

*Adopted 10 June 2017, Zagreb*

**General Committee on Economy, Infrastructure and Energy of the Parliamentary Assembly of the South East European Cooperation Process (SEECP PA)**

**RESOLUTION**

**Reaffirming** the principles enshrined in the *Charter of good neighbourly relations, stability, security and cooperation*, signed in Bucharest in 2000, as the founding document of the SEECP;

**Following** the Declaration on the inauguration of the SEECP Parliamentary Assembly adopted on May 10, 2014;

**Guided by** the Rules of Procedure of the SEECP Parliamentary Assembly adopted on 10 May 2014 which establish the functioning of the SEECP Parliamentary Assembly;

**Taking account** of the need for increasing energy security of SEECP participants and reaching the proposed 2020 and 2030 energy and climate goals.

**Stressing** the need for the increasing energy production and efficiency towards diversifying supplier routes,

**Underlining the need** to complete building of missing infrastructure links to quickly respond to supply disruptions and re-direct energy across the EU to where it is needed.

**Underlining** the need to strengthening energy market and solidarity mechanisms and protecting critical infrastructure, through more coordination between call parties and stakeholders to use existing storage facilities, develop reverse flows, conduct risk assessments, and put in place security of supply plans at regional and EU level.

**Acknowledging** the Strategy and Work Programme 2017-2019, 'Changing with the Region', of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) Secretariat

**Welcoming** the Commission proposal "Clean Energy for All Europeans" on 30 November 2016, and the European Commission's initiative to launch a new study on a new gas market design in Europe.

***The General Committee on Economy, Infrastructure and Energy, which was convened in Zagreb on 17 March, 2017:***

1. **Calls on** SEECP participants to work jointly in facilitating the build-up of the already approved energy infrastructure projects listed as a "Projects of Energy Community Interests", as well as "Projects of Mutual Interest", essential to allow energy to flow freely, diversifying the energy sources and routes, and to implement joint projects towards reducing energy dependency and increasing energy security in SEE.

2. **Stressed the importance** that future electricity and natural gas grid planning is based on common concept and is developed through cooperation of participants, that serve to the goal of securing affordable energy supply for the consumers.

3. **Underlines** the key importance of developing the regional policy measures and conditions for establishing spot markets (power exchanges) and their coupling, a regional balancing market and regionally coordinated capacity allocation and calculation.

4. **Calls on** attention towards soft national measures mainly focus on removing obstacles to regional electricity market development by creating the appropriate market and regulatory framework.

5. **Invite** participants to overcome disputes in operational and commercial area and ensure implementation of mutual agreements in this regards.

6. **Stressed the need** for a coherent gas market strategy to fit the integration between Member States and Contracting Parties and the reciprocal application of market rules on interconnection points between EU and Contracting Party gas markets.

7. **Calls on** proposals related to gas transmission tariff reform, establishment of a single (or, at least, regional) entry-exit zone(s), abolishment of price differences via zonal merger and increasing variability of gas flows by improving system use and interconnectivity and reflection of market varieties.

8. **Invite** to put in focus on the debate, following the discussion papers shared by the European Commission on the preparation of a study “*Quo vadis EU gas market regulatory framework*”, an approach to target covering the entire interconnected pan-European gas system, including the Energy Community Contracting Parties.

9. **Calls on** activation of the smart support measures improving sustainability of energy systems, through designing and implementing market-based support schemes, enabling the engagement of citizens and setting up schemes to develop the necessary skills and competences of small and medium enterprises.

10. **Calls on** improve the governance for energy efficiency, through amending or developing new legislation that will enable and promote, fully implementing the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive, developing new or converting existing district or central heating and cooling systems, establishment of appropriate financing mechanisms, including a state level fund for co-financing of energy efficiency measures in line with the Energy Efficiency Directive 2012/27/EU.

11. **Calls on** foster climate action and transparency of sustainable energy markets, reviewing the greenhouse gas emissions monitoring and reporting systems at all levels, establishing national indicative roadmaps for implementing measures required to increase investor confidence in sustainable energy markets, and strengthening the capacity of national

administrative authorities to oversee and govern in an independent, proactive and transparent manner.

12. **Encourages** SEECF participants to work towards a proper regulatory framework to streamline available financing instruments for energy infrastructure and develop models for Public Private Partnership in energy projects to facilitate innovative projects, including CHP, urban and distributed energy, and energy efficiency.

13. **Calls on** SEECF PA to assist in the set up ‘thematic groups’ on the key energy challenges of the region that should coordinate the drafting of energy and climate plans at all respective levels, and all other programmatic documents envisaged in the emerging new EU legislation, thereby taking into account their regional dimensions.

14. **Invites** the parliaments of SEECF PA to create, maintain and develop a network between the parliamentarians including relevant stakeholders such as from business and industry, civil society and professional business organisations within and outside the ‘thematic groups’ set out within a European Commission framework.

15. **Efforts** to ensure the implementation and enforcement of EU law and international legal obligations including the Energy Community Treaty and conventions and reinforcement of their reporting obligations.