



Council of the European Union  
General Secretariat

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**NOTE**

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council on 16 March 2026: Mertens Forecast

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Delegations will find attached the Mertens Forecast for the TTE (Energy) Council.



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# MERTENS FORECAST

TTE (Energy) Council

16 March 2026

The **TTE (Energy) Council** will be held on **Monday, 16 March 2026** in Brussels. The Council will be chaired by Mr. Michael Damianos, Minister of Energy, Commerce, and Industry.

The European Commission will be represented by Mr. Dan Jørgensen, Commissioner for Energy and Housing.

The size of the delegations will be limited to 2+2 in the meeting room (Europa Building S5) and + 2 in the listening room (Europa Building S3.1).

The Council meeting will start at **09:30** with the adoption of the **agenda** and the **approval of the non-legislative 'A' items**.

At **9:45**, in public session, the Council will hold a policy debate on the **European Grids Package**. Delegations will be requested to limit their interventions to a maximum of 3 minutes.

Following that, at **11:30**, in a non-public session, the Council will have an exchange of views on the **Action Plan for Affordable Energy: A year on**. At the start of the discussion, the Director ad interim of ACER, Mr. Volker Zuleger will present the key developments in EU electricity and gas markets. Delegations will be requested to limit their interventions to a maximum of 2 minutes.

At **13:00**, the Council will break for lunch (Europa Building S9 right), which will include a discussion on the topic of **Accelerating clean energy investments for European competitiveness**. The Director ad interim of ACER, Mr. Volker Zuleger, and the Director General of the EIB (Projects Directorate), Ms Laura Piovesan, will attend the lunch and kick off the discussion with presentations. The format for lunch is 1 + 0.

The afternoon session will continue at **14:40** with an exchange of views in a non-public session on **Advancing mutual energy security through integration and shared lessons with Ukraine and Moldova**. The First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Energy of Ukraine, Mr. Denys Shmyhal, and the Minister of Energy of the Republic of Moldova, Mr. Dorin Junghietu, will participate in the exchange. Delegations will be requested to limit their interventions to a maximum of 2 minutes.

Under “any other business”, at **16:00** delegations will receive information from Austria on **Improving the Merit Order - Transparency and measures to address ETS pass-through in EU Day-ahead electricity prices**, in non-public session.

At **16:05** Hungary and Slovakia will inform about the **Security of oil supply implications of the disruption on the Druzhba oil pipeline**, in public session.

Following this, at **16:10**, Romania will present a point on the topic of **Improving the EU’s financing frameworks for nuclear energy in the EU**, in public session.

It is recalled that, for the items under “any other business”, Member States wishing to intervene are kindly requested to limit their interventions to 1 minute.

The **TTE (Energy) Council is expected to finish around 16:15**, to be followed by a press conference on the outcomes of the Council with Minister Damianos and Commissioner Jørgensen.