

Commission: Conseil des ministres de l'Énergie et de la Transition Écologique

Subject: Quelles solutions pour assurer une indépendance énergétique durable pour l'UE face à une remise en question de ses sources d'approvisionnement énergétique?

Author: Greece

Greece is a country located in southeastern Europe, situated on the Balkan Peninsula and surrounded by the Aegean, Ionian, and Mediterranean Seas. With a population of approximately 10.7 million people, it is rich in natural resources such as minerals, agricultural land, fisheries or renewable energy sources. The capital of this country is Athens. Greece is a parliamentary republic with a democratic system of government. The current constitution was adopted in 1975 and provides for a separation of powers among the executive, legislative, and judicial branches. The current president's name is Katerina Sakellariopoulou, elected in 2020.

Despite this, it still faces significant economic challenges, including high levels of public debt, low economic growth, and high levels of unemployment since 2009. Greece is a member of the European Union (EU) since 1981 and is one of the 19 countries that share the euro currency, known as the eurozone. Like other European countries, Greece's economy is closely integrated with the economies of its European neighbors through trade, investment, and financial flows. Greece's economic performance in recent years has been weaker than many other European countries, particularly those in northern Europe. This has led to tensions within the EU, with some countries, such as Germany, calling for Greece to implement more stringent economic reforms in exchange for financial assistance. Overall, while there have been some challenges in Greece's relations with other European countries, the country remains an important part of the European community and has continued to work closely with its EU partners on a wide range of issues.

Energy independence has been a key goal for many European countries, particularly in the wake of geopolitical tensions and concerns about energy security. The European Union has set ambitious targets for reducing its dependence on fossil fuels. European countries have been debating which solutions would be best to assure Europe's energetic independence.

Like many countries, Greece has shown a strong interest in reducing Europe's dependence on energy. This is particularly important for this country, which has historically been heavily dependent on energy imports, especially in the form of oil and gas. In recent years, it has taken steps to diversify its energy sources and increase its energy independence. Today, Greece proposes to its fellow European partners some solutions and initiatives in order to achieve their goal. Firstly they find it necessary to use renewable energy: Greece has been investing in renewable energy sources like wind, solar, and hydro power. The country has set a target to increase the share of renewable energy in its energy mix to 35% by 2030. This will help reduce Europe's dependence on fossil fuels, which are imported from other

countries. Greece has also implemented several energy efficiency measures to reduce energy consumption. This includes improving the energy efficiency of buildings, promoting the use of public transport, and encouraging the adoption of energy-efficient technologies. The country also makes a point on working to develop its natural gas resources to reduce Europe's dependence on gas imports from Russia. The country has been exploring for natural gas in the Aegean Sea and has also signed agreements with Cyprus and Israel for the development of natural gas fields in the Eastern Mediterranean. Greece's plan on becoming more independent energy wise includes working to improve the interconnectivity of its energy infrastructure with other European countries. This includes the construction of the Greece-Bulgaria Interconnector, which will allow Greece to export natural gas to Bulgaria and other Eastern European countries . Greece is also investing in energy storage technologies like batteries and pumped hydro storage. This will help balance the intermittency of renewable energy sources and provide more reliable and stable energy supply.

To conclude, despite Greece's difficult economic situation, it is still interested in proposing solutions and taking action in order to help Europe become more energy independent.