ENERGY: POLITICAL ECONOMY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Annual Event of the Spanish Committee of the World Energy Council

Repsol Campus

November 17th 2016
The Spanish Committee of the World Energy Council (CECME) celebrates a new edition of its now traditional Annual Conference under the title “Energy: Political Economy and Sustainable Development”. The event will be held on November 17th at the Auditorium of the Repsol Campus in Madrid.

This meeting is known for its dynamic format and strong international slant and is being organized by CECME and the Spanish Energy Club (Enerclub), with the valuable support of Real Instituto Elcano (RIE) and Repsol’s sponsorship.

The conference will tackle a wide range of different subjects, all of which need to be analyzed from a global and multidisciplinary perspective. To this end, top panelists - coming from both Spanish and international institutions of recognized prestige, not only in the energy sector but also in the economic, political, and social fields - will participate in the different sessions. Moreover, the leaders of the member companies of CECME will also share their thoughts during the debates.

In the Opening Session, we will have the pleasure of welcoming Alberto Nadal, the acting Secretary of State for Energy (Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism), and also Antonio Brufau, Borja Prado and Emilio Lamo de Espinosa, Presidents of Repsol, Enerclub, and RIE respectively.

During the Plenary Session, H.E. Eng. Fatima Al Foora Al Shamsi, Assistant Undersecretary for Electricity and Future Energy from the Ministry of Energy of United Arab Emirates and Secretary General of the WEC United Arab Emirates Committee, will stage a debate with the Chair of CECME, Arturo Gonzalo, and comment on the mayor challenges of the international agenda.

Monographic Session 1: Conclusions of the XXIII World Energy Congress

The World Energy Congress, celebrated every three years, is considered the most relevant event of the energy sector at global level. This Congress enables dialogue among Energy Ministers and leaders from business, finance and academia around the world who seek options for delivering sustainable energy systems.

Under the theme “Embracing New Frontiers”, the 23rd World Energy Congress was held in Istanbul last October 9-13. The main conclusions of this meeting will be shared with the audience in this session.
Round Table 1: The Political Economy of Energy Prices

The political economy of energy analyzes the interactions between political and economic drivers. Energy prices have clear economic and political implications for both producers and consumers. From the producers’ perspective, the drop in oil prices has deteriorated their economies and stressed the implicit social contract in many of them, according to which participation in oil rents granted economic legitimation, reducing the need for political concessions. On the side of the consumers, prices also affect political balances: higher prices require subsidies that in many cases are fiscally unsustainable and reduce economic growth, affecting the political and social climate; meanwhile, lower prices stimulate the economy and provide a window of opportunity to reduce subsidies.

Over the last years, energy prices have played a key role in the development of political events of the first magnitude. The energy crisis in Egypt played an important role in the overthrow of President Morsi and the drop in oil prices has led Venezuela to a difficult political situation. The political economy of energy suggests that during periods of price volatility, competition for energy rents becomes more intense among political actors. Changes in prices create winners and losers both at national and international level, altering national political economy balances and regional geopolitics. For industrial consuming countries, the change in energy prices results in percentage variations in the growth rate, but for the consuming countries under development that are still today heavily subsidizing energy and to several producers what is at stake is the survival of their political regimes.

Round Table 2: Energy in the Sustainable Development Goals

In September 2015, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) were launched in the General Assembly of the United Nations. This is certainly a milestone in the global development agenda, as the SDGs are aimed at framing the development and international assistance processes and strategies for the next decade and half. The SDGs replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), approved in the early 2000s. SDGs are composed of 17 goals and 169 targets and a number of potential tracking indicators that are still to be defined.

The new goals trespass the boundaries of the social aspects of human development and include many sorts of economic, political, institutional and social interlinked dimensions of development. The agenda is therefore acknowledging the complexity of development processes where stakeholders range from national governments, traditional donors and civil
society organizations to transnational companies, research centres or local start-ups; and where public and private policies involved go well beyond international cooperation.

This vision takes into account, among other issues, the role of energy in development processes and strategies. Specifically, goal 7 is to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, with a clear mandate for development cooperation activities (target 7a) but also for infrastructure, technological and energetic policies (target 7b).

Moreover, as a result of both the fusion of the development and sustainability agendas, on the one hand and, on the other, the interconnections between goals and targets belonging to different dimensions, several goals and targets affect the energy dimension. This would be the case, for instance, of goals on responsible production and consumption (12); on sustainable cities (11); or industry, innovation and infrastructure (9).

