

## The Greens/EFA – Policy Solutions public conference: The Russian Presence in the European Energy Market

Date: 16 February 2016 (Tuesday), 15.00 – 18.30  
Venue: European Parliament, Altiero Spinelli, A5E-1

Time	Program	Speakers
15.00 – 15.15	<b>Welcome coffee</b>	
15.15 – 15.30	<b>Opening statements</b>	<b>Benedek Jávor</b> Member of the European Parliament, Vice-Chair of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety
15.30 – 15.45	<b>Presentation: Policy Solutions' study on the Russian presence in the European energy market</b>	<b>Tamás Boros</b> Co-director of Policy Solutions Political Research Institute
15.45 – 16.45	<b>Expert panel: How does Russia influence the European energy market? What are the consequences of Russian companies' presence in Central and Eastern Europe?</b>	<b>András Deák</b> Associate Fellow at the Hungarian Institute of International Affairs  <b>Bronis Ropé</b> Member of the European Parliament, Lithuania  <b>Giedrius Česnakas</b> Vice Dean of the Faculty of Political Science and Diplomacy at Vytautas Magnus University in Lithuania  <b>Moderator: Benedek Jávor</b>
16.45 – 17.45	<b>Expert Debate: What is the European institutions' attitude towards Russia in energy policy? Russia in the European energy market: pragmatic cooperation or political threat?</b>	<b>Heidi Hautala</b> Vice Chair of the Group of the Greens/EFA, Member of the European Parliament  <b>Carl Hartzell</b> Senior Advisor at Cabinet of President Donald Tusk, European Council  <b>Mechthild Wörnsdörfer</b> Director for Energy Policy, DG Energy, European Commission  <b>Moderator: Rebecca Harms</b>
17.45 – 18.10	<b>Q+A session</b>	
18.10 – 18.30	<b>Closing remarks</b>	<b>Rebecca Harms</b> Co-President of the Greens / EFA group

## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The objective of the **Greens/EFA and Policy Solutions' joint conference** is to investigate and debate **Russian energy investments in the EU** and their overall impact.

As significant portion of **Russian FDI** are connected to **Russian energy exports**, the European institutions and **Member States** face several dilemmas. First, the crucial role of **Russian energy** for the European economy and the key role of **Russia** in European energy supply creates a dependence that can automatically undermine any sanctions regime against **Russia** and leaves Europe vulnerable. Second, the large and growing role of the **Russian state** in **Russian energy production and exports**, and hence the massive direct influence it wields over an industry that is so vital for the economic operations of the **EU**. Third, the fact that **Russian energy policy, exports and FDI** are near exclusively directed at either fossil fuels, which make up a vast majority, or nuclear energy, while renewables play no role. Hence growing **Russian investments** imply more fossil fuel distribution or increased nuclear energy production, neither of which meshes with the long term objectives of European energy production and the energy mix the **EU** wishes to attain.

The **Conference on the Russian Presence in the European Energy Market** starts with an opening address by **MEP Benedek Jávor**, followed by the presentation of a related study by **Policy Solutions**. The conference will feature two 1-hour panels. The first panel involves policy experts with knowledge of the role of **Russian-EU ties** in the area of energy. The second panel includes prominent representatives of different **EU institutions** bringing different perspectives to the debate. The conference will be closed by **Rebecca Harms**, **Co-President of the Greens/EFA group**.

The conference is open for all interested experts, journalists and politicians.