

EEW4 External Event Report

Title of the event: **The European Green Deal and the National Energy and Climate Plan in Greece**

<i>Date & location:</i>	20 October 2021, Zoom
<i>Organiser(s):</i>	EUFORES
<i>Summary of the event</i>	<p>Jan Geiss, Secretary General, EUFORES and Chair of the workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We would like to learn about your NPC and upgrade through the recovery plan. There is a lot to learn from you. Dionysia is a great ally of EUFORES, you are a chairperson of the Greek committee <p>Dionysia Avgerinopoulou, Member of the Hellenic Parliament and Chairperson, Special Permanent Committee of Environment Protection of the Hellenic Parliament</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This discussion is very timely, to promote RES and EE seeing the challenges we face today, CC, atmospheric pollution, health crisis. Today's webinar is organized in cooperation with EUFORES, and the committee of environmental protection. Our session will raise key political issues, energy transition and funding opportunities and increase in RES in our country. The recent increase of price of energy because of the price rise in oil, shows how much we are dependent on fossil fuels. We are a few days just before CO26 in Glasgow, Commission's fit for 55 packages will support the transition, it is intended for the entire EU community and coupled with the EU Green Deal, it will create a specific green development model to achieve the target of decreasing greenhouse emissions by 2030. And reach EU Climate Neutrality by 2050. We must undertake legislative initiatives to cut down on energy promotion for the benefit of everyone. Including houses businesses, SMEs.



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- Greece is staying ahead trying to participate as actively and responsibly for the ambition of EU, **we will do everything possible to keep our commitment maintaining the temperature under 1,5 degrees Celsius.**
- Greece has developed ambitious policy for decarbonization of the economy. We are stopping lignite, joined RES, our initial commitment was to **shut down lignite by 2028 but we are on track, and we will manage the decarbonization in 3-4 years.**
- We launched **new programmes for EE in our buildings.**
- RES are at the heart of the plan, which is the roadmap for the country.
- Greece has included large part **of RES and energy projects, this accounts for 48 %.**
- The **National Deforestation Plan has been launched with a budget of 100 million.** The cultural monument protection is another major project to protect the monuments from climate change.
- Today in the Greek parliament, we are finalizing bills of the energy and energy efficiency targets. **Greece has adopted the EE target regarding efficiency. Our target for consumption for 2030 has increased to 40 %, we peruse the penetration of RES across the economy.**
- We are moving on with a plan of a new climate bill, which will support our targets regarding energy neutrality. And revision review of national climate and energy plan. We have adopted a lot of initiatives for green responsible investment and innovation when it comes to RES sources.
- The discussion of the fit for 55 package, we have dedicated a lot of sessions of the committee of environment protection on the issue on energy.
- Part of fit for 55, will be **ship upgrading and ship efficiency. 100 % electric ships that we need to build.**

SESSION 1 Opening session: Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Antonis Marinos, Head of Office, General Secretariat for Energy & Mineral Resources, Ministry of Environment and Energy

- Today I will go in detail on the role of RES and EE for sustainable recovery in Greece.
- Last summer **climate change has become once again obvious** we saw devastating fires in Greece and EU, floods.
- We adopted a package of proposals to enable Member States to reach a higher target of CO2 reduction of 55 % by 2030.
- We will see a high increase in the use of RES and an increase EE targets.
According to figures: the overall production of RES is 55%, we will have zero emissions by 2045.



