



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Economy
and Finance



EUSAIR PILLAR 2 – CONNECTING THE REGION: ENERGY SESSION

ENERGY PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS TO ADDRESS THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGE IN THE ADRIATIC AND IONIAN REGION

**Venue: 7 May 2025 (8:30-10:00 hrs) Room Athena
Pilot Beach Resort, Georgioupolis, Crete**

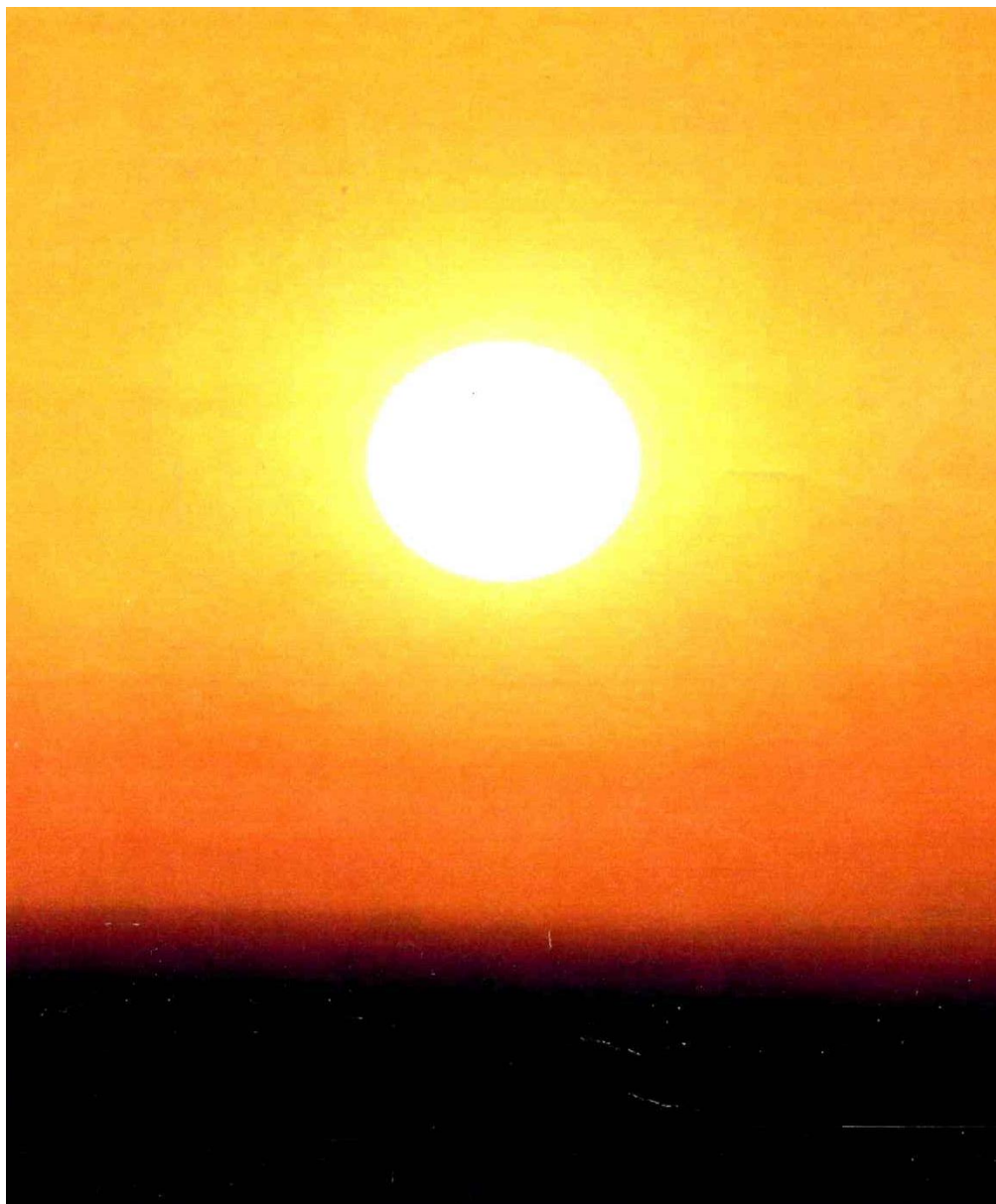
Chair/Moderator: Ms. Biljana Ramić

**Head of Energy Strategies, Programmes and Plans
Ministry of Mining and Energy, Serbia**

Coordinator, EUSAIR Thematic Steering Group 2 on Energy



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1. THE SCOPE OF THE ENERGY SESSION

