European Parliament

STOA meets experts:

'Energy transition and the EU hydrogen strategy'

Friday, 2 July 2021, 12:00-13:30 CET

Online event (Webex Meetings)

The European Strategies for Energy System Integration and for Hydrogen have been in the limelight of debates over recent months and a related report was adopted by the Parliament's plenary in May. Furthermore, the European Commission (EC) is now proposing a "Fit for 55" legislative package (expected for 14 July) to fundamentally overhaul the EU's climate policy architecture and put the EU on track towards reaching its target of a 55% net emissions reduction by 2030. Expected further debate may even lead to a fundamental decision by the European Council on the key features of an EU climate policy framework that should deliver on the EU's climate targets. The EC has set out a new vision for a digitalised, integrated and circular energy system, driven by electrification, powered by renewables and relying on energy efficiency and reducing energy waste.
This STOA workshop will serve to discuss the Scientific Opinion 'A systemic approach to the energy transition in Europe' recently released by the Chief Scientific Advisors (CSA) of the EC, assisted by the Consortium of European Science Academies (SAPEA), as part of the EC's Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM). It will also provide first insights into the "Fit for 55" legislative package in preparation of its imminent presentation by the EC. STOA continues working on the topic through the ongoing execution (together with KIT and ISI) of the study 'The potential of hydrogen for decarbonising EU industry' to be released in September.

Programme and details: Energy transition and the EU hydrogen strategy

©stock.adobe.com

@EP_ScienceTech **#STOA**

Speakers' biographies

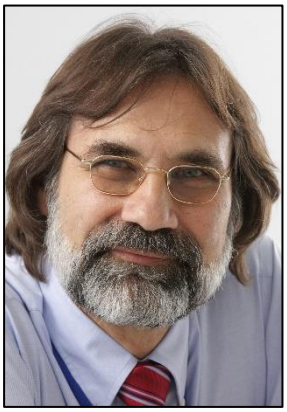
Tiemo WÖLKEN, MEP and STOA Panel member

Tiemo Wölken has been an MEP since 2016. He has been active in local politics since 2003 in his home region in northern Germany and holds a LL.M. in International Law from the University of Hull, England.
Tiemo is the S&D Coordinator in the Committee on Legal Affairs and a Member of the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety. Tiemo's areas of expertise are environmental and climate issues, healthcare, legal affairs, and digital questions across committees.
He is working on all energy-related files in the ENVI-committee. Hydrogen combines many questions and regulatory and implementation areas in energy policies, being both a hope for decarbonisation and a very complex topic. Tiemo worked as a shadow rapporteur on the hydrogen opinion of the ENVI committee.

Kitti NYITRAI, Head of Unit C2: Decarbonisation and sustainability of energy sources, European Commission

Kitti Nyitrai has been working for the European Commission since 2007. She was Member of Cabinet of Commissioner Arias Cañete, responsible for Energy and Climate Action and more recently Member of Cabinet of Energy Commissioner Kadri Simson, where she was in charge of topics including energy system integration and hydrogen, as well as of the strategy to reduce methane emissions. Since first of May, she was appointed Head of Unit in the Commission's Directorate-General for Energy, for the Unit Decarbonisation and sustainability of energy sources.
She joined the Directorate-General for Energy in 2007 to deal with security of gas supplies and later on Trans-European Energy Networks. In 2014, she worked as a Case Manager for State aid control in energy in the Directorate-General for Competition, after which she became Assistant to the Director-General for Energy, covering internal energy market, State aid and infringements.
Ms Nyitrai holds an MBA Degree in International Business from the MIB School of Management in Trieste as well as a Master's degree in Business and Economics from the University of Pécs in Hungary. She also studied at the Ecole Supérieure de Commerce in Montpellier.

Nebojsa NAKICENOVIC, member of the European Commission's Group of Chief Scientific Advisors (CSA), Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM)



Nebojsa Nakicenovic is a Member of Group of Seven Chief Scientific Advisors to the European Commission, Emeritus Research Scholar, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and Director of The World in 2050 (TWI2050). Previously he was the Deputy Director General and Acting Director General of IIASA, and tenured Professor of Energy Economics at Vienna University of Technology. He serves on scientific advisory boards of ten academic, private and public organizations and is editorial board member of ten peer-reviewed scientific.

Sabine SCHLACKE, Scientific Advice for Policy by European Academies (SAPEA) consortium

Dr. Sabine Schlacke is Professor of Public Law, Managing Director of the Institute for Environmental and Planning Law and the Central Institute for Spatial Planning at the University of Münster. Her research focuses on energy and climate protection law. She advises the German government as Co-Chair of the German Advisory Council on Global Change (WBGU) and the Steering Committee of the German Climate Protection Science Platform (WPKS). She is member of the Technical Academy of Science and Engineering and honorary Vice-President of the State Court of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen.

Jakob WACHSMUTH, Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research (ISI)

Dr. Jakob Wachsmuth is a senior researcher at the Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research in the Competence Center Energy Policy and Energy Markets. He studied mathematics and obtained a doctoral degree in mathematical physics in 2010. Afterwards, Jakob has engaged in supporting science-based policymaking in the area of energy and climate policy. In his work, he focuses on the evaluation of targets and instruments in climate policy as well as the analysis and design of energy system scenarios and transformation pathways. Recently, Jakob consulted the German Environment Agency on the development of a roadmap for the German gas sector towards a sustainable contribution to climate protection. Currently, he is supporting the European Commission in the management of the Innovation Fund calls. He will be the lead author of the STOA study 'The potential of hydrogen for decarbonising EU industry' to be published in October 2021.