

9th Athens Conference on European Energy Law and Policy

Charting the Legal and Regulatory Dimensions of the Energy Transition

December 12th, 2025

WELCOME REMARKS

10:00 am—10:30 pm

Prof. Dr. Antonis Metaxas

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens; Chairman, Hellenic Energy Regulation Institute (HERI); Vis. Professor, TU Berlin; Managing Partner, Metaxas & Associates Law Firm

Prof. Dr. Jochen Mohr

Chair of Civil Law, Competition Law, Energy Law, Regulatory Law and Labour Law, Universität Leipzig; Managing Director, Berlin Institute for Energy and Regulatory Law E.V. (EnReg)

Prof. Dr. Ignacio Herrera Anchustegui

Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Bergen (UiB); Head of the Research Group for Climate, Energy and Environmental Law, UiB ; Member of the Bergen Center for Competition Law & Economics (BECCLE) and Bergen Offshore Wind Centre (BOW)

Prof. Dr. Mary Mitsi

Assoc. Professor in Commercial Law and International Arbitration, Director of Executive Education, Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London (QMUL)

[TIME ZONE: ATHENS/EET/CET+1/GMT+2]



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**Hellenic Energy
Regulation Institute**

**Queen Mary
University of London**
Centre for Commercial Law Studies

PANEL I

Aggregation and Storage as Climate Action Catalysts: From RES & BESS to CCS

Chair: Prof. Ignacio Herrera Anchustegui

Professor, Faculty of Law , UiB; Head of the Research Group for Climate, Energy and Environmental Law, UiB; Member of the Bergen Center for Competition Law & Economics (BECCLE) and Bergen Offshore Wind Centre (BOW)

10:30 am - 10:45am **Marios Andrikopoulos** - Head of Legal Affairs, enerwave

Title of presentation pending

10:45 am -11:00 am **Stella Zacharia** - Chief Executive Officer, Optimus Energy

Elena Kalogeropoulou - BESS Development Manager, Optimus Energy

“Discussion on BESS Optimisation Contracts”

11:00 am - 11:15 am **Dr. Philippe Vassilopoulos** - Director of Product Development & Algorithms, EPEX Spot

“Recent Developments in the European Power Markets”

11:15 am - 11:30 am **Olga-Maria Kyritsi** - Senior Legal Counsel, BayWa r.e. EMEA

“Legal updates regarding the Greek storage landscape”

11:30 am - 11:45 am **Dimitris Rachiotis** -Head of Regulatory and EU Affairs, EUNICE

“The role of BESS Systems as a Catalyst for Energy Transition and Climate action – Interactions with RES and Aggregation”

11:45 am - 12:00 pm **Apostolos Saltas** - Head of Renewable Energy Sources Department , DEPA S.A.

Title of presentation pending

PANEL II

Technological Innovation & Advanced Energy Systems

Chair:

12:10 pm - 12:25 pm **Dr. Lisa Kappler** - Associate Partner, Gleiss Lutz (Stuttgart)

“Sustainable Aviation Fuels – Regulatory Framework and Compliance”

12:25 pm - 12:40 pm **Dr. Stefan Schröder** - Partner, Freshfields (Düsseldorf)

Dr. Hendrik Wessling - Principal Associate, Freshfields (Düsseldorf)

“Developing Germany's Transmission Grid Infrastructure Between Regulated Return on Equity and Public Interest: A Race for Investment and Fair Prices”

12:40 pm - 12:55 pm **Dr. Diego Manuel Cebreros Saettone** - Postdoctoral Researcher, Centrale Supelec, Université Paris Saclay

“Regulatory Challenges for Integrating Levering EVs as Assets to Decarbonize Electricity Systems”

12:55 pm - 13:10 pm **Sofia Michelaki** - Chief Officer of Legal Affairs & Governance, DESFA

“From Network Operators to Climate Accelerators: The Evolving Role of TSOs in the Legal Framework for Renewable Gases and CO₂ Transportation.”

