**Public Debate**

**Beyond Electrification: Balancing Complexity and Flexibility in the EU's Sustainable Fuels Policies**

**\*\*\*** Draft Agenda –speakers are being confirmed **\*\*\***

**Date**: March 4, 2025

**Time**: 15-16:30

**Location**: Hybrid

While electrification is seen and considered by the EU to be a pivotal decarbonization strategy, it is not a one-size-fits-all solution. Hard-to-electrify sectors—such as aviation, maritime shipping, and certain industrial processes—require complementary approaches to achieve full decarbonization. This debate aims to critically assess the limitations of an electrification-only approach, explore the role of sustainable fuels, and promote a discussion to develop a balanced policy framework that supports a diversified energy mix.

The debate will delve into the diverse applications of biofuels, synthetic fuels, and hydrogen across different sectors, examining their decarbonization potential.

The discussion will also address the importance of implementing technology-neutral policies, ensuring market competition and accelerating innovation across all viable decarbonization pathways.

**15:00 Welcome and introduction**

* Andrei Marcu, Director of ERCST
* John Cooper, ERCST

**15:10 Initial inputs**

* Marino Varricchio, ERCST

**15:20 Panel discussion**

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| Speakers will have ten minutes each to address the following questions: 1. **What are the technical, economic, and social challenges of relying solely on electrification for decarbonization?**
2. **How can sustainable fuels complement electrification in hard-to-electrify sectors, and what policies are needed to support this integration?**

Q&A with the audience will follow.  |

* Cillian O’Donoghue – Eurelectric
* Lars Hummel – eFuel Alliance
* Alessandro Bartelloni – FuelsEurope
* Stefano Murace – Eurogas
* Ana Alvarez – Repsol

**16:30 End of meeting**