- Designing policies for the **transition towards net-zero carbon** energy systems through the EUSAIR participating Countries in line with the EU targets to the year 2050
- Potential impact of the transition on other **key energy goals**: security of energy supply, energy affordability and competitiveness
- Prospects for **increased cooperation** and harmonisation of energy policies through the EUSAIR participating Countries: a mission for the EUSAIR Action Plan
- **Challenges** while accelerating the energy transition and phasing-out traditional energy sources: lack of investment, emerging stranded costs, hard access to technology innovation, limited energy market integration
- **Governance**, priorities and timing of national policies for the energy transition under discussion



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2. ENERGY SESSION TIMELINE

- **Introduction** by Chair/Moderator (8:30-8:40 hrs)
- **Two Key-note Speeches** (8:40-9:20 hrs)
- **Two Leading Addresses** (9:20-9:50 hrs)
- **Closing Remarks** by Chair/Moderator (9:50-10:00 hrs)

3. THE ACTORS OF THE ENERGY SESSION

A. Key-note Speakers:

- **Mr. Davide Tabarelli**, President, Nomisma Energia, Italy
«The EUSAIR Master Plan on Energy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region»
- **Mr. Davor Bajs**, Electricity Infrastructures, Energy Community, Vienna
«Decarbonising the Electricity Systems of the Adriatic and Ionian Region and Beyond»

B. Leading Addresses:

- **Mr. Dimitri Kollias**, Energy Transition Strategist, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Greece
«Framework Policies for Energy Transition: Priorities, Projects and Timing»
- **Mr. Alberto Biancardi**, Director, European and International Relations, GSE, Italy
«Enhancing European Cooperation for the Energy Transition: Means and Opportunities»