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- We are doing a high number of building renovation, to apply EE measures in buildings. **There will be 150.000 new jobs in construction alone. New target for EE raised to 49%.**
- **We have to increase RES penetration by 45 %, this is more than 60 % in electricity generation, and reduce pollutants.**
- Achieve energy saving in energy consumption and achieve these **targets for RES to 19 gigawatt.**
- **To reach the goal we are standing at 11 gig, for PV, the figure is achievable.**
- **Delignification of economy continues at a rapid pace, dropped to less 11 %.**
- While renewable energy is production and it's a market, **energy efficiency is a win-win situation for all parties involved and contributes to combat climate change. Everyone who is involved in energy efficiency wins, from all society levels.** We will continue to accelerate the increase of energy efficiency.
- **Through all programme funds we have 5 billion euros for EE in building alone in grants.**
- Regarding the resources and funds: during the next partnership agreement 21-27, **our ministry allocated another 6.2 billion on RES. About 1/3 of funding will be for the green circle project managed by the ministry.**
- It is an imperative we continue, and we strive for better results.

•European Green Deal on the Greek energy transition Hans van Steen, Deputy Director General, Coordination of the Just and Green Energy Transition, DG ENER, European Commission

- We began negotiations on the Fit for 55 package and we have an **important pipeline of proposals on buildings.**
- **Talking about the sharp increase in energy prices in electricity and gas which hit the headline, the Commission came with a communication on this with a toolbox on how to address this situation and to explain why this is happening.**
- **The increase in price, is linked to the increase demand for gas as the economic recovery is picking up after covid. We can notice that RES prices are lower and more stable than fossil fuels. This is another reminder of why we need to move faster towards the energy transition.**
- Green Deal, 75 % of energy consumption comes from energy so its good to talk about it. The Green Deal should be seen as a growth strategy. The energy sector should be transformed enormously. The objectives have been endorsed and now the targets are binding.
- With the Fit for 55 we are writing the right legislations that match these targets. This package puts a strain on legislators and MS.



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- **The first thing we have to do is to improve EE across all sectors in the value chain.** The package contains the Revision of the EED, important principle of EE first, we need to implement this target and make it binding at EU level.
- Buildings is super important; the timing is challenging.
- We need to look at how to optimise the energy system as such, we need to link what we are closely to the energy sector and what happens in industry, buildings, transport.
- **Greece is meeting its objectives for 2020 of 20% the RES share. Greece has set an ambitious target of 40% of RES in 2030. You are on track on RES with solar and wind.**
- We are pleased Greece has set a target for facing out of fossil fuels, which is hard seen the dependency on lignite.
- We are talking about significant investment projects in Greece.
- **The picture is different in EE, we could do more to tap the potential and the target set in the NCP is on the low side especially on building renovation.**
- **More could be done on the renovation of building and the financing directed to it. 1.3 billion to building renovation is what you want to allocate but it is not enough. Finding ways to diversify the financing.**

• 13:35 – 13:45 The role of the European legislation for the Greek renewable energy and energy efficiency policies Maria Spyraiki, Member of European Parliament

- Thank you, we work together o exchange views on how to proceed on fit for 55 package.
- I will start by making a comment on the energy prices, the increase of gas prices is caused by high natural gas prices and grow demand cause after the pandemic. The cost of fossil fuels has increased, the EU announced measures to alleviate pressure of the consumes.
- The energy mix is a national competence, it depends on the Nations to alleviate these prices too.
- With vulnerable infrastructure, the district heating will create future proof infrastructure, the target is achieving 55% of reduction of emissions is very important.
- EE can be as important as energy supply.
- Electrification: is important not only for constructing new capacities, to modernize infrastructure, an important condition for making electrification work is the availability of carbon free electricity, it must be affordable for business and homes. The CTS will be revised and will ensure carbon prices won't increase that quickly, but to expand RES supply and more will be needed to maintain affordable prices.



