Decarbonisation Legislation M. La Cognata N. McCoy K. Narodoslawsky	Monitoring Customer Empowerment F. Pichler B. Vereecke		
	Infrastructure R. Vailati	Gas Infrastructure B. Esnault C. Millgramm	Monitoring Retail Markets D. Erdem		
		Access Tariffs and Settlements T. MAES,	Retail Market Roadmaps P. Boeri M. Johansson		

Strategy Steering Group Chair: A. Groebel	European Policy Unit Chair: N. Horstmann VC: T. Kupčiča & C. Petruzzo	Work Programme Drafting Committee Chair: R. Irklis	Legal Affairs Committee Chair: K. Locquet VC: A. Linov & B. Heremans	Regulatory Benchmarking Workstream Chair: N. Horstmann	Digitalisation Steering Group Chair: A. Groebel
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Ad hoc Covid-19 Group

Chair:
 J.-L. Lastelle

CEER Working Groups and Work Streams are chaired by NRA staff from across Europe.

APPENDIX I

CEER 2020 PUBLICATIONS

A summary of all 2020 publications was published in January 2021 “What regulators stood for in 2020!”

CROSS-SECTORAL

- CEER Report on Regulatory Frameworks for European Energy Networks
28 January 2020
- National Models of Cooperation among Different Sectoral Regulators in the Context of Consumer Law Enforcement
29 April 2020
- CEER response to the EC Public Consultation to establish the priority list of network codes
14 May 2020
- CEER's input to an EU Strategy for Smart Sector Integration
19 May 2020
- CEER Paper on Cybersecurity in the Clean Energy for All Europeans Package
04 June 2020
- ACER-CEER Position on revision of the Trans-European Energy Networks Regulation (TEN-E) and Infrastructure Governance
19 June 2020
- CEER Paper on Whole System Approaches
30 June 2020
- CEER Note on Stranded Assets in the Distribution Networks
3 July 2020
- CEER response to the Commission's public consultation on Energy market regulation – fees to be paid to European agency ACER
01 September 2020
- CEER response to the Commission's Offshore Renewable Energy Strategy consultation
23 September 2020

ELECTRICITY

- 2nd CEER Report on Power Losses
23 March 2020
- CEER Paper on Electricity Distribution Tariffs Supporting the Energy Transition
20 April 2020
- CEER Paper on Unsupported RES
20 May 2020
- CEER Response to the Commission's Public Consultation on Procedural Clarification in CACM, EB, FCA and SO Guidelines
16 June 2020
- CEER Paper on DSO Procedures of Procurement of Flexibility
16 July 2020
- CEER Status Review Report on Regulatory Frameworks for Innovation in Electricity Transmission Infrastructure
27 October 2020
- 2nd CEER Report on Tendering Procedures for RES in Europe
17 November 2020

GAS

- CEER input on the roadmap for an EU strategy for Hydrogen
08 June 2020
- CEER input on the Roadmap for an EU Strategy for Methane
05 August 2020
- CEER Paper on Regulatory Issues Related to the 'Delta In-Out' in Distribution Networks
15 July 2020
- Status Review Report on Regulatory Frameworks for Innovation and Security of Supply in Gas Transmission Infrastructure
21 December 2020

CUSTOMERS AND RETAIL MARKETS

- CEER Recommendations on Dynamic Price Implementation
03 March 2020
- CEER BEUC 2030 Vision for Energy Consumers: LET'S ASPIRE!
13 October 2019
- CEER response to the Commission's public consultation on the New Consumer Agenda
14 October 2020
- Self-Assessment Status Report 2019 for the Roadmap to 2025 Well-Functioning Retail Energy Markets
12 November 2020

PRESS RELEASES

- Regulators call for the Green Deal to decarbonise Europe at least cost
23 January 2020
- Keeping the lights on saves lives – Energy sector and regulators guarantee energy supply during lockdown)
14 April 2020
- Energy regulators launch with BEUC the 2030 Vision for Energy Consumers: a call to action to ASPIRE!
21 October 2020
- Whilst gas wholesale markets for the most part function efficiently, challenges remain for both electricity and retail energy markets across Europe
28 October 2020
- CEER welcomes the New Consumer Agenda and stands ready to engage in a wide-ranging dialogue on its priorities and actions to promote consumer protection in the years ahead
16 November 2020
- Regulators welcome the Commission's Trans-European Networks for Energy (TEN-E) proposals but see scope for further improvement for energy network development
16 December 2020

