



**Hydrogen Europe
Research**

Policy Working Group

13 April 2022

Agenda

1. Welcome & Approval of the agenda
2. Updates on activities
 - *Internal papers on policy topics - discussion on 5 draft*
3. Latest updates on EU institutions' activities
 - *EU Energy Purchase Platform*
 - *Taxonomy*
 - *EU industrial technology roadmap calls*
 - *Fit for 55 update - FuelEU Maritime*
4. EU Funding and Opportunities
5. Reports and Studies



Updates on

- ▶ activities

Internal papers on policy topics

Basic internal papers on policy files of interest for Hydrogen Europe Research.

Why?

- For the use of members if needed at national/EU levels (the content will be available on the intranet)
- To be able to react and position ourself quickly in future policy discussions related to these files or building on similar discussions

Content:

- Background for the proposal
- Sum up of the impact of the proposal on hydrogen development and on research
- HER's position in key bullet points

First draft to look at: CBAM, RED II Revision, RED II Delegated Act, AFIR, Refuel Aviation.

Topics to be proposed: Gas Package, other suggestions are welcome.



Latest updates on ▶ EU institutions' activities

EU Energy Purchase Platform



Following on the REPowerEU Communication, the European Commission proposed a Regulation to **allow for joint gas purchases and set minimum storage obligations** (23 March).

An EU **Platform has been set up for the common purchase of gas**. Hydrogen is tackled in this scheme, particularly with regard to:

- **International outreach:** facilitate hydrogen imports at affordable price now and setting up long-term renewable gas partnerships. The Task Force will prepare the ground for energy partnerships with key suppliers of LNG, gas and hydrogen in the Mediterranean region, with partners in Africa, but also the Middle East and USA. Memoranda of understanding will be used for this purpose.
- **Efficient use of EU gas infrastructure:** help identifying additional infrastructure needs suitable to cater for future hydrogen use. Any new infrastructure should be useable for cleaner energy sources in a longer term perspective, notably for hydrogen.

Upcoming:

A final version of the REPowerEU Plan is expected to be presented by the European Commission on 18 May.

Taxonomy

On 29 March 2022 the Platform on Sustainable Finance published a [report](#) on environmental transition taxonomy, proposing to extend the scope of the taxonomy by creating 4 additional categories of economic activities:

- **Category 1 / Red:** activities considered 'unsustainable' that could benefit from taxonomy-recognised investment as part of a transition plan to urgently raise their environmental performance to intermediate levels.
- **Category 2 / Red:** activities considered 'unsustainable' that will remain significantly environmentally damaging and should therefore be prioritised for taxonomy-recognised investment as part of a decommissioning plan.
- **Category 3 / Amber:** activities with an intermediate environmental performance. These are defined as activities that fall between the first two categories and the 'sustainable economic activities' (or green category) and which could benefit from investment recognised by the taxonomy as part of an intermediate transition plan (e.g. natural gas)
- **Category 4 / Green:** low environmental impact activities, i.e. those that do not significantly harm the environment, but also do not make a substantial contribution to any of the 6 environmental objectives of the taxonomy.

MEPs from the Greens/EFA group tabled a request for a draft resolution opposing the draft complementary delegated act on EU taxonomy.

EU industrial technology roadmap calls



The Industrial Technology Roadmaps are a core action in the new ERA strategy.

What for? Commission's tool to accelerate transfer of research and innovation results into the market for the green and digital transformation of industries across the EU. The goal is to work with Member States and R&I stakeholders **to align research and innovation investment agendas at EU and national levels** to foster the development and uptake of innovative technologies.

What topics?

- low-carbon technologies in energy-intensive industries (published in April 2022)
- circular industrial technologies (to be published in Q4 2022)

Low-carbon technologies in energy-intensive industries ([here](#))

- 170 pages document, 96 mention of "hydrogen", 1 reference to the Clean Hydrogen JU.
- Split in 4 chapters:
 1. Transition of energy-intensive industries to climate neutrality
 2. Key Technological Pathways
 3. R&I Investments
 4. Framework Conditions

EU industrial technology roadmap calls

What should be noted from this roadmap?

Green hydrogen is clearly identified as a relevant technological pathway needed for decarbonization. Applications detailed are in the field of chemicals, iron and steel, or across industrial sectors for better combustion in furnaces of high temperature process industries.

Need for standards identified and detailed

"EU green standards for several low-carbon technologies appear to be underdeveloped in areas such as carbon capture and storage, hydrogen and industrial symbiosis. As compared to other green technologies like biomass, their number of referenced policy documents and EuroVoc descriptors is significantly lower."

- A worry underlined with green H₂ is the availability of affordable clean energy to enable its production.
- *"The question arises whether the use of green hydrogen as a feedstock/reactant for CO₂/CO valorisation is sufficiently energy efficient, as it has to be produced via electrolysis before"*

Several questions raised

Data available

Many interesting data on EU and national funds available for hydrogen projects; on national hydrogen strategies including a focus on energy intensive industries; list of ongoing projects, etc.

Fit for 55 - update

FuelEU Maritime

Goal: reduce the greenhouse gas intensity of energy used on board by ships and reduce the greenhouse gas intensity of fuels.

Milestone in the Parliament: The draft report of the MEP Jörgen Warborn (EPP, Sweden) on FuelEU Maritime will be presented in the TRAN Committee of the European Parliament on 20 April.