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- In conclusion the most important way to tackle climate change and to solve our issues is to focus on energy efficiency. Energy efficiency will use technologies that will help achieve energy savings. The previous directive was lacking on the implementation. Most of MS are now on board. Our binding targets of 3% of reduction in public building will be an opportunity to ensure an improvement.
- The revision of the building directive has to match the revised energy efficiency target, there is a need of comprehensive view and connection of building through a system with electrification powered by renewable energy. A new spatial framework for RES.
- We need to streamline the green legislation with EU legislation for investments, we need to provide predictability.
- We need to look at green hydrogen and introduce scale green public procurements in Greece. We need more and adapt fast; we need to monitor the implementation.
- Thank you

13h45 – 14h00: Questions from Members of the Hellenic Parliament

SESSION 2

Chair: Jan Geiss, Secretary General, EUFORES 14:00 – 14:10

Daniel Becker, Director, Guidehouse

- Since 2007 we have been collaborating in the **Energy Efficiency Watch, now we are at phase 4 where we focus on the narrative for well-designed policies in energy efficiency.**
- The matter of narratives has usually been underestimated. **The EU27 has succeeded in developing excellent policies for toolbox.**
- **But if we can create policies, why is it so hard to implement them?** Where is the political will? How to influence that?
- What we found speaking to stakeholders **is the matter of narratives which has been underestimated.**
- Regarding our findings, we have created two outputs in this narrative package. One was a survey where we asked experts in **EE what is the most important aspect when talking about EE? We found that Jobs rank the highest, thereafter Industrial Competitiveness and thirdly Modernization.**
- When we asked the relevance of Actor Groups in their opinion, Association of large industry and trade unions and chambers of Commerce.
- **We have also collected case studies from business stakeholder workshops to develop better narratives.**
- Among the main 10 narratives:



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1. Wanting to be a forerunner
 2. EE as integral optimization of production cycle
 3. Only talk about a real business case
 4. Transparent foundations for EE achievements
 5. Understand your clients: working with the image of technologies
 6. Just transition is compensation really needed?
 7. Communication is key- the role of stakeholder dialogues.
 8. Research innovation
 9. The right pace for workforce qualification
 10. Who is price sensitive and how to discuss cost distribution?
- I hope I could make you interested in our founding's.
 - We will present the results more in detail.

Yanna Nikou, Head of the Executive Authority of the PA, Energy Sector, Ministry of Environment and Energy

- We will present a programme we have been implementing in the past, since 2011. Programme for residential consumers and financing instruments.
- **We had several phases in the restoration in the private building sector.**
- The basic objectives of the project are that to **improve the energy efficiency of the housing building stock, the energy upgrade of a great number of households and the attraction to the programme of low-income households.**
- The main characteristics are a mix of incentives, subsidy of the given interest, set an energy target and eligible interventions.
- Financing and the private funding: maximum eligible budget of interventions including VAT does not exceed 25000 euros per property.
- **Between 2021 and 2022 we plan to finance EUR 1,35 billion RRF**
- With energy renovation of at least 105.000 households and incentives for energy poor households.

Kostas Komninos, Director, DAFNI Network of Sustainable Greek Islands

- Greece hosts a diverse number of islands, so this is a significant experience when it comes to **energy transition of the island.**
- I will take you to the island perspective, which gives an integrated idea of potential interventions and talk about the project "Challenges and opportunities for islands' clean energy transitioning".
- In Greece there are many interconnected islands that produce electricity, the average of the mainline system with strong incentives for decarbonised islands.



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- These systems often lack stability, and we need to take care that with decarbonization we still guarantee the energy safety of the systems and ensure a stable frequency in the island and avoid blackouts.
- Reflect peak periods. Several other challenges when it comes to islands the scenery and landscape is unique. Sensitive ecosystems. Problem water, additional energy.
- **We are working on the ‘Smart Islands Initiative’, our island Kythnos has been a living lab of technological innovation on clean energy transition.**
- It was the birthplace for wind parks in Europe. We created an **integrated systemic approach, when it comes to producing energy but also mobility solution and efficient street lighting but also power our transportation, water, and waste management**
- The **island’s transition in a smart and sustainable development model** brings local economic development.
- There is a declaration among island and Eu level, on the commitment of other islands.