APPENDIX II

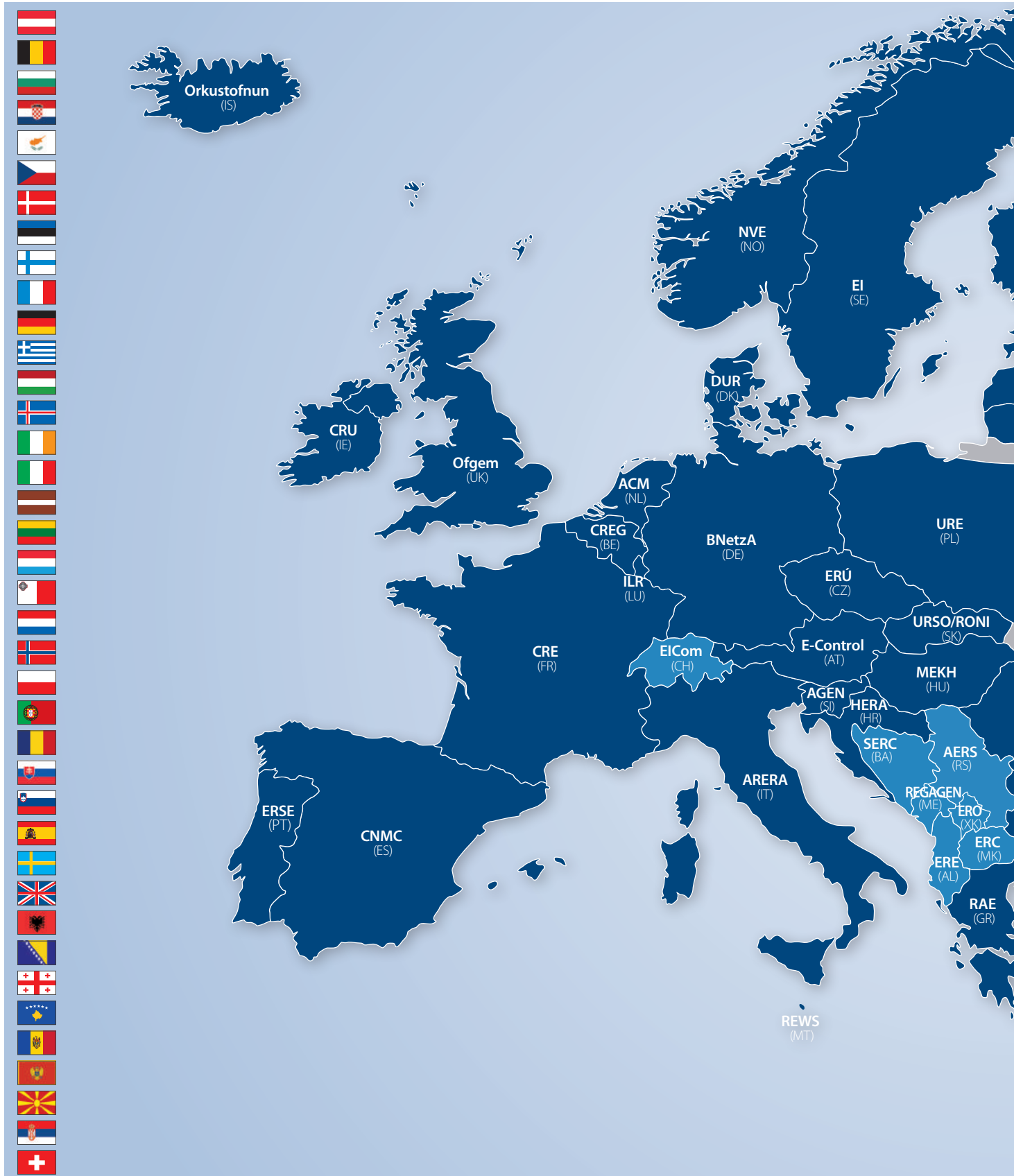
CEER PRESENTATIONS AT EXTERNAL EVENTS

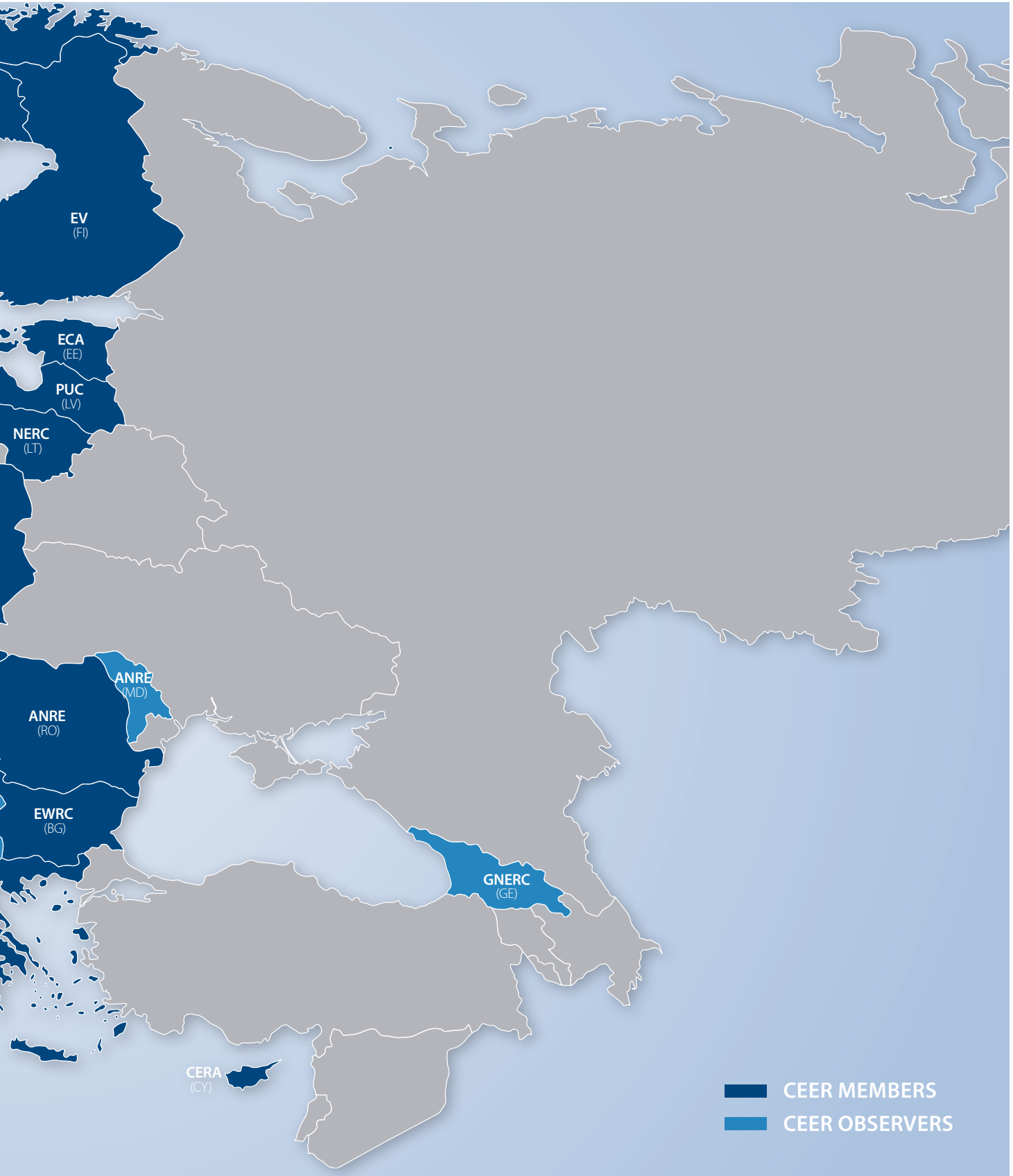
- **GROEBEL, Annegret,**
CEER President, Infrastructure Investors Forum: Europe
Brussels, 29 January 2020
- **ESSER, Charles, CEER Secretary General,**
Blockchain for Europe Summit 2020
Brussels, 5 February 2020
- **TJERSLAND, Jørgen,**
Member of CEER Distribution Systems working group,
VÖGEL, Stefan, Member of CEER Distribution Systems
working group, EC BRIDGE projects session
Brussels, 12 February 2020
- **SAAJO, Veli-Pekka,**
Chair of CEER Distribution Systems Working Group, 2nd
workshop on flexibility markets of the future and TSO-DSO
cooperation
Brussels, 13 February 2020
- **ESSER, Charles,**
CEER Secretary General, EEF dinner debate - Exchange of
views with the Croatian Presidency
Brussels, 17 February 2020
- **VADASZ NILSSON, Anne,**
CEER Vice President, Switching consumers on to renewables:
Lessons from the ground for the Green Deal
Brussels, 20 February 2020
- **MAES, Tom,**
Vice Chair of CEER gas working group, Parliamentary
breakfast meeting hosted by MEP Dennis Radtke
Brussels, 20 February 2020
- **SAAJO, Veli-Pekka,**
Chair of CEER Distribution Systems Working Group, GEODE's
workshop
Brussels, 25 February 2020
- **VADASZ NILSSON, Anne,**
CEER Vice President, Eurelectric conference - "Driving
change: 15 pledges to customers"
Brussels, 4 March 2020
- **SAAJO, Veli-Pekka,**
Chair of CEER Distribution Systems Working Group, For the
Sake of De-carbonising Europe: Bringing PV Prosumers and
Distribution System Operators together
