

European Economic and Social Committee pushes for European Energy Community

(26 January 2012) Referring to an idea of former EU Commission President Delors, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) adopted an opinion on the European Energy Community. This Community would make it easier for the EU to speak with one voice in external energy relations and also allow for joint purchasing of gas and other fuels. It would build on the internal market and strengthen it further with more inter-connections.

More ground breaking are the proposals to also have joint planning of production and supply. Regarding the energy mix, the EESC “also recommends making the most consistent and efficient choices at EU level. Groups of States could formally enter into enhanced cooperation based on priority infrastructure projects, interconnection and complementarity in energy production and supply.”

The EESC further supports that the European Commission undertakes work on energy poverty. The idea of the energy community implies a further step in the integration of the European Union and especially its energy policy.

The EESC is composed of trade union and employers representatives of all EU countries as well as so-called third interests. The [opinion is available in several languages](#)

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