

11 March 2013

Dear Reader,

It is my pleasure to inform you about the EUFORES activities in the first half of 2013. We are planning several exciting events.

EUFORES will regularly organise EUFORES breakfast roundtables for Members of the European Parliament every Wednesday during the plenary session in Strasbourg. We are looking forward to welcoming there Research Commissioner Quinn, Industry Commissioner Tajani and Energy Commissioner Oettinger. The exchange between Members of the European Parliament and the European Commission is crucial in preparation of good legislative proposals.

One of the most exciting events will definitely be our next Inter-Parliamentary Meeting in Dublin on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of June. This high-level conference is an associated event of the Irish Council Presidency and it will gather many Members of national Parliaments, national and European civil servants as well as Members of the European Parliament, European Commission and several established experts.

As Inter-Parliamentary Meetings usually receive a very good feedback and seem to support the work of many policy makers, EUFORES is planning on organizing another IPM in Portugal in the second half of 2013.

Kind regards,

Jan Geiss  
Secretary General EUFORES

**Index**

[Upcoming events](#)

[News](#)

[Past events](#)

[Profiles of EUFORES extended board members](#)

[What is EUFORES?](#)



## **EUFORES Upcoming events**

### ***EUFORES Parliamentary Dinner Debate***

Title: Energy Efficiency Policies – Reality Check

When: 19 March 2013

Where: Stanhope Hotel, Brussels

*Background information:* At this parliamentary event, the final results of the Europe-wide survey on the implementation of energy efficiency policies will be presented. The focal point of the event is to make parliamentarians, city and region representatives as well as European Commission aware of the implementation state in the EU. This event is part of the Energy-Efficiency-Watch-2 project.

### ***Breakfast Roundtable: Presidency Briefing Energy Efficiency Watch***

When: 20 March 2013

Where: Members Salon, European Parliament, Brussels

*Background information:* This breakfast roundtable, a part of the Energy-Efficiency-Watch-2 project, gathers MEPs, experts and representatives of the upcoming Lithuanian presidency in the Council with the aim to discuss priorities of the Lithuanian presidency concerning energy efficiency. In addition to this, the results of the EU-wide survey on implementation of energy efficiency policies in the Member States will be presented.

### ***Breakfast Roundtable: Presidency Briefing Keep-on-track!***

When: 10 April 2013

Where: Meeting Room, European Parliament, Brussels

*Background information:* This breakfast roundtable, a part of our new project Keep on Track!, is an intense briefing with the upcoming Lithuanian presidency in the Council. The focal point of the discussion will be upcoming issues on the Council agenda with regard to renewable energy policies. More specifically, the further implementation of the RES directive and the fulfilment of the interim goals will be in the spotlight of the briefing.

### ***13<sup>th</sup> Inter-Parliamentary Meeting***

When: 21 – 22 June 2013

Where: Dublin, Ireland

*Background information:* The annual Inter-Parliamentary Meeting is a high-level conference for Members of Parliaments from all over Europe with selected experts from the field of renewable energy and energy efficiency. The conference is the key platform for related discussions among key decision makers within the EU. This event is an associated event of the Irish Council Presidency.

### ***EUFORES General Assembly***

When: 9 July 2013

Where: European Parliament, Brussels

### ***EUFORES Breakfast Roundtables in Strasbourg***

When: every Wednesday during the plenary sessions in Strasbourg

Where: European Parliament, Strasbourg

## **EUFORES News**

### **Market feedback on energy efficiency policies available**

EUFORES has published [the results of a Europe-wide survey on the implementation of national energy efficiency policies](#) in the EU Member States. The survey looks into the implementation of the policies as they were set in the National Energy Efficiency Action Plans in 2007 and 2011. The survey has been executed by Upper-Austrian Energy Agency, Energy Cities, FEDARENE and eceee. The members of those networks and many other experts have provided valuable feedback on the implementation of energy efficiency policies in their home countries. The survey is part of the [Energy Efficiency Watch](#) project of which EUFORES is the coordinator.

### **National parliamentary workshops**

EUFORES is currently planning several **workshops for national stakeholders** on the RES Directive, its implementation, good practices and recommendations how to meet the 2020 objectives. Those workshops will be held in the national parliaments of several EU Member States within this and next two years. The workshops are part of the Keep-on-track! project.