Objective & main program me point

The main objective of the workshop was to trigger a fruitful discussion on the latest situation on energy efficiency and renewable energy sources development in Greece and more specifically the European Green Deal, the Climate Law and the Recovery Plan that will improve the status of the Greek National energy efficiency and renewable energy sources legislation and instruments. The discussion aimed for was between Members of the Greek and European Parliament, representatives of ministries, industry, NGOs, scientists and other stakeholders.

Another objective was that to introduce the EEW4 survey results to the Greek energy community in order to brainstorm on successful narrative development for the implementation of policies that aim at the energy transition.

Conclusions

The event presented the current situation for energy efficiency and renewable energies in Greece, and how they will be addressed via the National Energy and Climate Plans (NECP), considering the European Green Deal and Recovery Plan.

Greece is meeting its objectives for 2020 of 20% the RES share. Greece has set an ambitious target of 40% of RES in 2030 and is in track with solar and wind energy. We heard about the willingness to scale up PV and reach 19 gigawatts of production. The ambition is that to produce 45% of energy out of RES by 2030. Furthermore, there is willingness to shut down lignite by 2028. As part of fit for 55, Greece will be working on ship upgrading and ship efficiency to 100 % electric ships that we need to build and on smart islands initiatives.



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The picture is different in Energy Efficiency, according to the view of the Commission more could be done to tap the potential and the target set in the NCP is on the low side especially on building renovation at the moment. However, the ministry pointed out that during the next partnership agreement 21-27, the Greek ministry allocated another 6.2 billion on RES. About 1/3 of funding will be for the green circle project managed by the ministry.

Furthermore, there is awareness that Energy Efficiency will bring 150.000 new jobs in construction alone. New target for EE has been raised to 49%. More interventions during the workshop sustained the importance of energy efficiency as a win-win situation for all society level and it contributes to combat climate change.

The Second Session discussed success stories on implementing energy efficiency policies in Greece and good practices for boosting investments.

Program
me



WORKSHOP

The European Green Deal and the National Energy and Climate Plan in Greece

Organized in cooperation with the Hellenic Parliament

Wednesday 20 October 2021
13:00 – 17:30 – Athens time
(12:00 – 16:30 – Brussels time)

Online Conference
Working languages: English and Greek – simultaneous interpretation provided

13:00 – 13:05: Opening words
Jan Geiss, Secretary General, EUFORES and Chair of the workshop

13:05 – 13:15: Welcoming words
Dionysia Avgerinopoulou, Member of the Hellenic Parliament and Chairperson, Special Permanent Committee of Environment Protection of the Hellenic Parliament

SESSION 1
Opening session: Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency 13:15 - 14:00

Setting the Ambition for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Greece
The session will present the current situation for renewable energy and energy efficiency in Greece, and how they will be addressed via the National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP), considering the European Green Deal and Recovery Plan. The session intends to set the picture of the present and discuss the development of policies for the Greek renewable energy and energy efficiency system of the future.

Input speeches

- 13:15 – 13:25 The role of renewable energy sources and energy efficiency for a sustainable recovery and economy in Greece
Antonis Marinos, Head of Office, General Secretariat for Energy & Mineral Resources, Ministry of Environment and Energy
- 13:25 – 13:35 The impact of the EU's Clean Energy Package & the European Green Deal on the Greek energy transition
Hans van Steen, Deputy Director General, Coordination of the Just and Green Energy Transition, DG ENER, European Commission
- 13:35 – 13:45 The role of the European legislation for the Greek renewable energy and energy efficiency policies
Maria Spyrali, Member of European Parliament

13h45 – 14h00: Questions from Members of the Hellenic Parliament



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SESSION 2
Energy Efficiency 14:00 - 14:45

EU Energy Efficiency Policy Implementation in Greece
This session discusses success stories on implementing energy efficiency policies in Greece and good practices for boosting investments. Held as part of the Energy Efficiency Watch 4 project, the session aims at exploring the conditions and argumentative drivers for effective policies.

