



HELLENIC ASSOCIATION  
for ENERGY ECONOMICS

# 11<sup>th</sup> HAEE ENERGY TRANSITION SYMPOSIUM

Strategic Energy Shifts:  
Policies and Politics in Transition

25 May  
26-27 May

Academic Sessions  
Plenary Sessions

ALBA Graduate Business School | Athens  
National Museum of Natural History Goulandris | Athens

## 11<sup>th</sup> HAEE ENERGY TRANSITION SYMPOSIUM

“Strategic Energy Shifts: Policies and Politics in Transition”

May 25-27, 2026

**Draft**  
**AGENDA**

**DAY 1 | Monday, May 25, 2026**

**Venue: Auditorium, Alba Graduate Business School, Athens**

## **ENPOWER Workshop: Empowering Energy Communities with Digital Tools**



- 10.00-10.10 **WELCOME AND OPENING ADDRESSES**
- 10.10-10.20 **EMPOWER PROJECT PRESENTATION**  
NTUA Representative
- 10.20-10.35 **GREEK PILOT PROJECT PRESENTATION: CHALKI ISLAND**  
Chalki Representative
- 10.35-10.55 **FLEXCOM – PRESENTATION & DEMONSTRATION**  
NTUA Representative
- 10.55-11.15 **EVLOADER – PRESENTATION & DEMONSTRATION**  
EVLOADER Representative
- 11.15-11.35 **ENERGY COMMUNITY PLANNING TOOL - – PRESENTATION & DEMONSTRATION**  
CARTIF Representative
- 11.35-11.50 **COFFEE BREAK**
- 11.50-13.20 **NATIONAL TRAINING: LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME FOR ENERGY COMMUNITIES IN GREECE**  
HAEE & NTUA Representative
- 13.20-13.30 **CLOSING REMARKS & NETWORKING**

**Organized by:**

## DAY 1 | Monday, May 25, 2026

Venue: Room , Alba Graduate Business School, Athens

10.00-10.10 **ACADEMIC SESSIONS OPENING REMARKS**

10.10-11.25 **SESSION I: ENERGY SYSTEMS, INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION AND DECARBONIZATION PATHWAYS**

- *A Steady-State Model of the Greek Natural Gas System Analyzing Hydrogen Injection to Absorb Excess Renewable Electricity*  
**Ioannis K. Korogiannos, Dimitrios E. Papantonis, Athanasios S. Dagoumas**
- *Coping with Realities: Takeaways from 3 Years of Energy Transition*  
**Hemmat Safwat**
- *Towards a Techno-Economically Viable CCU Pathway*  
**Anthoula Plakia, Panagiotis Grammelis**
- *Innovation as an Instrument for Energy Transition in Hard-to-Abate Industries*  
**Evanthia A. Nanaki, M. Papageorgiou, S. Kiartzis**

Chair: TBA

11.25-12.25 **SESSION II: SOCIETY, GEOPOLITICS AND INCLUSIVE ENERGY TRANSITION FRAMEWORKS**

- *Rethinking Membership in Energy Communities: Behavioral Archetypes, Member Contributions, and Justice-Based Incentives*  
**Georgios D. Lamprousis, Dimitra Koumparou, Spyridon K. Golfinopoulos**
- *The India–Middle East–Europe Corridor (IMEC) and the Geopolitics of Energy in the Broader Middle East*  
**Philip-Mark Spanidis, Konstantinos Koutsogiannis, Konstantina Tsalapati**
- *Energy Consumption Patterns and Energy Performance of School Buildings*  
**Eleni A. Skreka, Kosmas A. Kavadias, John K. Kaldellis**

Chair: TBA

12:25-12:45 **COFFEE BREAK**

12.45-14.00 **SESSION III: GOVERNANCE, STRATEGIC RISK AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES IN THE ENERGY TRANSITION**

