



What energy policy for the European Union?

KEY PROPOSALS

1. Creation of an independent High Authority as a forum for consultation and joint definition of Europe's major energy options. Its purpose will be both reflection and action and it will have the task of drawing up scenarios and proposing options, both to the European institutions and to the Member States, based on a joint definition of priorities.

2. Introducing, on the basis of clearly defined objectives, “energy convergence pacts” between Member States wishing to participate in them.

- Action in the field of research and industrial development
- Integrated management of the equilibrium of the electricity transport networks, through a common “dispatcher”
- Common guidelines for investment in production
- Common measures for crisis management
- A common position in bilateral or multilateral negotiations.

3. Requiring of each EU Member State that by 2050 at least half the energy sources it uses should be non-CO₂-emitting, which implies that by 2030 50% of the electricity it produces should be from non-carbon sources.

4. Creation of a “citizens’ programme” for the encouragement of energy saving.

- Launch a co-ordinated awareness-arousal programme
- Make compulsory the installation of products having a certain minimal insulation performance
- Eliminate from the existing financial incentives or tax exemptions all provisions excluding certain types of building, professional or residential



- Improve the exploitation of the possibilities of “induced demand reduction”, including for private customers.

5. Putting European competition policy effectively at the service of the three priorities of the European energy policy.

- Encourage EU-wide trans-national mergers
- Adopt a more positive attitude towards long-term contracts or grouped purchasing
- Allocate the same level of priority to combating government practices resulting in compartmentalisation of markets as to combating firms' practices
- Improve the co-ordination of national regulators
- Draw up a multi-year programme at European level for priority investment in infrastructure
- Create a specific procedure for taking European interests into account in examining the public utility of infrastructure investments
- Improve the independence of management of operators of transport and distribution networks, without imposing separation of asset ownership
- Co-ordinate at European level national mechanisms for energy crisis management.

6. Defining the priorities of a technological and industrial strategy.

- Develop European poles of excellence and technological mastery
- Revive the promotion of the development of peaceful uses of the atom.

7. Implementing a common foreign policy in the energy field.

- Exert pressure on the large energy-consuming countries in order to bring them to take their full responsibilities in the fight against global warming. Failing success in this respect, introduce a “compensatory tax”
- Establish partnership relations between the authorities and European private operators and prepare joint strategies for action vis-à-vis the producing countries
- Introduce measures (legislation of the “Scott-Rodino” type) to limit investments by countries that restrict access by European firms
- Impose prior European-level coordination before any bilateral governmental negotiations (especially with Russia) and in the event of failure of the co-operative approach with that country, not to hesitate to adopt internal measures aimed at defending European interests
- Ask the WTO to include energy in its policies and use its instruments and procedures to promote the protection of investment, the liberalisation of public procurement and the application of the principle of non-discrimination in trade matters.

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