13:10 pm - 13:25 pm **Dr. Maria Lykidi** - Senior Research Fellow, Hellenic Energy Regulation Institute; Responsible of Compliance & Operational Risk Management Unit, Hellenic Energy Exchange S.A."

“Is the Nuclear Renaissance Here? Small Modular Reactors and their Contribution in the Energy Transition”

13:25 pm - 13:40 pm **Dr. Le Wen** - Senior Lecturer, Economics Department, University of Auckland Business School (New Zealand)

“Energy Transition at the Edge: New Zealand’s Decarbonisation Pathways”

LUNCH BREAK

13:50 pm - 14:30 pm

PANEL III

Energy & Shipping Dispute Resolution

Chair: Dr. Mary Mitsi

Assoc. Professor in Commercial Law and International Arbitration, Director of Executive Education, Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London (QMUL)

14:30 pm - 14:45 pm **Dr. Filip Saranovich** - Director of International Maritime Law, Queen Mary University of London

“Charterparty Disputes and Contract Interpretation in Shipping law”

14:45 pm - 15:00 pm **Paul Hayes, KC** - 39 Essex Chambers (London)

“Procedural Innovations in Energy Disputes: Virtual Hearings and Digital Evidence”

15:00 - 15:15 pm **Vassiliki Koumpli** - Senior Research Fellow, Hellenic Energy Regulation Institute; Senior Associate, Watson Farley & Williams (Athens)

“The ICJ Advisory Opinion on Climate Change: A new lens for energy investment arbitration”

15:15 pm - 15:30 pm **Dr. Björn Ebert** - Associated Partner/Rechtsanwalt, Gleiss Lutz (Stuttgart)

“Energy Transition Disputes – Challenges in Offshore Windfarm Arbitrations”

Roundtable Discussion:

Voluntary Meets Compliance | The Next Chapter for the EU ETS and Carbon Removal Markets

15:40 pm - 16:10 pm

Mary Gilmore-Maurer - Legal Director, Verra discusses the global VCM and Verra's role

Christian Holzleitner, Head of Unit for Land Economy and Carbon Removals, Directorate-General for Climate Action, European Commission, discusses the EU Carbon Removal Certification Framework (CRCF) and the EU ETS.

Petros Varelidis - Secretary General, Natural Environment & Waters, Hellenic Ministry of Environment & Change, discusses the prospects of a Greek VCM

Discussants:

Dr. Sofia Tzortzi - Senior Research Fellow, Hellenic Energy Regulation Institute

Maria Charontaki - Senior Associate, Metaxas & Associates Law Firm

PANEL IV

Reforming EU State Aid Rules as a Driver for Innovation and Energy Transition

Chair:

Prof. Dr. Antonis Metaxas

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens; Chairman, Hellenic Energy Regulation Institute (HERI); Vis. Professor, TU Berlin; Managing Partner, Metaxas & Associates Law Firm

16:10 pm - 16:25 pm **Jan Papsch** - Deputy Head of Unit COMP.B3 (Energy and Environment - State aid II), European Commission

“The Clean Industrial Deal State Aid Framework (CISAF)”

16:25 pm - 16:40 pm **Prof. Dr. Caroline Buts** - Professor of Business & Economics, Brussels Centre for Competition Policy - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Dr. Seppe Maes - PhD Researcher & Teaching Assistant, Brussels Centre for Competition Policy, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Title of presentation pending

16:40 pm - 16:55 pm **Prof. Dimitrios Kyriazis** - Professor, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; Managing Partner, Kyriazis Law Offices

“Fiscal State Aid via Energy and Environmental Taxation: A Return to National Autonomy”

16:55 pm—17:10 pm **Marianne Clayton** - Partner, Clayton & Segura (Brussels)

“Price Relief Measures for Energy Intensive Users—Section 4.5 CISAF”

17:10 pm –17:25 pm **Efstathia Pantopoulou** - Case Handler, DG COMP, European Commission

“Recovery of Unlawful and Incompatible State aid: Implications for National Authorities and Energy Companies”