

EERA JP ESI SPRING EVENT 2025

20–23 May 2025
EIHP, Zagreb, Croatia

Welcome to the EERA JP ESI Spring Event 2025!

 **PLEASE REGISTER HERE**

[EERA JP Energy Systems Integration - Events](#)

We are delighted to invite you to join us for this pivotal gathering dedicated to Europe's energy and industrial transitions. Taking place at the Energy Institute Hrvoje Požar in Zagreb, the Spring Event will span three days of strategic discussions, expert panels, and collaborative workshops.

Programme Overview

20 May 2025

Welcome Dinner in Zagreb City Centre at 19:00

21 May 2025

Workshop: Energy Transition in South-East Europe

This day will focus on the regional challenges and collaborative opportunities in implementing National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs), with contributions from researchers, policymakers, and industry.

Agenda Highlights:

- *Walk-in coffee from 8:30 until 09:00*
- **Opening Session (09:00– 09:30)**
 - Welcome: Dražen Jakšić (CEO, EIHP)
 - Maja Božičević Vrhovčak (EIHP)
- **Session 1 (09:30–11:00) – Regional Transition Policy and Implementation**

Moderator: Maja Božičević Vrhovčak (EIHP)

 - Key note: Višnja Grgasović (Ministry of Environmental Protection and Green Transition of Croatia, Head of Unit for Climate Transition)
 - Panel discussion: Mariya Trifonova (University of Sofia, Bulgaria), Boris Sučić (Jožef Štefan Institute, Slovenia), Pieter Vingerhoets (VITO, Belgium)
 - Key topics: NECP implementation gaps, budget limitations, research needs
- *Coffee break until 11:30*



- **Session 2 (11:30–13:00) – Energy Systems Integration and Policy Instruments**

Moderator: Maja Božičević Vrhovčak (EIHP)

- Keynote: Goran Štrbac from the Imperial College of London: Supporting Cost Effective Transition to Resilient Low Carbon Energy Systems
- Goran Majstrovic (EIHP): Analysis of Electricity Interconnection Capacities Available to Market Participants in Western Balkans Countries
- Dražen Balić (EIHP): 2050 Climate Neutral Energy System of the City of Zagreb
- Topics: adequacy analysis, regional modelling, grid development, technologies and concepts for zero carbon future, links between local and national level

- *Lunch break until 14:00*

- **Session 3 (14:00-15:15) – EIHP presentation**

- *Coffee break until 15:30*

- **Session 4 (15:30–17:00) – Research Challenges and Funding Gaps in EU13**

Moderator: Laurens de Vries (TU Delft)

- Keynote: Ivan Matejak (EERA) on Mobilization of EU13 national public research resources in the Clean Energy Transition: challenges and opportunities
- Contributions from Ana Maria Boromisa (IRMO, Croatia), Marko Delimar (Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, University of Zagreb), Vidas Lekavičius (Lithuanian Energy Institute)

Dinner at 19:00 in Zagreb City Centre.

22 May 2025

Workshop: Industrial Decarbonization and the Clean Industrial Deal

This full-day workshop is dedicated to exploring the interdependencies between industrial decarbonization and energy infrastructure development. You will get first hand insights on the European Clean Industrial Deal from the European Commission and shed light on joint international and national activities facilitating and guiding the industrial transition.

Thereby, we will also jointly reflect on the interdependencies between industrial decarbonization and energy infrastructure development and share our experiences and interactively elaborate how Energy System Integration activities can best meet the needs arising from the industrial transition and related innovations.

Agenda Highlights:

- *Walk-in coffee from 9:00 until 09:30*
- **Session1 (09:30–11:15) – The European Clean Industrial Deal and International Activities on Industrial Decarbonization**
 - Introductory words by Laurens de Vries (TU Delft) and Gustav Resch (AIT, Austria)
 - Keynote speech on the “Clean Industrial Deal and the R&I Flagship initiative under Horizon Europe” by Antonio Ferrandez Garcia (European Commission, DG Research & Innovation)
 - Presentation on the international Net-zero industries mission program by Bernhard Gahleitner (AIT, Austria)



- *Coffee break until 11:45*
- **Session 2 (11:45–13:00) – Insights on country-specific activities in Industrial Decarbonization 1**
 - This is the first of two sessions offering a deep dive on country-specific activities and peculiarities, aiming to explore synergies and best practices in facilitating and guiding the industrial transition.
 - The first country-related session includes presentations on:
 - The Netherlands (Laurens de Vries, TU Delft),
 - Belgium (Jelle Meus, KU Leuven),
- *Lunch break until 14:00*
- **Session 3 (14:00–15:15) – Insights on country-specific activities in Industrial Decarbonization 2**
 - We continue with our deep dive on country-specific activities and peculiarities related to industrial decarbonization, including presentations on:
 - Austria (Bernhard Gahleitner, AIT),
 - Norway (Mohammad Mansouri, NORCE)
 - Bulgaria (Remina Aleksieva, FEB University Sofia)
- *Coffee break until 15:45*
- **Session 4 (15:45–17:00) –Industrial Decarbonization and Energy Infrastructure Development: Challenges and Interdependencies**
 - The last session aims for exploring challenges in as well as interdependencies between industrial decarbonization and energy infrastructure development, including presentations on:
 - Infrastructure for a climate neutral Europe’s chemical industry (Pieter Vingerhoets, VITO)
 - Challenges and interdependencies between industrial decarbonization and energy infrastructure planning (Gustav Resch, AIT)
 - This closing session of our workshop offers sufficient room for your view on the above and we much look forward to a lively discussion.

Dinner at 19:00 in Zagreb City Centre.

23 May 2025 (for ESI Members only)

EERA JP ESI Steering Committee Meeting (Hybrid)

Main agenda items:

- Quick overview of the 2024 Annual Report
- Approval of Financial Report 2024 and updates on Budget 2025
- Discussion on ESI Membership Fees
- Organisation of the Brussels Research Meets Policy Conference (23 Oct 2025)
- Strategic input on the 2026/2027 Horizon Europe Work Programme
- Future projects: CETP Partnership <https://cetpartnership.eu/calls/joint-call-2025/cm2025-02>
- AOB





We warmly encourage all EERA members to take part in this strategic event, fostering dialogue, knowledge exchange, and new partnerships to drive Europe's sustainable energy future.

👉 **Event details and registration:** [EERA JP ESI Spring Event in Zagreb](#)

