

EU hydrogen market: Fit for investments?

Final Agenda

This meeting is under Chatham House Rule

Date: 31.05.2023

Time: 14.30 CET – 16.30 CET

Location: In person meeting (Address: Rue Archimède 61, 1000 Brussels, Belgium) by invitation only.

During the previous ERCST hydrogen roundtable discussion, the different pieces of the EU H2 policy and regulatory framework were assessed, focusing on its readiness and capacity to adapt to different ambition levels. The discussion was also intended to explore if the framework has been completed or whether there are still some bottlenecks or hindering aspects that should be addressed.

As concluded in the meeting, most of the different pieces of the hydrogen regulatory framework have been proposed and if not fully finalized, they find themselves in final stages of the legislative process. In this sense, it could be argued that the proposed framework is comprehensive and that its architecture has been carefully designed making sure that most of the elements included in the European Hydrogen strategy will be part of this framework.

Beyond its fine architecture, during this discussion we would like to question whether the proposed framework can be regarded not just as complete or comprehensive, but also as an attractive and practical tool to attract investments.

The creation of a decarbonized hydrogen market in Europe will rely to some extent on public support for growth and development. Both, hydrogen consumers and consumers of hydrogen-based end-product will have to pay a higher premium when compared to more carbon intense substitutes and alternatives. In this context and for the second part of this discussion, we would like to leave the regulatory risk/dimension aside and focus on whether financial incentives are quantitative (overall financial envelope) and qualitative (tools and instruments used) enough for EU companies to lead the transition towards a decarbonized hydrogen market.

14:30 **Welcome and introduction**

- A. Marcu, Executive Director of ERCST

14:35 **Regulatory and financial risk considerations**

- O. Imbault, ERCST

14:45 **Preliminary Remarks** (recorded contribution)

- R. Hajsels, Member of the European Parliament

14: 55 Panel discussion

This meeting will start with a presentation by ERCST, which will be followed by a panel discussion where speakers are expected to address the following questions. (5-7 mins per speaker):

- Is the proposed regulatory framework practical and attractive enough to direct hydrogen investments to the EU?
- Have enough financial means been provided to make sure EU companies will lead the transition towards a decarbonized hydrogen market?
- Are the financial tools and instruments employed fit for purpose?

Chair: O. Imbault, ERCST

- J. Bergevin, DG Grow
- S. Gielis, Air Liquide
- F. van Hövell, Shell
- J. Keaney, Indaver
- R. Macrae, Fortescue Future Industries
- M. Lovisolo, Bellona

15:45 First round of discussions and Q&A

16:30 Final remarks and end of the meeting