- *Managing Risk in the Energy Transition: An Integrative Review of Uncertainty, ESG, and Corporate Resilience*  
**Sotiris Apostolou, Filippos Ioannidis, Kyriaki Kosmidou**
- *Algorithmic Supervision of European Electricity Markets*  
**Spyros-Nikitas Tsamichas**
- *The Role of Small Modular Nuclear Reactors in the Energy Transition*  
**Maria Lykidi**
- *Waste Heat Recovery Applications for Energy Efficiency in Modern Naval Vessels*  
**Aysel Çamcı, Yasin Arslanoğlu, Özcan Arslan**

Chair: TBA

Organized by:

## DAY 2 | Tuesday, May 26, 2026

Venue: Auditorium, Goulandris Museum, Kifissia

09.00-10.00 **Registration and networking coffee**

10.00-10.15 **WELCOME AND OPENING ADDRESSES**

**Spiros Papaefthimiou**, President, HAEE

**Aaron Praktiknjo**, President, IAEE; Professor, RWTH Aachen University

10.15-10.45 **THE NEW GEOPOLITICAL ARCHITECTURE: ENERGY SOVEREIGNTY AND STRATEGIC STABILITY IN SE EUROPE**

High-level insights into the strategic imperatives reshaping the regional energy map and the diplomatic alliances securing the European energy frontier.

- **The Diplomacy of Interconnectivity:** Assessing the role of the Vertical Corridor and regional networks as instruments of collective security and geopolitical resilience against global supply disruptions.
- **Strategic Autonomy and Resource Management:** The integration of East Mediterranean exploration into the broader European defense and sovereignty framework, ensuring long-term stability amidst global shifts.
- **Navigating the Global Energy Paradigm:** A high-level dialogue on aligning the speed of the green transition with the fundamental requirements of national security, economic viability, and systemic endurance.

**Stavros Papastavrou**, Minister of Environment & Energy (TBC)

**Joshua Volz**, Special Envoy for Global Energy Integration, U.S. Department of Energy

Moderator: **Prof. Dr. Kostas Andriosopoulos**, Aff. Professor, Finance & Energy Management; Director, HELLENiQ ENERGY Center for Sustainability and Energy @Alba Graduate Business School; CEO, Akuo Energy Greece; President, Energy Committee, AmCham Greece

10.45-11.00 **S&P GLOBAL KEYNOTE PRESENTATION**

**Laurent Ruseckas**, Executive Director, First Take Gas, Geopolitics and Finance, S&P Global Energy

11.00-11.30 **REGIONAL RESILIENCE: SAFEGUARD ENERGY SUPPLY IN AN ERA OF HIGH GEOPOLITICAL VOLATILITY (POWERED BY HELLENiQ ENERGY CENTER FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND ENERGY @ALBA GRADUATE BUSINESS SCHOOL)**

**George Alexopoulos**, Deputy CEO, HELLENiQ ENERGY

**Franck Neel**, Head, OMV Romania

Moderator: **Prof. Dr. Kostas Andriosopoulos**, Aff. Professor, Finance & Energy Management; Director, HELLENiQ ENERGY Center for Sustainability and Energy @Alba Graduate Business School; CEO, Akuo Energy Greece; President, Energy Committee, AmCham Greece

Organized by:

11.30-12.10 **FROM 2022 TO THE PRESENT: RATIONALIZING EUROPEAN ENERGY POLICY AMIDST PERSISTENT VOLATILITY**

A strategic examination of Europe's transition from the 2022 supply shock to the current era of persistent volatility, advocating for a pragmatic and rational realignment of EU energy policy.

- The Legacy of the 2022 Crisis: Evaluating the structural vulnerabilities exposed by the sudden decoupling from Russian gas. Assessing the long-term impact of emergency measures on European market integration and competitiveness.
- Defining Energy Rationalism: Balancing aggressive decarbonization targets with the technical and economic realities of energy density and system reliability. The role of market-based instruments versus state intervention in securing affordable energy for the industrial core.
- A Blueprint for Resilience: Transitioning from reactive crisis management to a proactive, sovereign energy strategy for the EU. Strengthening cross-border infrastructure and diversification as the primary tools for mitigating geopolitical risk and persistent price volatility.

