



European Grids for Energy Resilience

Strengthening EU Strategic Autonomy through Infrastructure

Date: 24 March 2026

Time: 10.00-11.30

Venue: Room VMA22, European Economic and Social Committee building, Brussels

Agenda

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| 10:00-10:15 | Opening & Welcome | Marcin NOWACKI, President of the TEN Section and Member of the Employers' Group, European Economic and Social Committee; President, European Enterprise Alliance |
| 10:15-10:45 | Keynote address | Andrea WECHSLER, EPP, Shadow Rapporteur on <i>Acceleration of permit-granting procedures</i> , European Parliament Christophe BÉGUINET, Member of the Workers' Group, Rapporteur on <i>Energy connectivity, electricity grids</i> Opinion, European Economic and Social Committee |
| 10:45-11:30 | Interventions | Raphael Sauter, Deputy Head of Unit, Infrastructure and Regional Cooperation, DG.ENER, European Commission Business representatives Phuc-Vinh NGUYEN, Head of the Energy Center, Jacques Delors Institute |
| | Moderator | Lusyne KESZISZJAN, Head of Office, European Enterprise Alliance |

Contact persons:

Lusyne Keszisizjan, European Enterprise Alliance, l.kesziszjan@enterprisealliance.eu

Oscar Hammarstedt, European Enterprise Alliance, hammarstedt@enterprisealliance.eu



About the event:

In the face of ever-growing geopolitical instability and uncertainties regarding Europe's energy supply, it is more important than ever to ensure that the entirety of the European Union has stable and affordable access to energy. A well-functioning network of cross-border critical infrastructure is essential for this, and to that end there must be a significant investment effort into the optimisation and expansion of energy grids in the EU. The European Grids Package proposed by the European Commission is intended to aid in this by facilitating cross-border energy infrastructure projects, but for this to have the desired impact there must be a clear line of dialogue between legislators and operators to ensure support is being given in the correct places.

In this policy discussion, policymakers, experts, and industry representatives will convene to discuss the needs of Europe's energy infrastructure and how the European Grids Package could serve to address this. Particular focus will be dedicated to the role that the Package will play in strengthening the EU's strategic autonomy and boosting its industrial competitiveness.