

# Energy Investment Forum 2023 - Powered by MEKH program

## Registration

### Section I.: The big picture - Major energy challenges

Do we still have to fear security of supply risks, especially in the gas market, or can affordability and sustainability come back to the focus in the energy trilemma even as the war continues? What gas and electricity prices should we expect anyway, after the massive fall in prices since last summer? Based on the experience of the energy crisis, what strategic steps are needed at the EU and Hungarian level, for example in the context of the National Energy and Climate Plan under review and the extended Recovery and Resilience Plan? How can the share of gas in the Hungarian energy mix be reduced, and what grid development and energy storage tasks do electrification and the solar power boom impose on the system operators? How does the exploitation of domestic resources, such as gas extraction and the increased use of geothermal energy, help to increase energy sovereignty, and what regulatory and practical steps are needed to achieve this? The distinguished speakers in the first session will seek answers to these highly important, strategic questions.

**Moderator: Attila Weinhardt**, Senior Analyst, Portfolio

#### 08:30 - 08:40 Opening speech

Speaker:

**Zoltán Bán**, CEO, Net Média (Portfolio Csoport)

#### 08:40 - 09:10 EU energy prospects in the 2023/2024 winter season

Speaker:

**Matthew Baldwin**, Deputy Director-General, DG ENER (energy department of the European Commission)

**09:10 - 09:40 The present and future of Hungarian energy policy**

Speaker:

**Csaba Lantos**, Energy Minister, Energy Ministry

**09:40 - 10:00 Crisis and decarbonisation from a regulatory perspective**

Speaker:

**dr. Edit Juhász**, President, Hungarian Energy and Public Utility Regulatory Authority

**10:00 - 10:15 Green transition - The renaissance of infrastructure**

Speaker:

**Károly Mátrai**, CEO, MVM Group

**10:15 - 10:30 We are building the future of the energy world**

Speaker:

**dr. Guntram Würzberg**, elnök-vezérigazgató, E.ON Hungária Zrt.

**10:30 - 10:45 Presentation**

Speaker:

**Gergely Szabó**, Regional Chairman, MET Central Europe

**Coffee break**

**Section II/A.: Actual issues of energy efficiency, energy trade and decarbonisation**

Unconsumed energy is the cheapest - we have heard it so many times in the past decades, but with the amazing energy prices in 2022, this became especially true, which raised the question of energy efficiency investments to the first place for many, and this topic is covered from several aspects in the Section II/A. We will talk about the typical directions of companies' energy efficiency investments, electrification trends, decarbonization challenges and, of course, security of supply, which remains in focus.

**Moderator: Attila Weinhardt**, Senior Analyst, Portfolio

### **11:15 - 11:30 The role of capital in energy investments**

Speaker:

**József Tóth**, vállalati befektetési igazgató, Hiventures Zrt.

### **11:30 - 11:45 Energy efficiency vs. the market, i.e., is the energy not consumed really the cheapest?**

Speaker:

**Csaba Fekete**, Director of Business Development, Alteo

### **11:45 - 12:00 Energy procurement challenges for domestic companies and opportunities in energy trading**

Speaker:

**Levente Kovács**, Partner, energy market specialist, EY-Parthenon

### **12:00 - 13:00 Leaders' panel discussion: The joint challenges of energy efficiency, security of supply and decarbonization in Hungary**

Moderator: **Attila Weinhardt**, Senior Analyst, Portfolio

Conversation participants:

**Frigyes Endersz**, Director of Strategy and Sustainability, E.ON Hungária Zrt.

**Benjámín Feldmájer**, Sustainability Manager, Schneider Electric Zrt.

**László Kiss**, Director of Energy and Energy Efficiency, MET Central Europe, Hungary

**dr. Antal Kovács**, Communications director, MVM Paksi Atomerőmű Zrt.

**Attila Ságodi**, Lead Partner, EY-Parthenon and EY Energy Sector

**Viktor Sverla**, Head of Group Strategy, MOL Group

**Péter István Vedres**, Department of Sustainable Development Head of Department, Hungarian Energy and Public Utility Regulatory Authority

## **Section II/B.: The solar energy boom in Hungary and grid resilience**

There is a huge expansion in the solar power market in Hungary, which raises a wide range of supply, grid development, storage and commercial challenges and issues, and these are the questions that Session II/B will explore from several approaches. For example, the prospects for industrial and residential solar power projects under and pending authorisation, the challenges of transmission and distribution grid development, the export-import implications of severe fluctuations in weather-dependent power generation, the possibilities for demand-side management, the role of energy storage and aggregators, green hydrogen production, and all in all, the possibilities for increasing the resilience

of many elements of the system, and the constraints.

**Moderator: Kata Tóth**, Conference project leader, Portfolio

**11:15 - 11:30 Security of Energy Supply and Energy Diplomacy**

Speaker:

**Csaba Marosvári**, Hungary's Deputy State Secretary for Energy Security,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

**11:30 - 11:45 A new focus: renewables trade in HUPX markets**

Speaker:

**György Istvánffy**, Director of HUPX Markets, HUPX Zrt., CEO, HUDEX

**11:45 - 12:00 Evolution of the market for system-level services in the renewable electricity market**

Speaker:

**Géza Losonczy**, Associate Partner, Head of Energy & Utility Advisory Services,  
KPMG

**12:00 - 13:00 Flexibility panel: Innovation opportunities in the flexibility market and energy storage**

Moderator: **Richárd Hlavay**, Head of Communication Department, MAVIR  
Hungarian Transmission System Operator Co.

