

**CONCLUSIONS OF THE HEADS OF DELEGATIONS  
OF THE V4 PARLIAMENTARY ECONOMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEES  
(Bratislava, 23 - 24 October 2022)**

*24 October 2022*

*Having met in Bratislava and discussed the current issues of energy security and high energy prices as well as potential areas of the V4 energy cooperation, Chairmen of the V4 Parliaments' Economic Committees:*

**I. ENERGY SECURITY**

- CALL UPON the governments and the European Commission to intensify the efforts to bring into effect a robust and efficient energy security framework also by implementing the filling strategy, enhancing energy dialogues with reliable global partners and making use of the potential of joint gas purchases;
- UNDERLINE the need for an efficient use of the existing gas infrastructure and the necessity to safeguard cross-border gas flows across the EU also in emergency situations;
- REITERATE the need to safeguard sufficient oil supplies to the region and have adequate refining capacities in place;
- ARE OF THE OPINION that all low-emission energy sources, including nuclear, are needed in long term to secure affordable electricity for our households and industries and domestic sources of energy may contribute to reliable energy supplies especially in emergency situation;
- DRAW ATTENTION to the need for massive development of infrastructure (AFIR) and sufficient sources of energy for road transport (e.g. electricity, hydrogen) in line of EU emission reduction commitments (e.g. Green Deal and Fit for 55) and to the necessary upgrades of the existing measures to ensure cyber-security in the energy sector and protect critical energy infrastructure;
- SUPPORT acceleration of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects to underpin energy security measures;

- EXPRESS solidarity with Ukraine and assure our neighbours of our continuous support while stressing the key role of a well-functioning V4 energy system for the energy security of the CEE region including Ukraine;
- CONSIDERS IT EFFECTIVE to adopt a unified approach to accelerate licensing, permitting processes and financing for the construction and completion of power sources, especially, large nuclear power plants by the European Commission and national authorities in accordance with the rules of the European Union.

## II. TACKLING ENERGY PRICES

- SHARE THE VIEW that the ongoing period of volatile and extremely high energy prices is of detriment to the well-being of the V4 citizens and our economies;
- SUPPORT the swift adoption of the EU energy legislation and the recent proposals by the European Commission;
- FIND IT IMPORTANT to ensure that EU immediately introduces additional measures that directly mitigate the unprecedented gas and electricity prices;
- ACKNOWLEDGE the introduction of a temporary dynamic price mechanism as adopted by the European Council after the agreement between European Commission and Member States authorities, expecting that this will lower wholesale natural gas prices without jeopardising the security of gas supplies or increasing consumption while covering gas for heating and industries as well;
- DECLARE their readiness to be actively involved in a debate that should bring as soon as possible an electricity market structural reform to have the EU electricity market decoupled from gas prices and reflecting better low-emissions investments;
- CALL FOR mobilisation of EU funds and maximum flexibilities for Member States to use the funds such as REPowerEU Plan to deal with the energy dependency on Russia and the consequences of the energy crisis in the most efficient way;
- RECOMMEND the European Commission to consider a temporal suspension of ETS trading until energy market is stabilised.

## III. REGIONAL COOPERATION

- VALUE the long-lasting fruitful cooperation of the V4 countries in the field of energy and energy policy;



- ACKNOWLEDGE the contribution of the V4 energy cooperation to energy security, clean energy and energy market integration of our region;
- SUPPORT further energy cooperation among the V4 partners that brings real added value especially in the situation of unprecedented risks for security of energy supply and skyrocketing energy prices driven by war in Ukraine and weaponising of energy by Russia;
- REITERATE their commitment to work jointly to pursue the objective of the EU climate neutrality, while underlining the need for a balanced approach to the common EU objectives of energy security, competitiveness of our industries and decarbonisation;
- HIGHLIGHT the need for a just transition that leaves no one behind that is in particular pertinent in regions where the social and economic impacts of transition towards climate neutrality are foreseen to be relatively more severe;
- STRESS the importance of a technology neutral approach of legislative and energy policy tools development, in particular for the duration of the energy crisis in Europe, that respect different national circumstances and the measures decided by Member States to reach the common EU objectives;
- CONDEMN the utilisation of energy supplies as means of geopolitical black-mailing;
- AGREE that a coordinated response to the current energy security threats is of benefit for the whole region;
- TAKE NOTE of the measures introduced by the V4 governments in order to cope with negative consequences of the high energy prices and the steps taken by the key regional energy players to diversify gas supplies and secure supplies of electricity, fuels and heat;
- APPRECIATE the development of regional energy infrastructure projects of common interest supported by the EU and upgrade of the regulatory framework;
- CONTINUE to regard the enhancement of regional energy cooperation as a priority;
- CONSIDER energy infrastructure projects as a tangible contribution to energy security, diversification and climate objectives;
- EMPHASIZE the decarbonisation potential of the existing robust V4 gas infrastructure that should form a backbone of the EU hydrogen ecosystem;
- WELCOME implementation of the strategic V4 North-South Gas Corridor and opening of the new Poland-Slovakia gas interconnector;



- SUPPORT construction of other regional interconnection projects with common benefit for V4 countries, enhancing energy security and diversifying energy supplies;
- APPRECIATE the ongoing realisation of the Smart Grids PCIs and call for further Integration of Electricity and Gas Markets.



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