Chair: Jan Geijs, Secretary General, EUFORES

14:00 – 14:10 Energy Efficiency Watch 4 survey results and the impact of narratives on effective policy implementation
Daniel Becker, Director, Guidehouse

14:10 – 14:20 The Greek programme for energy efficiency in the private buildings sector
Yanna Nikou, Head of the Executive Authority of the PA, Energy Sector, Ministry of Environment and Energy

14:20 - 14:30 Energy efficiency priorities for energy transition on Greek islands
Kostas Kominos, Director, DAFNI Network of Sustainable Greek Islands

14:30 – 14:45 Questions from Members of the Hellenic Parliament

14:45 – 15:00 Break

SESSION 3
Energy Efficiency 15:00 – 16:00

Open discussion: enabling factors and barriers for implementing energy efficiency in Greece.
The Energy Efficiency Watch 4 project tries to create a better understanding of the national debate and motivation on efficiency policies and good practices. This session focuses on the influential narratives in Greece. Preliminary feedback received from business stakeholders in the project will form part of the discussion.

Chair: Jan Geijs, Secretary General, EUFORES

15:00 - 15:45 Expert Panel

Moderator: Daniel Becker, Director, Guidehouse

- **Yanna Nikou**, Head of the Executive Authority of the PA, Energy Sector,
- **Ministry of Environment and Energy**
- **Alice Corovessi**, Managing Director, Institute of Zero Energy Buildings
- **Dimitrios Athanasiou**, Energy Efficiency Policy Officer, DG ENER, European Commission

15:45 – 16:00: Questions from Members of the Hellenic Parliament



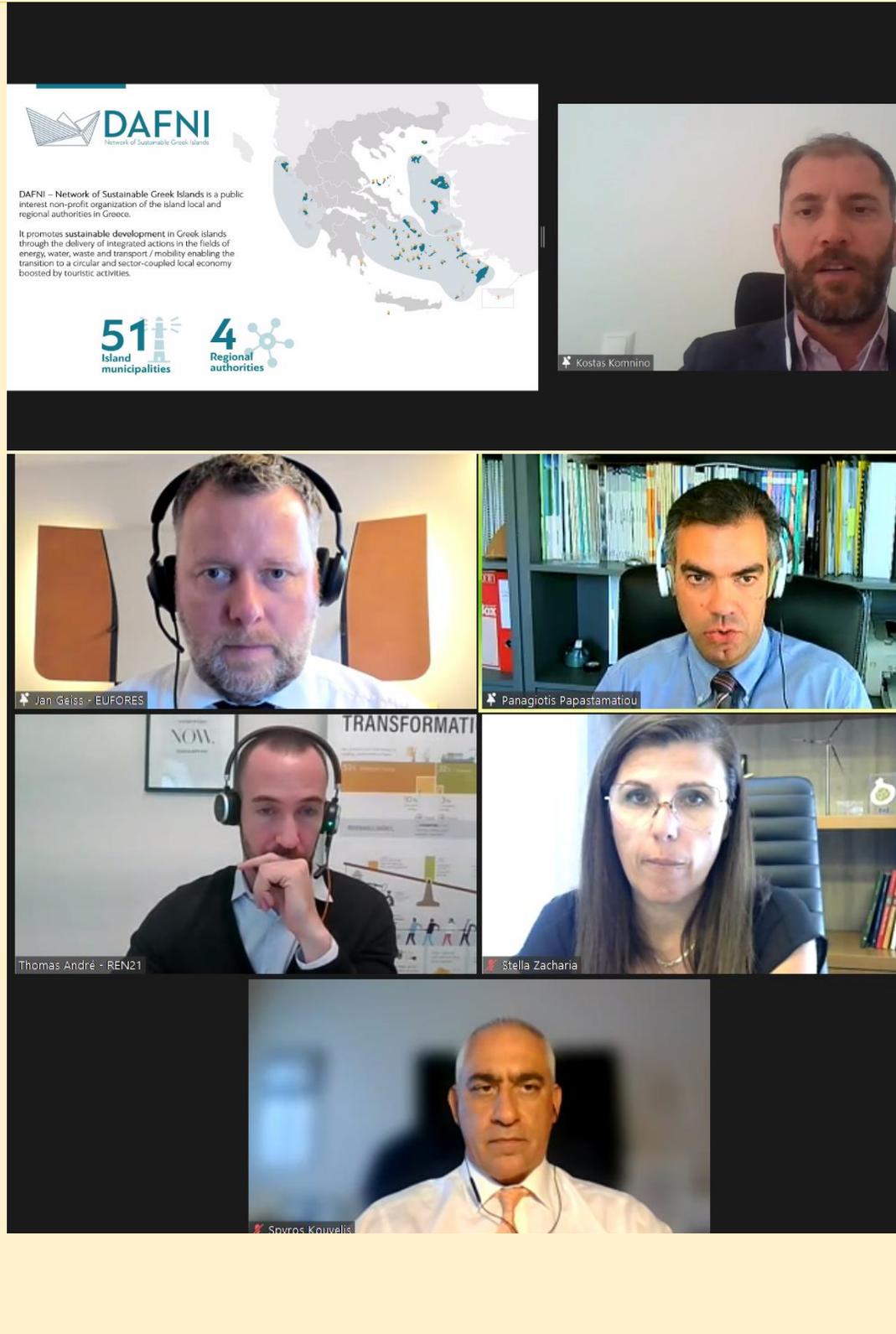
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ENERGY EFFICIENCY WATCH

