

Smart Energy policies - Approaches in enabling inclusive and sustainable strategies at European level

Andrada S. Văsii Ph.D

Postdoctoral researcher at National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest, Romania



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The European Energy Policy

A few important milestones*

- **1951& 1957: Treaty of Paris & Treaty of Rome**
First steps towards building a functional community in the energy field.
- **2006: Action plan for efficiency**
Stepping from functional to efficient and qualitative products.
- **2015: Energy Union**
Aiming to empower and aid consumers (micro or macro), as well as to further develop the European energy market and European energy environment.

* Source: European Commission ec.europa.eu

Starting as a lever towards enabling proper and efficient use of existing resources, the European Energy Policy has been developed and enhanced throughout time:

- ✓ Sometimes treating gas and electricity as two different sectors, with different timelines
- ✓ Setting grounds for common language and practices
- ✓ Providing good practices for national implementations

As time passed, the European Energy Policy was more in tune with market specificity and requirements:

- ✓ Analyzing and drafting recommendations for the sustainable energy sources
- ✓ Building capabilities *via* strategic documentation and Directives
- ✓ Creating frameworks for further market development

Sustainable strategies

The 2050 Energy Roadmap (from 2011)*

The Roadmap continues past efforts in tailoring a sustainable environment by analyzing:

- ✓ What road blocks the EU's decarbonisation objective may encounter
- ✓ The role of electricity and implications determined by end consumers (micro consumers)
- ✓ A macro perspective for the climate response

Source: European Commission <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52011DC0885&from=EN>

The Green approach

Consumers sometimes stand at the heart of further sustainable strategies.

- Energy performance in buildings
- National tailored approaches and steps in implementing the European strategies

Source: European Commission
https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/energy-strategy/clean-energy-all-europeans_en

After developing self standing sectors (gas and electricity), sustainability at European level has encompassed more than just having resources to consume, energy to transaction and a market as a framework.

- ✓ Building trans – European corridors, as well as energy and gas routes
- ✓ Promoting diversification in the mix of energy consumption, as well as advocating for quotas of renewable energy share
- ✓ Setting grounds for market liberalization and services standardization

Technology and innovation became a pillar in developing sustainable approaches at European level:

- ✓ Capabilities at country level, if not existing already, can be sustained by transfer of practices
 - ✓ In this regard, digitalization can aid in securing energy distribution, as well as energy production in a more efficient and sustainable way

Source: European Commission ec.europa.eu

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Conclusions

Starting from the below questions, we will be able to map future necessary steps

Market evolution

Are the existing capabilities sufficient in order to develop a sustainable consumption and production environment (as well as a functional market)?

European legislation

Is the current legislation tailored enough to national specificities and capabilities?

Can the European Energy market benefit from a comprehensive legislation? Is this type of legislation feasible?

Renewable energy

Must renewable energy be subjected to a different approach *versus* existing energy sources?

If yes, how can we mind the gap in amongst countries?

Future

How does success look like?

Is it written by consumers or by existing (and developed) capabilities?