Online, 10 March 2020
- **SAAJO, Veli-Pekka,**
Chair of CEER Distribution Systems Working Group,
Eurelectric's Institutional Frameworks WG meeting
Online, 11 March 2020
- **ESSER, Charles,**
CEER Secretary General, High-level expert consultation on
digitalisation, energy efficiency and smart grids
Online, 11 March 2020
- **MAES, Tom,**
Vice Chair of CEER Gas Working Group, 2nd Workshop on
ENTSOG 2050 Roadmap for Gas Grids
Online, 17 March 2020
- **GROEBEL, Annegret,**
CEER President, Winpower conference: The Next Generation
of Energy Supply
Online, 27 May 2020
- **VADASZ NILSSON, Anne,**
CEER Vice President, CERRE webinar – distributional effects
Online, 10 June 2020
- **SAAJO, Veli-Pekka,**
Chair of CEER Distribution Systems Working Group, Grid
Investments: The Hidden Enablers of the European Green Deal
Online, 3 September 2020
- **TJERSLAND, Jørgen,**
Member of CEER Distribution Systems Working Group, FSR
event on Flexibility in electricity markets and networks
Online, 10 September 2020
- **HANSEN, Xavier,**
Member of CEER Distribution Systems Working Group, FSR
peer-to-peer electricity and community self-consumption
Online, 17-18 September 2020
- **MAES, Tom,**
Vice Chair of CEER Gas Working Group, FSR-Fraunhofer
Summer School on Energy Systems,
Online, 23 September 2020
- **TJERSLAND, Jørgen,**
Member of CEER Distribution Systems Working Group,
VÖGEL, Stefan, Member of CEER Distribution Systems
Working Group, ERRA Electricity Markets and Economic
Regulation Committee: Flexibility and demand management
Online, 23 September 2020

