



Fraktion der Europäischen Volkspartei (Christdemokraten) im Europäischen Parlament
Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) in the European Parliament
Groupe du Parti Populaire Européen (Démocrates-Chrétiens) au Parlement européen

Energy

The EU is facing serious energy challenges concerning sustainability, greenhouse gas emissions, security of supply, import dependence and the competitiveness of its internal energy market. The EPP Group believes that a European Energy Policy is the most effective response to these challenges, which are faced by all Member States.

As energy is everywhere in our lives, the EPP Group defends three main core principles for customers and for businesses:

- **Competitiveness** - to improve the efficiency of the European energy grid by creating a truly competitive internal energy market;
- **Sustainability** - to actively combat climate change by promoting renewable energy sources and energy efficiency;
- **Security of supply** - to better coordinate the EU's supply and demand for energy within an international context.

More competitiveness by completing the energy market liberalisation

By supporting the 'Third Energy Package', the EPP Group played a crucial role in completing the energy markets liberalisation process in Europe, a political priority of our Group to build a more open and competitive market with more benefits for European consumers. In a series of keynote reports the Group worked hard to promote the objectives of a more secure, competitive and sustainable energy supply. For example, the Group ensured that non-EU companies should comply with the same unbundling requirements as EU companies.

Sustainability through energy efficiency policy and renewables

The EPP Group recognises energy efficiency as a valuable instrument to tackle climate challenges. We successfully encouraged minimum energy performance standards applying to a wide range of areas from household goods (fridges, light bulbs, air conditioning), to industrial equipment, buildings, power generation and distribution and transport. Reflecting the Group strategy, the EP position made clear that changes in consumption patterns both at state and individual level are required.

Moreover, the Renewable Energy Directive establishes a common framework for the promotion of renewable energy sources. It sets a binding target of a 20% share of renewables in Community energy consumption by 2020 and establishes binding national targets for each Member State. It also sets a 10% binding target for renewable energy in transport to be achieved by each Member State by 2020.

The EPP Group attaches great importance to promoting low carbon EU economy and to the question of how to face future oil challenges. As one central element of a better market transparency, the Group calls for clear data on existing oil stocks as well as reserves and resources.

Finally, the Group strongly believes that the energy mix is to be decided at national level, according to the situation of the Member State. Therefore, nuclear energy can be considered as a valid option.

Ensuring security of gas supply

The EPP Group considers the security of gas supply regulation a priority for this legislature. The new regulation ensuring more security of gas supply has been beefed up by the European Parliament and the EPP Group rapporteur. We are looking forward to minimising the EU's vulnerability concerning imports, shortfalls in supply, energy crises and uncertainty with respect to future supply. The Group put much effort in ensuring that the new regulation safeguards the security of energy supplies and that there are genuine EU emergency measures based on the principle of solidarity. The EPP Group is also of the view that opening up the markets is one way of guaranteeing a secure energy supply because it creates the stable, competitive environment in which companies invest.

European Commissioner for Energy Günther Oettinger: http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/oettinger/index_en.htm

European Commission - DG Energy: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/energy/index_en.htm