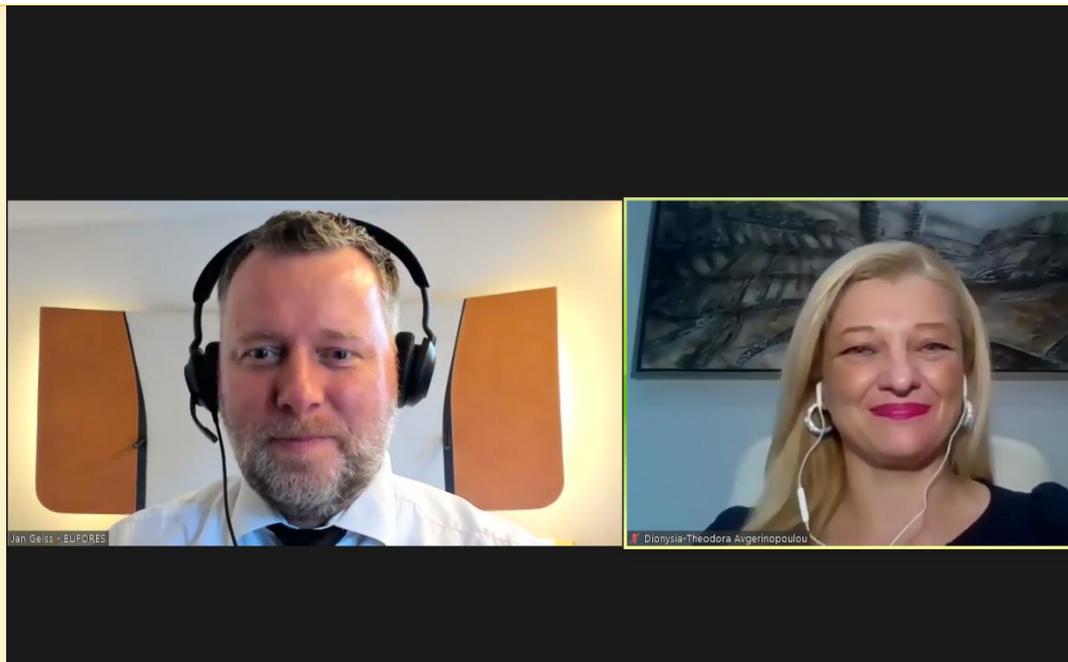
Pictures



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ENERGY EFFICIENCY WATCH



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