

Tallinn e-Energy declaration

We, the signatories to this Declaration,

Emphasising the importance of the Paris Agreement, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the role of the European Union through in staying at the forefront of the global efforts to combat climate change supported by its on-going transition to a low carbon economy;

Welcoming the efforts of the Energy Union to ensure secure, sustainable, competitive and affordable energy and the current work on the Clean Energy Package legislation to achieve these objectives;

Recognising the need to facilitate the fulfilment of the EU 2030 energy and climate targets;

Acknowledging the paramount role of increased energy efficiency, enhanced uptake of renewable energy, and active consumers in the energy market in the clean energy transition in Europe;

Fully aware of the challenges that the energy sector faces in achieving the ambitious transformation needed for global climate action and in being an even more inclusive and dynamic economy;

Noting that a shift towards more decentralised and variable solutions will alter conventional energy production, distribution and consumption;

Recognising the vast potential of digital solutions in the energy sector and the need for better cooperation across all sectors for delivering on our common energy and environmental objectives;

Underlining that digitalisation of the energy sector empowers consumers, facilitates the emergence of prosumers, demand side response solutions and the uptake of break-through technologies and benefits all market participants;

Recognising that deploying digital solutions is most effective through sharing best practices and making use of various financing possibilities;

Stressing the need for major investments in digital energy infrastructure to enable the uptake of digital solutions in the energy system and to ensure its protection against cyber threats;

Highlighting that the potential of better data use and exchange has to be tapped, by ensuring full interoperability between systems, while abiding by the provisions of European personal data protection rules,

Taking note of the activities and progress that Member States and private sector entities have already made to transform their energy systems and deploy innovative solutions such as rolling out



smart grids and smart meters, implementing data exchange platforms, facilitating demand side response and balancing measures, and promoting the uptake of electric vehicles and other means of efficient transportation;

Convinced that the efforts both by public and private stakeholders are essential in facilitating the clean energy transitions through digitalising the European energy sector.

1. **Undertake** to be open and welcoming towards digitalisation of the energy sector and the changes, innovation and new business models it brings.
2. In particular, we **will strive** to:
 - make full use of existing infrastructure and unleash the full potential of renewable energy sources and energy efficiency;
 - facilitate the fulfilment of EU energy and climate goals by promoting the deployment of innovative, digital technology solutions;
 - contribute to a more secure and diversified energy supply, well-functioning of the internal energy market, and greenhouse gas emission reductions that are reached among others through improved energy efficiency, increased renewable energy uptake, accelerated R&D activities, and to support a competitive European economy with a strong industrial base;
 - build upon existing, identify and develop new innovative digital solutions that benefit the efficient functioning of energy systems and markets, in order to achieve maximum value from variable renewable energy sources, demand side response and smart energy efficiency tools;
 - present showcases and share results of existing best practices and initiatives as well as innovative ideas and projects that integrate energy and digital solutions in retail, distribution, transmission and production;
 - support and enable the spreading of innovative ideas across the EU, in particular based on R&D&I in the Horizon 2020 programme that aims at supporting interoperable smart homes, cities and grids, big data, cyber-security and innovative and interactive electricity networks;
 - take measures to integrate the benefits of European wholesale market to retail markets to empower consumers for more active involvement on demand side management, to enhance competition and reduce energy poverty;



- find synergies with other sectors and services, such as health and mobility, for the benefit of an innovative market for consumer energy services based on standards-compliant and interoperable smart homes and grids;
 - engage actively in preventing cyber threats in the energy sector by applying appropriate security measures;
 - take efforts to implement privacy and data security by design for new digital energy infrastructure;
 - ensure adequate means for engaging private sector expertise and investment.
3. Furthermore, we will work towards developing a strategy to address various interactions within the theme of digital energy and identify measures that could be taken to support the actions above, including:
- making the best use of existing and if necessary establishing appropriate forums and multistakeholder task forces, aimed at providing better public/private cooperation in attaining these goals;
 - regional pilot projects that combine digital solutions and energy management to test the digital energy system of the future at a systemic level;
 - ways to accelerate the spreading and uptake of innovative digital energy solutions, based on the support for R&D&I in national support programmes and Horizon 2020;
 - ways to identify the main opportunities and challenges that the digitalisation of the energy sector will face, with the main focus on setting possible priorities for the future European Union support programmes for R&D&I and infrastructure investment.

Political nature of the Tallinn e-Energy declaration

4. This document records a political intent alone. It does not establish any new legal commitments, replace, or modify any existing legal obligations with regard to the signatories or third persons.