The rapporteur supports the level of ambition proposed by the Commission, as well as the type of ships concerned and the geographical scope of the draft text. The changes focus on compliance costs, **the calculation of emission factors** and the future development of the text.

Regarding the calculation of emissions, the EC proposal provides tables of default reference values for the calculation of emission factors over the life cycle of a fuel. Jörgen Warborn's report suggests that these tables should be supplemented by the **possibility for a ship owner or operator to use actual values for emissions, provided that these values are certified by laboratory tests or direct measurements.**

Other news



- ACER and CEER publish their reflections on the European Commission's offshore renewables strategy ACER (report available [here](#), 11 April)
- 150 business and industries called on the European Commission to prepare a European strategy to unlock the potential of geothermal energy as well as associated sustainable mineral extraction (see [the letter](#), 11 April)
- Call for evidence for A New European Innovation Agenda ([here](#), 13 April, call open 10 May)



EU Funding and ▶ Opportunities

Opportunities at EU level



- ❖ Opportunity for students to become Young Observer in Horizon Europe proposals' evaluations (apply by 14 December 2022)

Who? Students attending a Master's course in any subject, in any University in the EU, who are interested in research & innovation and would like to learn more about EU funding for projects.

- ❖ Call for interest for experts to be appointed as members of the "Steering Group" of the European Partnership on Metrology (application until 20 April 2022)
- ❖ Candidates for the ERC Scientific Council (nomination until 6 May noon CET)
- ❖ Leaked version of the Horizon Europe Work Programmes 2023-2024
 - Cluster 4 - Digital, industry, space
 - Cluster 5 - Climate, energy and mobility
 - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
 - Research infrastructures
 - European Innovation Ecosystems



▶ Reports and studies

ACER - Report on Gas storage Regulation & indicators



On 7 April, the ACER published a Report on Gas Storage Regulation and Indicators in the EU. This report provides intelligence in the context of the Commission's proposal for a regulation planning to oblige Member States to ensure that underground gas storage facilities on their territory are filled to at least 80% of their capacity by 1 November 2022, and then to 90% for the following years, by assigning them filling trajectories

The EU storage capacity is spread across 18 Member States and accounts for approximately 27% of the Union's annual gas consumption.

- The 9 Member States without storage capacity account for less than 5% of this annual consumption.
- Only 4 Member States (Italy, Portugal, Sweden and Hungary for part of its capacity) have strategic stocks.
- The type of storage regulation varies between Member States. 11 EU countries have opted for third party access rules and regulated tariffs, while in the others storage access is negotiated between users and operators according to transparent and non-discriminatory rules.

To access [the report](#).

ACER - Report on Gas storage Regulation & indicators

Table 2. Storage types in EU-27, as reported by NRAs.

NRA from MS	Seasonal Storage			Used mainly for Short-term trading ¹¹
	depleted field	aquifer	depleted field + aquifer	salt / hard rock cavern
Austria	100%			
Belgium		100%		
Bulgaria			100%	
Croatia	100%			
Czechia			98%	2%
Cyprus				
Denmark		55%		45%
Estonia				
Finland				
France		90%		10%
Germany ¹²			43%	50%
Greece				
Hungary	100%			
Ireland				
Italy	100%			

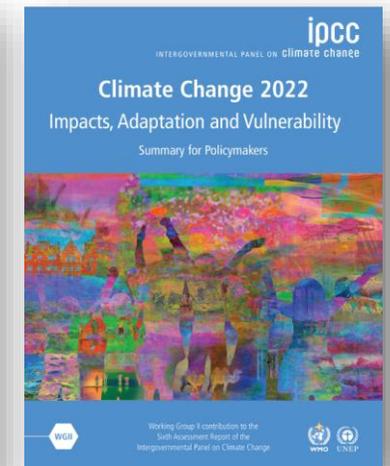
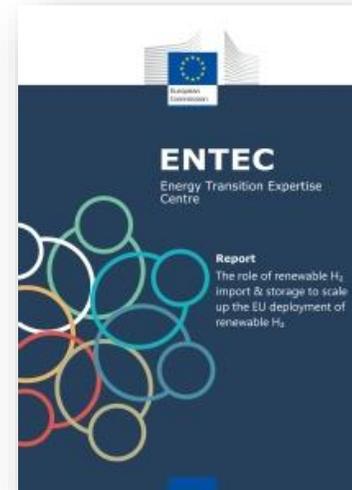
Latvia		100%		
Lithuania				
Malta				
Luxemburg				
Netherlands	97%			3%
Poland	74%			26%
Portugal				100%
Romania	100%			
Slovakia	100%			
Slovenia				
Spain	84%	16%		
Sweden				100%
EU-27 TOTAL	9	5	3	8

- Most gas storage capacity in the EU corresponds to depleted and aquifers fields
- 8 MS count with salt and hard rock caverns storages

Other reports

- *The role of renewable H₂ import & storage to scale up the EU deployment of renewable H₂*, Energy Transition Expertise Centre, European Commission, published on 28 February - available [here](#)
- *SRIA from the Agenda Process for the European Research and Innovation Initiative on Green Hydrogen*, published on 18 March
- *IPCC Sixth Assessment Report, Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability* - available [here](#)

Interest in presenting / having a presentation of the reports in the next meetings?
(not the IPCC report)





Hydrogen Europe Research

Thank you for your participation!

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