- **SAAJO, Veli-Pekka,**
Chair of CEER Distribution Systems Working Group, Piclo
e-conference: DSO flexibility markets
Online, 7 October 2020
- **VERDELHO, Pedro,**
Chair of CEER Gas Working Group, 34th EU Gas Regulatory
(Madrid) Forum
Online, 14-15 October 2020
- **WESTERMANN, Michael,**
Co-Chair of CEER Energy Quality of Supply Work Stream,
MEDREG Workshop on Consumer Issues and Power Losses
Online, 19 October 2020
- **MILLGRAMM, Carola,**
Co-Chair of CEER Gas Infrastructure Workstream; VAILATI,
Riccardo, Chair of CEER Electricity Infrastructure Workstream,
6th EU Infrastructure (Copenhagen) Forum
Online, 29 October 2020
- **VADASZ NILSSON, Anne,**
Chair of CEER Customers and Retail Markets Working Group ,
CEDEC Annual Congress 2020
Online, 18 November 2020
- **TJERSLAND, Jørgen,**
Member of CEER Distribution Systems Working Group,
Accenture event regarding Flexibility
Online, 19 November 2020
- **VADASZ NILSSON, Anne,**
Chair of CEER Customers and Retail Markets Working
Group; McCOY, Natalie, Vice Chair of CEER Customers and
Retail Markets Working Group, 12th EU Citizens' Energy
(Dublin) Forum
Online, 19-20 November 2020
- **MATERAZZI-WAGNER, Christine,**
Chair of CEER Electricity Working Group; SAAJO, Veli-Pekka,
Chair of CEER Distribution Working Group; KAISER, Sven,
Co-Chair of CEER Future Policy Work Stream; 35th EU
Electricity (Florence) Forum
Online, 7-8 December 2020

APPENDIX III

MEMBERSHIP





Want to find out more about the Council of European Energy Regulators?

Our public documents are freely available for download from our website or can be obtained directly from the CEER Secretariat.

We also produce tailored communications material such as press releases and 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 News*, directly to the e-mail inbox of interested subscribers.

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