Monographic Session 2: Spain in the World Energy Issues Monitor

The WEC project titled “World Energy Issues Monitor” has become a strategic element of the CECME’s annual work program. This initiative identifies those international energy issues that most concern the industry leaders, ranking them according to their impact, urgency and uncertainty level.

In this session, the Secretary General of CECME, Marta Camacho, will present the results of the fourth edition of this project carried out at a national level, analyzing them together with those corresponding to the European and global levels.

Finally, the Closing Ceremony will include the presence of Rafael Estrella, Vicepresident of RIE, along with the Chair of CECME.
9:00
ATTENDANCE REGISTRATION

9:30
OPENING SESSION

Antonio Brufau Niubó
Chairman
REPSOL

Borja Prado Eulate
President
SPANISH ENERGY CLUB

Emilio Lamo de Espinosa
Chairman
REAL INSTITUTO ELcano

Alberto Nadal Belda
Secretary of State for Energy (acting)
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, ENERGY AND TOURISM
GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN

10:00
PLENARY SESSION:

H.E. Eng. Fatima Al Foora Al Shamsi
Assistant Undersecretary for Electricity and Future Energy
MINISTRY OF ENERGY OF UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
Secretary General
WEC UNITED ARAB EMIRATES COMMITTEE

Arturo Gonzalo Aizpiri
Chair
SPANISH COMMITTEE OF THE WORLD ENERGY COUNCIL

10:30
MONOGRAPHIC SESSION I
CONCLUSIONS OF THE XXIII WORLD ENERGY CONGRESS

Claudia Cronenbold
Vice Chair for the Latin American & Caribbean Region
WORLD ENERGY COUNCIL

11:00 COFFEE BREAK

11:30
ROUND TABLE I – THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF ENERGY PRICES

Moderator
Paulina Beato Blanco
Secretary of the Board of Trustees
IBERO-AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR COMPETITIVENESS AND PRODUCTIVITY

Speakers
Giacomo Luciani
Professor
GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF GENEVA

Bassam Fattouh
Director
OXFORD INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY STUDIES

Claudia Cronenbold
Vice Chair for the Latin American & Caribbean Region
WORLD ENERGY COUNCIL

Front Row Participants

Juan Antonio Vera García
Chief Operations Officer
CEPSA

José María Egea Krauel
Managing Director of Energy Planning
GAS NATURAL FENOSA

Josu Jon Imaz San Miguel
Chief Executive Officer
REPSOL

Claudio Rodríguez Suárez
Vicepresident
SEDIGAS

Pedro González González
Director of Regulation and Economic Affairs
UNESA
13:00 DEBATE

13:15 COCKTAIL

14:30
ROUND TABLE II – ENERGY IN THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Moderator
Ilíana Olivié Aldasoro
Senior Analyst International Cooperation & Development
REAL INSTITUTO ELCANO

Speakers
Scott Foster
Director Sustainable Energy Division
UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE (UNECE)

Germán Ríos
Corporate Director of Strategic Affairs
DEVELOPMENT BANK OF LATIN AMERICA (CAF)

Duncan Millard
Head, Energy Data Centre
INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY

Front Row Participants
Francisco Pablo de la Flor García
Director
ENAGAS

María Malaxechevarría Grande
General Manager of Sustainability
ENDESA

Carlos Sallé Alonso
Director of Energy Policy and Climate Change
IBERDROLA

Olivier Bècle
Power Generation Director
SIEMENS

Francisco Rodríguez López
Director General of Regulation and Institutional Relations
VIESGO

16:00 DEBATE

16:15
MONOGRAPHIC SESSION II- SPAIN IN THE WORLD ENERGY ISSUES MONITOR

Marta Camacho Parejo
Secretary General
SPANISH COMMITTEE OF THE WORLD ENERGY COUNCIL

16:45
CONCLUSIONS & CLOSING CEREMONY

Rafael Estrella Pedrola
Vicepresident
REAL INSTITUTO ELCANO

Arturo Gonzalo Aizpiri
Chair
SPANISH COMMITTEE OF THE WORLD ENERGY COUNCIL

17:00
END OF THE MEETING
Information and registration

Venue

REPSOL CAMPUS
Méndez Álvaro, 44
28045 Madrid - Spain

Registration

On-line registration only (www.enerclub.es). Once you submit your registration request you will receive an automatic response of receipt from the system (please note this is not a confirmation of registration). It is mandatory to get another email from Enerclub (basedatos@enerclub.es) confirming your registration.

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Email: basedatos@enerclub.es
www.enerclub.es

Registration Fees

Free registration
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EXECUTIVE ASSOCIATES

WORLD ENERGY COUNCIL COMITÉ ESPAÑOL

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