

DECARBONIZATION OF SLOVAK ECONOMY 2021

29.11.2021 – 3.12.2021

MONDAY (29.11.2021, 10:00-12:00): COSTS AND BENEFITS OF GREEN TRANSFORMATION

European Commission has set up a legal framework to help Member States reach climate targets – Fit for 55 package. It sets out measures, which will have a significant impact on people's daily lives. While the governments primarily mention the costs of the reduction of emissions, the benefits of a greener and more resilient economy are being somewhat overlooked.

- Which benefits will the green transformation bring to the business sector and to the citizens?
- How do we ensure that both business and citizens shall profit from the reduction of emissions?
- How do we increase citizens' trust in the green transformation?

Discussion will be held in Slovak and in English language simultaneously.

Speakers:

- **Lívía Vašáková**, Adviser to the Prime Minister and Director General of the Recovery Plan Section
- **Marek Senkovič**, CEO of Slovnaft, a.s.
- **Zdeněk Čech**, Head of Economic Analyses, European Commission in the SR
- **John Murton**, UK COP26 Envoy

Moderated by **Radovan Geist**, publisher EURACTIV Slovakia.

TUESDAY (30.11.2021, 10:00-12:00): WILL SLOVAK INDUSTRY BE PUSHED TO THE EUROPEAN PERIPHERY?

In order for Slovakia to keep up with the current levels of industrial production, it inevitably needs to innovate. Investment decisions must be made now, for which stable regulatory and legislative conditions are necessary.

- How much time do we have to make investment decisions in order for the Slovak industry sector not to lose its competitiveness?
- Which actors should bear the costs of new technologies?

Discussion will be held in Slovak and in English language simultaneously.

Speakers:

- **Mette Koefoed Quinn**, Head of Unit, ETS Implementation and IT, DG CLIMA, European Commission
- **Milan Zvara**, Director of the Department for Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Policy, Ministry of the Environment of the SR
- **Juraj Sabol**, General Manager for Strategy and Projects, U. S. Steel Košice
- **Kateřina Davidová**, Researcher, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy



Moderated by **Irena Jenčová**, Editor, EURACTIV Slovakia.

WEDNESDAY (1.12.2021, 10:00-12:00): DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY – DOES SLOVAKIA HAVE ANY PLANS FOR CLEAN ELECTRICITY AND HEATING?

Fossil fuels constitute too big of a burden in the form of climate crisis. At the same time, however, we are dependent on the import of fossil fuels from third countries. According to the European Commission, the crisis regarding gas and electricity prices represents a signal to speed up the process to develop renewable sources of energy (RES) and to decrease consumption.

- How to set up the RES development structure in terms of the new EU targets?
- Which renewable sources should be expanded, by how much and in which sectors?
- What is the situation regarding the grid connection?
- How to motivate citizens to participate and be involved in the energy transformation?

Discussion will be held in Slovak and in English language simultaneously.

Speakers:

- **Karol Galek**, State Secretary of the Ministry of Economy of the SR
- **Ján Karaba**, President of Slovak Association of Photovoltaic and Renewable Energy Industry
- **Zuzana Vrbová**, Strategist, ACT Commodities
- **Genady Kondarev**, Senior Researcher for Central and Eastern Europe, E3G

Moderated by **Michal Hudec**, Editor, EURACTIV Slovakia.

THURSDAY (2.12.2021, 10:00-12:00): RENOVATION OF BUILDINGS AS A PILLAR OF SLOVAKIA'S DECARBONIZATION

Policy makers and experts agree that the least expensive energy is such that is not produced. Slovak government intends to reduce emissions and save energy by using the National recovery and resilience plan and upcoming EU funds to renovate thirty thousand houses and thousands of public buildings.

- What are the main obstacles and risk factors in the implementation of Slovakia's ambitious plans in the buildings' sector?
- What may be the blind spots?

Discussion will be held in Slovak language only.

Keynote speech:

- **Michal Kiča**, State Secretary of the Ministry of Environment of the SR

Speakers:

- **Branislav Kaliský**, Advisor to the Minister of Environment of the SR
- **Michal Maco**, Director of Slovak Environment Agency
- **Ľubica Šimkovicová**, Institute for Passive Houses Slovakia
- **Richard Paksi**, Analyst, Buildings for the Future

Moderated by **Irena Jenčová**, Editor, EURACTIV Slovakia.

FRIDAY (3.12.2021, 10:00-12:00): TRANSFORMATION OF AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR

Automotive industry is a backbone of the Slovak economy and Slovakia makes the most cars per capita in the world. However, in the years to come, automotive industry is about to undergo a massive transformation. Decarbonization and automation, as well as new proposals by the European Commission, will speed up the process of developing electric vehicles and batteries. Despite obvious trends, Slovakia lacks specific plans and visions how to transform its domestic automotive sector. Strategies how to transform regions with high dependence on car manufacture are also missing.

- How are other European countries faring with the transformation of their automotive sectors?
- What are the main principles of transformation? Which mistakes should be avoided?
- Where is the discussion about the future of car manufacture in Slovakia at?
- What could the national governments do? How could they halt the negative effects of transformation and, on the other hand, support the positive ones?

Discussion will be held in Slovak language only.

Speakers:

- **Petr Dolejší**, Mobility & Sustainable Transport Director, European Automobile Manufacturers' Association
- **Alexander Matušek**, President, Automotive Industry Association of the Slovak Republic
- **Milan Jurky**, Director, Schaffler Kysuce
- **Monika Sitárová**, CCMI Vice-President in the European Economic and Social Committee, Head of the International Department, OZ KOVO
- **Monika Martišková**, Researcher, Central European Labour Studies Institute

Moderated by **Michal Hudec**, Editor, EURACTIV Slovakia.



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