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Event Speakers: Renewable Energy Infrastructure Development (PV Power Plants, Storage Technologies and Intelligent Grid Control) – 17.09.2024

Dan-Dragoș Drăgan

Secretary of State, Ministry of Energy Romania



Dan-Dragoș Drăgan is Secretary of State in the Ministry of Energy, responsible for European affairs and implementing the Green Deal in the energy sector. With extensive experience in the private sector, Mr. Secretary of State Dragan has held several executive leadership positions in the field of energy and trading. He is a graduate of management and computational economics from the Academy of Economic Studies in Bucharest and is licensed as a broker for forward transactions.



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Dr. Mihnea Cătuți

Head of Research, Energy Policy Group



Mihnea Cătuți is the Head of Research at EPG, coordinating the research strategy and activities within the organisation. His expertise includes EU climate and energy policy and the transition in South-East Europe. He is also an Associate in E3G's Clean Economy Programme, contributing to the work on industrial decarbonisation.

In the past, Mihnea Cătuți was an associate researcher at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), where he led the work on the future of hydrogen in the EU. He was also an associate lecturer in Public Policy at the University of York.

Mihnea Cătuți has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Bristol and a Masters in European Public Policy from the University of York and the Central European University. He was awarded a PhD from the University of York with a thesis focusing energy and climate governance in the EU.



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Alexander Mutz

Research Associate, University of Stuttgart and Fraunhofer IPA



Alexander Mutz is a research associate at University of Stuttgart and Fraunhofer IPA specializing in DC-smart grids and energy flexibility. With a passion for helping companies enhance the efficiency of their systems, he is dedicated to driving innovation in the energy sector. Alexander values creativity and strives to develop sustainable solutions that meet the evolving needs of the industry.



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Simon Steffgen

Senior Expert Commercial and Industrial, German Energy Storage Systems Association (BVES)



Simon Steffgen is Senior Expert Commercial and Industrial at the German Energy Storage Systems Association BVES (Bundesverband Energiespeicher e.V.), the lobby group for the entire energy storage industry. He oversees the working groups on thermal energy storage, electromobility and charging infrastructure, hydrogen and PtX as well as electricity storage in the C&I market. Simon Steffgen studied philosophy and sociology at the universities of Freiburg, Jerusalem and Potsdam.



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Alexandra Floricica

Head of Sustainable Development, ProCredit Bank Romania



Alexandra Floricică is the Head of Sustainable Development at ProCredit Bank Romania, a digital commercial bank focused on small and medium-sized business development. Graduated in Legal Sciences from the University of Bucharest, Alexandra Floricica started her career at ProCredit Bank in 2017, where she held various roles in the Credit Risk & Risk Management departments. In 2023, she graduated from the ProCredit Management Academy in Germany, and since October 2023 she is a student of the Pan-Executive MBA program, University of York & University of Strasbourg.

Currently, Alexandra Floricica leads the Sustainable Development area within ProCredit Bank, a strategic area, as the institution operates as a green bank prioritizing 3 important pillars: financial, environmental and social.



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Ioana Alexandra Durlea

Senior Associate, bnt attorneys in CEE | Romania



Ioana Alexandra Durlea is a Senior Associate within bnt attorneys in CEE | Romania. Her key competences are: Real Estate and Construction regulations, Contract and Commercial Law, Renewable energy, Litigation.

Ioana is an experienced lawyer specialised in advising foreign investors and companies on complex legal matters related to various sectors, including energy and natural resources, environmental issues, mergers and acquisitions (M&A), real estate, urban planning and construction, and public-private projects.



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Frank Hajdinjak

Vicepresident Research and Development, Romanian Energy Center



Frank Hajdinjak is Vicepresident Research and Development, Romania Energy Center (CRE). Recognized as one of the most prolific CEOs in Europe, Frank Hajdinjak spent 25 years in the energy sector and 6 years in car manufacturing in leading roles of management consulting, general management, organizational development, leadership, performance management, development and scaling-up of new business lines, business transformation, customer experience, agile transformation, LEAN management, and operational excellence.

Frank Hajdinjak has been CEO of E.ON Romania from 2005 to 2019. Before E.ON, he was associated with Ruhrgas AG where he had multiple roles under his leadership including different management roles in controlling, internal management consultancy and IT. Prior to the energy sector, Frank Hajdinjak had an inspirational leadership role in system analysis and project management at Ford Motor Company in Germany and UK.

Besides his role as Vice-President of CRE, Frank is currently Administrator of E-Plus Romania and the Chief Strategy Officer of RomCapital Invest Group, leading Romanian companies committed to delivering excellence and innovation, driving progress in infrastructure, energy, and beyond.

Frank Hajdinjak post-graduated in business administration from Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster (WWU Weiterbildung GmbH).