

Roundtable

ROMANIA'S PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EU AND ITS ENERGY POLICY PRIORITIES

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Bucharest, 31 October 2017

15:30-16:00: **Coffee and registration**

16:00-16:30: **Opening session**

16:00-16:10: Welcome: Radu Dudău and Christian Egenhofer

16:10-16:30: Opening speech (Government official, tbd)

16:30-17:45: **Panel I – Romania's strategic priorities in the energy sector. Challenges and opportunities in the context of its 2019 Presidency of the Council of the EU**

Moderator: Radu Dudău (EPG)

Topics and questions:

What are Romania's strategic priorities in the energy sector?

- Energy production capacities: drivers of new investments – nuclear, gas, renewables, coal
- Major infrastructure: Projects of Common Interest
- Governance, institutions and regulations:
 - gas market liberalization
 - the regulators' autonomy
 - the fate of the renewable energy sector
 - staying on track to achieve the 2030 targets

What are the likely challenges to Romania's expected energy policy lines during its EU Presidency?
What are the likely opportunities? How should the country manage them politically and diplomatically?

What is the relevance of regional cooperation formats, such as CESEC? How can overall EU-wide convergence of regional energy cooperation on natural gas and electricity markets be maintained?

What are the most fruitful areas of energy policy cooperation among Romania and the other two members of the presidency trio, Finland and Croatia?

17:45-19:00: Panel II – EU energy policy targets and regulatory constrains

Moderator: Christian Egenhofer (CEPS)

Topics and questions:

What are the EU energy policy targets and regulatory constrains?

- Completion of the Energy Union, adoption and implementation of existing proposals, mainly related to energy markets, mobility, climate change, circular economy and research and innovation.
- Longer-term decarbonisation policies, notably the National Energy and Climate Plans

As part of the Presidency Trio, what should be the Romanian energy priorities that represent the context of Eastern and South-East Europe?

What specific Romanian energy priorities should be formulated to influence the Presidency Trio 18-month-programme and have a high-level impact on the EU energy agenda?

19:00-20:00: Cocktail dinner

The roundtable will take place under Chatham House rules. Participation is by invitation only. The working languages are English and Romanian.