**Laurent Ruseckas**, Executive Director, First Take Gas, Geopolitics and Finance, S&P Global  
**Olga Khakova**, Deputy Director for European Energy Security, Atlantic Council  
**Samuel Furfari**, Energy Geopolitics Professor, ESCP Business School  
**Gürkan Kumbaroğlu**, Director of the Energy Policy Research Center, Boğaziçi University;  
President, TRAE

Moderator: TBA

12.10-12.50 **RENEWABLES AT SCALE: OVERCOMING CURTAILMENT THROUGH STORAGE**

A comprehensive look at the rapid expansion of Renewables and the pivotal role of storage systems in addressing grid constraints and market volatility.

- RES Market Expansion: Analyzing the massive growth of Renewable Energy Sources and the strategic evolution of the green energy market.
- The Curtailment Challenge: Addressing technical bottlenecks and the rising issue of production cuts due to grid saturation.
- Battery Storage: Assessing the latest developments for the integration of storage systems into the wholesale market by year-end.

**Pantelis Capros**, Professor of Energy Economics and Operational Research, NTUA  
**Oskaras Alšauskas**, Energy Modeller and Analyst, World Energy Outlook Team, IEA  
**Apostolos Panos**, President of the BoD, Hellenic Association of Energy Storage Systems  
**Georgios Stamtzis**, General Manager, Hellenic Association of Independent Power Companies

Moderator: TBA

12.50-13.45 **GAS AT A CROSSROADS : GEOPOLITICS, LNG EXPANSION, AND DIGITAL REINVENTION OF ENERGY MARKETS (POWERED BY GLOBAL GAS CENTRE)**

Organized by:

**Maria Rita Galli**, CEO, AKTOR LNG

**Grace Smith**, Senior Attorney, Methane & Clean Air, Environmental Defense Fund

**Christos Papaleonidas**, CEO, WMG Sustainable Innovation

Moderator: **Panagiotis Mitrou**, Senior Vice President - Shipping Strategy, Lloyd's Register, Global Gas Centre Chair

13.45-14.45 **Networking lunch & coffee**

14.45–14.55 **STRATEGIC DECISION MAKING IN THE AGE OF DISRUPTION**

**Gianfranco Scalabrini**, Managing Partner, 3H PARTNERS; Founding Partner, BOOST; Adjunct Professor, LUISS Business School

14.55–15.25 **EMPOWERMED WOMEN (POWERED BY HELLENIQ ENERGY CENTER FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND ENERGY @ALBA GRADUATE BUSINESS SCHOOL)**

**Alexandra Sdoukou**, Chair, EmpowerMed Women, EMGF, Spokesperson, New Democracy

**Enas Shabana**, Communications & media relations specialist, EMGF

Moderator: TBA

15.25-15.45 **THE FUTURE OF GAS FLOWS IN SOUTHEAST EUROPE: RISKS, ROUTES AND REGIONAL IMPACTS (POWERED BY HELLENIQ ENERGY CENTER FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND ENERGY @ALBA GRADUATE BUSINESS SCHOOL)**

White Paper discussion

**Anne-Sophie Corbeau**, Global Research Scholar, Center on Global Energy Policy Center at COLUMBIA|SIPA

**Matthew Bryza**, former US Ambassador to Azerbaijan, Partner, Abbert Capital

In discussion with:

**Prof. Dr. Kostas Andriosopoulos**, Aff. Professor, Finance & Energy Management; Director, HELLENiQ ENERGY Center for Sustainability and Energy @Alba Graduate Business School; CEO, Akuo Energy Greece; President, Energy Committee, AmCham Greece

15.45-16.15 **UPSKILLING THE ENERGY TRANSITION**

A strategic discussion exploring essential skills and educational frameworks required to drive the global energy transition and foster sustainable innovation.

- Bridging the Talent Gap: Identifying the technical and leadership skills necessary to support a decarbonized and digitalized energy sector.
- Reskilling for the Green Era: Strategies for transitioning the workforce into new jobs within renewable energy and smart grid technologies.