4. TOPICS FOR THE ENERGY SESSION (I)

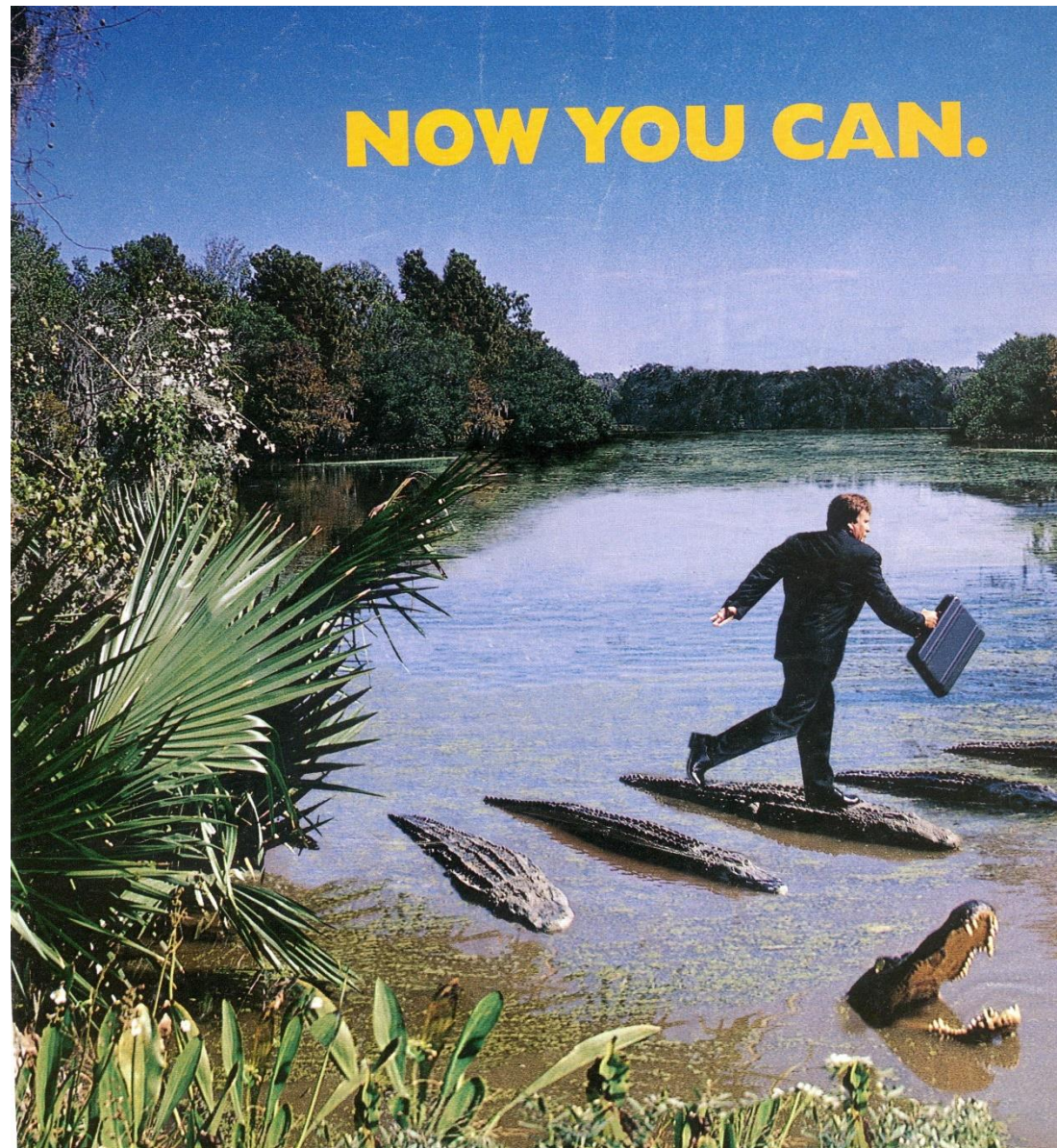
- Need of careful definition of **steps and timing for action** while addressing the climate change challenge
- Focus and effort on **renewable energy sources and energy efficiency** through the Adriatic and Ionian Region as an immediate priority
- Key contributions expected from a **digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence** in the transition towards decarbonised energy systems
- **Cooperation** on energy technology innovation essential to the Adriatic and Ionian Region as well as training of professionals on STEM
- **Drawbacks and road-blocks** in need to of identification to design counter-measures as well as to focus cooperation amongst EUSAIR participating Countries

5. TOPICS FOR THE ENERGY SESSION (II)

- Concerns regarding **different approaches and routes** followed by EUSAIR participating Country for their energy transition should find replies by increased cross-Country cooperation and collaboration
- New energy technologies would represent an asset though **no joint effort or entity** to cooperate on the new wave of energy technologies is in sight in the Adriatic and Ionian Region
- The role of **digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence** is in need of evaluation to better understand options and actions on how to move forward (does the power black-out of Spain teach a lesson?)
- Role of technology options other than renewable energy sources might be envisioned. Notably, carbon removal and storage, nuclear energy, advanced electricity storage
- How to invest and create **regional energy players**



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DRAFT CLOSING REMARKS



**WHATEVER YOUR
DESTINATION,**

DREAM BIG

6. CLOSING REMARKS (I)

- **Smooth transition** towards de-carbonised energy systems is advocated to limit undue competitive asymmetries and contain stranded costs
- **Increased electrification is the trend.** Even doubling of electricity share can be expected with new demand from electric vehicles, data centres, heat pumps
- With a view at the challenging goals ahead the principle of **technological neutrality** might be advisable for the Region and the entire European Union
- The role of **natural gas** during the energy transition towards decarbonised energy systems is in need of clarification. Apparently natural gas might be a transient enabler during the energy transition
- **Hydrogen and hydrogen-derived fuels** will have key and essential role though hydrogen production and deployment today appear far from practical market solutions

7. CLOSING REMARKS (II)

- Transition towards decarbonised energy systems might require **new forms of governance** of the transition
- Cooperation in the development and implementation of **National Energy and Climate Plans** should be foreseen
- Exchange of information and consultation between and amongst Countries from the Adriatic and Ionian Region on the governance for the energy transition and **public acceptance** is advisable
- **Transition should be just and inclusive**: it must put people first and pay attention to the local communities, industries and workers who will face the greatest challenges
- **Public participation and confidence** in the energy transition is paramount if policies are to work and be accepted

- THE END -

“A lift-off for great new benefits.”

