EERA
European Energy Research Alliance

Europe's triple challenge, one answer

Research-driven clean energy transition for decarbonisation, security & competitiveness

14 October 2026 | 9:30 - 16:00 CEST
TownHall Europe, Brussels & Online

Master of ceremonies: Anna Gumbau

09:30 **Registration & welcome coffee**

10:00 **Welcoming remarks**
Henk-Jan Vink - *President, EERA*

10:05 **Keynote speeches**

- Ann Mettler – *President and Co-Founder, Catalyse Europe*
- Tinne Van der Straeten – *Chief Executive Officer, WindEurope*

10:40 **Fireside chat "In conversation with..."**
Thomas Pellerin-Carlin – *Member of the European Parliament, European Parliament*

11:00 **Coffee break**

11:30 **Panel 1 : How do we keep the energy system running while transforming it?**

The operational challenge: integrating high shares of clean energy and electrified demand while keeping the system stable, reliable and affordable: grid infrastructure, flexibility, storage, and energy demand reduction and sufficiency.

Panelists:

- Karsten Krause – *Unit Digitalisation, Competitiveness, Research and Innovation, DG ENER, European Commission*
- Claire Roumet – *Strategic Partnerships & Overall Coordination, Energy Cities*
- Paul Wilczek – *Head of Unit, Energy Policy, Climate & Sustainability, Eurelectric*
- Georg Zachmann – *Senior Fellow, Bruegel / Helmholtz-Zentrum Berlin*
- Laurens de Vries – *JP Coordinator Energy Systems Integration, EERA / TUDelft*

12:30 **Lunch**

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13:30 **Panel 2: How does Europe build and keep a clean energy industry?**

The industrial challenge: moving from innovation to manufacturing at scale, securing supply chains for critical materials, and developing the skills base Europe needs.

Panelists:

- Jacek Truszczynski – *Head of Unit, Net Zero Industries, Sustainable and Circular Products, DG GROW, European Commission*
- Florie Gonsolin – *Programme Lead EU Industry Transformation, Agora Industry*
- Ruben Davis – *Senior Policy Director and Leader Scale-up Coalition, Cleantech for Europe*
- Ignacio Martí – *JP Coordinator Wind, EERA/DTU*

14:30 **Coffee break**

14:45 **Panel 3: How do we prepare energy systems for shocks we can't predict?**

The preparedness challenge: diversification of supply, efficiency as a buffer, secure supply chains, and the capacity to adapt to disruption.

Panelists:

- Ruud Kempener – *Unit Energy Security and Safety, DG ENER, European Commission*
- Bruno Gouverneur – *Head of Market & Operations, ENTSO-E*
- Catherine Banet – *Academic Co-Director for Energy, CERRE; Professor of Law, University of Oslo*
- Christophe Béguinet – *Member, European Economic and Social Committee*
- Knut Samdal – *JP Coordinator Energy Security and Resilience, EERA / SINTEF*

15:45 **Closing remarks**
Adel El Gammal - *Secretary General, EERA*