Organized by:

- AI-Driven Transformation: Leveraging Artificial Intelligence to optimize energy management and the urgent need for AI-literate professionals in the industry.

**Kostas Axaroglou**, Dean, Alba Graduate Business School

**Athanasios Dagoumas**, Associate Professor in Energy and Resource Economics, University of Piraeus, Chief Research and Data Engineer

**Nikolaos Bakatselos**, President and CEO, Pyramis Metallourgia S.A.

Moderator: TBA

## 16.15-16.45 **CLIMATE RESILIENCE & CIRCULAR ECONOMY: A UNIFIED STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH**

- Strengthening National Climate Resilience
- Advancing the Circular Economy mandate
- Combatting Water Scarcity

**Petros Varelidis**, General Secretary for Natural Environment and Water Resources, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Hellenic Republic

**Prof. Konstantinos Aravossis**, UNESCO Chairholder on Green Innovation & CE · NTUA Vice President & Waste Management BoD Chairman · RAAEY (tbc)

**George Kremlis**, Ambassador of EPLO to Bulgaria; Member of the Board and Director, Circular Economy and Climate Institute, EPLO

Moderator: **Dr. Thanos Bourtsalas**, Professor in the Climate School of Columbia University, Senior Manager, Deloitte

## 16.45-17.45 **YOUTH CLIMATE DIPLOMACY FORUM DEBATE – THE PRAGMATISM PARADOX: CAN SOUTHEAST EUROPE AFFORD TO GO GREEN BEFORE IT GOES SECURE?**

This debate will scrutinize whether the “Green” and “Secure” agendas are mutually exclusive for the Balkans or if a specialized regional roadmap is required to prevent a two-speed Europe.

**Despoina Paliarouta**, Secretary General, Ministry of Environment & Energy

**Angelos Antonakakis**, Head of Analytics Sales – EMEA, S&P Global Energy

**Othon Kaminiaris**, Expert in Environmental and Climate Change Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic

**Marios Fokas Tsamichas**, Climate, Sustainability & Innovation Economist | YCDF & HNYC Member | Vice Curator of WEF Global Shapers London, PhD Researcher, Imperial College London

Moderator: **Georgia Giannakidou**, Senior Research Fellow, HELLENIQ ENERGY Center for Sustainability & Energy @ Alba Graduate Business School

Organized by:

## DAY 3 | Wednesday, May 27, 2026

Venue: Auditorium, Goulandris Museum, Kifissia

### 10.00-10.05 **OPENING KEYNOTE SPEECH**

**John D. Saracakis**, President, American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce

### 10.05-10.15 **FOSTERING CHINA-GREECE SYNERGIES: SCALING RENEWABLES & STORAGE SOLUTIONS**

Strengthening the strategic partnership between China and Greece to tackle the challenges of massive RES growth and the critical integration of storage technologies.

#### **Keynote Speaker:**

**Fang Qiu**, Chinese Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic

### 10.15-10.35 **POWER AND POLICY: THE GEOPOLITICAL FRONTIERS OF THE GLOBAL ENERGY TRANSITION**

**Dimitris Avramopoulos**, Member, Hellenic Parliament, EU Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs & Citizenship (2014-2019), Greece

**Evrpidis Stylianidis**, MP for Rodopi - Ex Minister / Associate Professor, Law School, European University Cyprus, Hellenic Parliament/European University Cyprus, Greece (TBC)

Moderator: **TBA**

### 10.35-10.50 **GREEK ENERGY MARKET REPORT 2026**

Greek Energy Market Report 2026—with special focus on geopolitics

- Key market trends and progress toward national climate and energy targets
- Policy and investment highlights shaping the energy transition
- The role of banks and new financing initiatives in supporting clean energy projects

### 10.50-11.30 **THE RES POWER PLAY: BALANCING RISK, FINANCE, AND MARKET DESIGN**

- Mitigating investment risks and securing funding for RES projects.
- The impact of market design on clean energy transitions.
- The role of insurance and financial stability in energy

**Kostas Mitsiolidis**, CFO, Green Line Energy

Organized by:

**Dimitris Kolyvodiakos**, General Manager, ENERTA  
**Michelle Houwers**, Senior Account Executive, Energy, Howden Hellas

Moderator: TBA

11.30-12.10 **NEXT-GENERATION GRIDS: BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN RES AMBITIONS AND TECHNICAL REALITY**

A comprehensive look at the rapid expansion of Renewables and the pivotal role of storage systems in addressing grid constraints and market volatility.