Conversation participants:

**Gergő Batta**, Deputy CEO for Operations, MAVIR

**Zsolt Bohner**, Managing Director, Messer Hungarogáz

**Levente Kovács**, Partner, energy market specialist, EY-Parthenon

**Gábor Králik**, Vice President for Energy, Hungarian Energy and Public Utility  
Regulatory Authority

**Kristóf Terhes**, Chairman, FGSZ Ltd.

**Lunch break & Networking**

**Section III/A.: Companies' energy procurement in the light of market prices**

There has been a huge fall in prices on gas and power exchanges since last summer, but how much longer can it last and what kind of price range is in prospect? This is of crucial importance for many companies, affecting production costs and thus competitiveness, so as the new gas year begins and the new electricity year approaches, Session III/A will look at the prospects for price developments and the directions of contractual arrangements, their opportunities and potential difficulties from the perspective of several players.

**Moderator: Attila Weinhardt**, Senior Analyst, Portfolio

**14:00 - 14:15 Energy procurement schemes from a legal point of view**

Speaker:

**Dr. Balázs Tomaj**, Senior Counsel, Kinstellar Budapest

**14:15 - 14:30 Experiences of the changed but consolidated energy market conditions in procurement strategies for 2024**

Speaker:

**Dr Zoltán Nagy**, President, Hungarian Industrial Energy Consumers' Association (IEF)

**14:30 - 15:20 Energy traders' and industrial users' panel discussion: What do they expect and demand in the changing energy procurement process?**

Moderator: **Gábor Bali**, ügyvezető, Energiq Kft.

Conversation participants:

**Tibor Fejes**, ügyvezető igazgató, Audax Renewables

**László Fritsch**, CEO, MVM CEEnergy Zrt.

**Gábor Németh**, Deputy CEO, ZOLTEK Zrt.

**Márton Szépfy**, CEO, E2 Hungary Ltd., MET Central Europe

**László Thierry**, Managing Director, ElringKlinger Hungary

**Section III/B.: Innovations and digitalization opportunities in the electrical network - Best practices, international examples**

The energy transformation driven by the carbon neutral objectives indirectly requires dynamic development of electrical infrastructure at both local and national grid level. The use of new digital technologies has the potential to reduce the time needed for the desired transition and to improve the higher

utilization of the existing infrastructure capacity. They also bring us closer to new revenue streams, market players, regulations and - last but not least - provide an opportunity to a mid-term technological development vision.

**Moderator: Kata Tóth**, Conference project leader, Portfolio

#### **14:00 - 14:20 Technological improvements and electrical infrastructure development concepts**

Speaker:

**Levente Balasa**, Head of Smart Infrastructure, Siemens Zrt., Siemens Zrt.

#### **14:20 - 14:40 Digitalisation solutions to serve today's complex requirements of the electrical grid**

**A foreign case study.**

Speaker:

**dr. Werner Brandauer**, Head of Power Systems Consulting and Grid Simulation Software SEE, Siemens AG Austria

#### **14:40 - 15:20 Panel discussion: Development visions of electrical infrastructure from the perspective of major market players**

Moderator: **József Vass**, TSO / DSO Senior Business Developer, Siemens Zrt.

Conversation participants:

**Attila Bally**, Deputy CEO, Chief Technical Officer, MVM

**József Béres**, Deputy CEO for Transmission Grid, MAVIR

**Balázs Torda**, CEO, OPUS TIGÁZ, OPUS TITÁSZ

## **Coffee break**

### **Section IV.: Geopolitics, climate goals, divestment from Russia - what will the future bring?**

The use of energy as a weapon, the targeted missile attacks on Ukraine's energy grid, and the blowing up of the Nord Stream have shed new light on previously separate terms such as geopolitics, security policy, energy infrastructure protection and cyber security, but nowadays these are often mentioned "in the same breath" in connection with the big issue of divesting from Russian fossil fuels. But what are the spill-over effects of this strategic goal stated at the EU

level by Heads of State and Government, and what does it mean for the achievement of the climate protection and decarbonisation goals, which are also important? Is there still a way back in EU-Russian energy relations after the sanctions give-and-take, what could the accelerated achievement of climate targets mean for EU energy prices, and what consequences might higher energy prices in Europe compared to the US and the Far East have regarding the economy, competitiveness, and the choice of business sites? These comprehensive issues will be explored in the closing session of the conference with a number of distinguished invited experts.

**Moderator: Kata Tóth**, Conference project leader, Portfolio

### **15:50 - 16:05 European and global gas market changes amid geopolitical realignments**

Speaker:

**Gergely Molnár**, Gas Analyst, Directorate of Energy Markets and Security (Online)

### **16:05 - 16:20 Outlook for oil markets from a strategic perspective**

Speaker:

**Gyula Marik**, Supply Product Manager for CEE, Shell Hungary Zrt.

### **16:20 - 17:10 Panel discussion: The main practical consequences of the geopolitical and energy transition: where is Europe and, within it, Hungary heading?**

Moderator: **Attila Weinhardt**, Senior Analyst, Portfolio

Conversation participants:

**Ádám Balogh**, Leader of Ukraine Support Task Force, Energy Community

**Dr. András Csapó**, Deputy Managing Director, O&GD Central

**András György Deák**, Senior research fellow,, NKE Stratégiai és Védelmi Kutató Intézet

**Alexis Honner**, Business Development Manager, Rolls-Royce (Online)

**Bernadett Papp**, Senior Market Analyst, Pact Capital AG

**Tamás Pletser CFA**, olaj- és gázipar elemző, Erste

**Dóra Zombori**, Partner, Dentons

### **17:10 - 17:15 Closing remarks**

**Reception and champagne toast**