

## **Modernization of the EU electricity infrastructure and completion of EU Energy Union in order to gain energy independence**

*Adopted at the YEPP Council Meeting in Stockholm (Sweden), 09/04/2022*

### **Recognizing that:**

1. Energy Union is not possible without the proper electric infrastructure in the whole EU area.
2. The EU offers many different ways for the member states to fund the integration and update of the infrastructure.
3. The realisation of the European Energy Union helps to achieve the goals of the European Green Deal.
4. Increased cross-border and regional cooperation will help achieve the benefits of the clean energy transition at affordable prices.
5. As the ongoing war started by Russia has shown, the EU is too dependent on Russian energy.

### **Acknowledging that:**

1. According to the Clean energy for all Europeans package, wide range structural investments can be identified as Projects of Common Interest (PCIs), therefore they are eligible for EU funding.<sup>1</sup>
2. Connecting Europe Facility 2021-2027 (CEF) has a fund of €5,84 billion for member state projects to upgrade the existing and to develop new solutions for the energy transmission infrastructure.<sup>2</sup>
3. European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) also offers funding of €38 billion guarantee for projects concerning strategic infrastructure such as energy.<sup>3</sup>
4. EU Regulation 2019/953 ensures that barriers to cross-border electricity flow between member states and cross-border transactions on electricity markets shall be progressively removed.<sup>4</sup>



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5. The European Parliament and Council Directive 2019/944 requires that the transmission system operators create a ten-year development plan, where it should be said whether the current transmission infrastructure should be developed, taking into account trade with other countries and investment plans for Union-wide and regional networks. The member states can require the transmission system operators to execute the needed investments they agreed to do in the ten-year development plan, if they fail to do so. <sup>5</sup>

**YEPP calls on:**

1. The European Commission and the European Parliament to encourage the member states to take action in upgrading their electric infrastructure and applying for EU level funding for these projects.
2. The member states to take decisive actions in development of their electricity infrastructure.
3. The European Parliament as well as the member states to take necessary actions on ending dependency on Russian energy and gas immediately by replacing them with sustainable energy sources, such as solar, nuclear and wind energy.