- Smart Grid Infrastructure: Integrating smart technologies to transform the grid from a passive carrier to an active energy hub.
- Managing the Curtailment Challenge: Assessing the technical bottlenecks and the regulatory framework for managing surplus green energy.
- International Best Practices: Lessons from European grid operators on harmonizing large-scale RES penetration with system security.

**Yiannis Roumeliotis**, Key Account Manager EPC and RES, PROTASIS

**Giorgos Panagiotou**, Energy Management & Production Director, VOLTON

**George Papefthimiou**, Power Systems Economics and Policies, ELIA GRID INTERNATIONAL

**Evangelos Kyritsis**, Dep. Head Energy Market Analysis, Axpo Group

Moderator: TBA

12.10-12.50 **CAPITALIZING ON THE TRANSITION: FINANCING THE GREEN ECONOMY**

A high-level discussion on mobilizing capital and creating the financial frameworks necessary to support the rapid scaling of clean energy infrastructure.

- Investment Surge & Market Growth: Evaluating the flow of capital into large-scale renewable projects and the evolving landscape of green financing.
- The Stability Challenge: Addressing the financial impact of grid constraints and curtailments on project bankability and investor confidence.
- New Revenue Streams: The role of the wholesale market and the upcoming integration of battery assets in creating sustainable investment models by year-end.

**Konstantinos Eleftheriadis**, Strategy & Transactions Partner, Energy and Sustainability Leader, Deloitte

**Theodora Antonakaki**, Director Climate Change and Sustainability Centre, Bank of Greece

**Ioannis Kaltsas**, Head of Investment Team for Greece & Cyprus, European Investment Bank, Greece

**Christophe Bonnery**, Programme Director, Paris School of Economics; President, French Association for Energy Economics

Organized by:

Moderator: TBA

12.50 – 13.00 **GREEN ENERGY LEADERSHIP: GREECE & ROMANIA IN SE EUROPE**

Embassy of Romania to the Hellenic Republic (TBA)

13.00 – 13.45 **ROMANIA RES: A REGIONAL MARKET IN ACCELERATION (POWERED BY ENERGYNOMICS)**

- Romania's Renewables Momentum: Assessing the factors behind the country's accelerating RES market, from project pipeline growth and investor attention to its rising role in the regional energy transition.
- From Expansion to Execution: Examining the practical barriers that now shape project delivery, including permitting, development discipline, infrastructure limitations, and market readiness.
- Grid Pressure, Bankability and Regional Lessons: Exploring how connection constraints, curtailment risks, financing expectations, and the need for greater system flexibility are redefining the next phase of renewable growth in Romania and across South-East Europe.
- Technologies, Business Models and the Next Investment Wave: Looking at how solar, wind, hybrid projects, and emerging storage-linked strategies are shaping the next chapter of Romania's RES market for developers, financiers, and regional partners.

**Elena Popescu**, CEO Elektra Renewable Support

**Sotiris Kapellos**, Chief Operating Officer, BoD member HELLENiQ Renewables

**Giacomo Billi**, Founder & CEO, Alive Capital

**Paul Șerbănescu**, Head of Public Funding, PPC Romania

Moderator: TBA

13.45-14.40 **Networking lunch & coffee**

14.40-15.10 **DIPLOMATIC SYNERGIES FOR A NET-ZERO FUTURE: THE AMBASSADORS PANEL**

A high-level dialogue on international cooperation and policy alignment to facilitate the massive expansion of clean energy and the technical evolution of the grid.

**Barbara Van Hellemond**, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Hellenic Republic

**Matthew Lodge**, British Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic

**Håkan Emsgård**, Ambassador of Sweden to the Hellenic Republic

Moderator: TBA

15.10-15.50 **ALTERNATIVE FUELS: REAL SOLUTION OR DISTANT VISION?**

**Organized by:**

This session explores cutting-edge approaches and policy frameworks that unlock the value hidden in waste streams, reinforcing sustainability as a core pillar of the energy transition.

A candid debate on whether hydrogen and waste-derived fuels can move beyond pilot projects to become the backbone of industrial decarbonization and energy independence.

- Hydrogen at the Crossroads: Is it the ultimate energy carrier or just an expensive alternative? Examining the roadmap for true commercial viability.
- The Scale-up Challenge: Identifying the exact regulatory and infrastructure breakthroughs needed to turn alternative fuels into a mass-market reality.
- From Laboratory to Industrial Power: Why the partnership between academic research and heavy industry is the only way to accelerate the transition from theory to practice.

**Eleni Bairami**, Owner and Managing Director, ECO Hellas

**Emmanouil Kakaras**, Senior Advisor, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries EMEA; Professor, National Technical University of Athens

**Panagiotis Grammelis**, Director of Research, Chemical Process and Energy Resources Institute, Centre for Research and Technology Hellas

Moderator: **Konstantinos Bergeles**, Strategy & Transactions Principal, Deloitte

15.50-16.00 **FRANCE & GREECE: THE STRATEGIC INDUSTRIAL ALLIANCE**

**Keynote Speaker:**

*Laurence Auer, French Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic*

16.00-16.45 **THE NEW ENERGY OPERATING SYSTEM: STABILITY, STORAGE & SYNERGY**

Rethinking the "Operating System" of the Greek energy market to ensure that massive green investments remain viable and productive.

- Maximizing Yield: Technical strategies to reduce forced curtailments and protect the economic returns of renewable projects.
- Bilateral Innovation: Leveraging French expertise in grid resilience to build the flexible infrastructure of the future.
- Market Readiness: The final countdown for batteries entering the wholesale market and their role in balancing the national energy mix.

**Thalia Valkouma**, President and CEO, Faria Renewables

**French Company** TBA

**Panagiotis Papastamatiou**, CEO, Hellenic Wind Energy Association; Director, ENTEKA

Moderator: **Spiros Raptis**, General Manager Greece and Cyprus, Schneider Electric; Chairman of Energy Committee, CCI France Grèce

16.45 – 17.15 **THE EUROPEAN ENERGY BACKBONE: INTERCONNECTIONS AS A PILLAR OF REGIONAL SECURITY**

**Organized by:**

A high-level strategic discussion between the heads of Greece's power and gas transmission operators. This session explores how the synergy between electricity grids and gas pipelines transforms Greece into a critical energy gateway, ensuring regional stability and solidifying its role as a net exporter to the Balkans and Central Europe by 2025.

- The Strategic Infrastructure Synergy: Defining the "Energy Backbone" through the dual lens of power interconnections and the gas Vertical Corridor as a diplomatic and technical necessity for SE Europe.
- The 2025 Export Paradigm: Evaluating the systemic shift that allows Greece to leverage its surplus renewable production and LNG infrastructure into stable export commodities.
- Resilience & Geopolitical Shielding: How major cross-border projects create a resilient energy shield, mitigating geopolitical risks and price volatility through enhanced regional connectivity.

**Maria Sferruzza**, CEO, DESFA

Moderator: TBA

Organized by:

**DAY 3 | Wednesday, May 27, 2026**

**Venue: Gaia Center, Goulandris Museum, Kifissia**

19.00 – 20.30 **HAEE ENERGY INITIATIVE AWARDS 2026 (BY INVITATION ONLY)**

**DAY 3 | Wednesday, May 27, 2026**

**Venue: Goulandris Museum Garden, Kifissia**

20.30 – 22.30 **POST-AWARDS CELEBRATION (BY INVITATION ONLY)**

**Organized by:**