## **Past events**

### **Parliamentary Dinner: Future design of renewable energy markets 4 December 2012, European Parliament, Brussels**

At this event, the future of the support mechanisms for renewable energy sources and new market designs for electricity and heating & cooling were in the spotlight. **Simon Müller** from the International Energy Agency presented several scenarios on the renewable power growth forecast and the market situation for renewables. A moderated debate with **Claude Turmes** (MEP), **Tom Howes** (European Commission), **Bugra Borasoy** (EnBW) and **Josche Muth** (EREC) followed.

### **EUFORES Inter-Parliamentary Meeting (IPM12)**

EUFORES 12th Inter-Parliamentary Meeting took place on **Friday, 23rd of November and Saturday, 24th of November in the Hellenic Parliament in Athens**. This meeting of **the most active parliamentarians in Europe in the field of renewable energy and energy efficiency** was also attended by officials of national governments, the European Commission, experts and selected representatives from industry, the scientific sector and NGOs. The one-and-a-half-day conference was accompanied by a welcome reception, a gala dinner in the Dionysos Restaurant, with a breathtaking view of the Acropolis, and a lunch at the sea-side. The first conference day focused on renewable energy related topics such as the renewable energy situation in Greece and in Europe, financing renewable energy projects and branding renewables. The second conference day presented energy efficiency as the main strategy as it is the way to tackle our current challenges such as climate protection, energy security, air quality and related health problems, economy growth and job creation.

### **Workshop: Implementation of the energy efficiency policies: market feedback**

**28 November 2012, European Parliament, Brussels**

Christiane Egger (O.Ö.Energiesparverband) and Ralf Schüle (Wuppertal Institute) presented the **results of the survey** on implementation of national energy efficiency policies in the EU27 and the screening of National Energy Efficiency Plans (NEEAPs) to the members of the Coalition for Energy Savings. The survey results have proved that the NEEAPs have improved in their quality. The analysis has shown that sectoral policy packages (e.g. appliances, buildings) in some Member States are to a large extent based on EU legislation and many Member States have not yet adopted a long term energy efficiency strategy. Transport is the weakest sector of all. The experts who participated in the survey saw energy audits as the most effective instrument, followed by certification schemes and energy efficiency funds.

**Irish Presidency Briefings****10 October & 27 November 2012, European Parliament, Brussels**

Before Ireland has taken over the presidency in the Council of the EU on 1 January 2013, EUFORES had organised two meetings with Irish Energy Attaché Michael Goodwin. The first meeting focused on priorities of the upcoming Irish presidency in renewable energy and the second one in energy efficiency. Several Members of the European Parliament attended the meetings and engaged in the discussion with Michael Goodwin who introduced the Council agenda for the first half year of 2013.

**Profiles of EUFORES Board of Presidents and Extended Board**

In each of EUFORES newsletters, EUFORES presents some of its parliamentary members. This newsletter presents three members of EUFORES Extended Board: Bas Eickhout, Vicky Ford and Bernd Lange.

**Bas Eickhout**

Bas Eickhout was elected to the European Parliament in the 2009 elections for the Green Left. This Dutch politician is a Member of the Committee of the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety as well as a member of the Delegation for relations with the United States. Bas Eickhout worked previously as a scientific climate researcher at Planbureau voor de Leefomgeving in the Netherlands where he worked on the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report.

**Vicky Ford**

Vicky Ford was elected a Member of the European Parliament in the 2009 elections for the Conservative Party. She is a member of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy and a member of the Delegation to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly. Vicky Ford worked as shadow rapporteur for the European Conservatives and Reformists Group on energy efficiency legislation and research funding matters.

**Bernd Lange**

Bernd Lange was elected member of the European Parliament in 2009 for Social Democratic Party of Germany. He joined the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists & Democrats in the European Parliament. He had previously worked as Member of the European Parliament from 1994 to 2004. Bernd Lange is a member of the Committee on International Trade and a substitute of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy. Since June 2010 he is the European Parliament's rapporteur for European industrial policy.

Please click here to see the EUFORES [Board of Presidents](#) and the entire [Extended Board](#).

**What is EUFORES?**

[EUFORES](#) is a European cross-party parliamentary network with Members from all major political groups in the European Parliament as well as in the national EU Member States Parliaments. It is non-profit organization founded in 1995 by Members of Parliament and other key actors.

Its core objective is to promote renewable energy sources and energy efficiency and to facilitate discussion between the parliamentarians, experts, relevant decision makers and stakeholders. It organizes numerous events for parliamentarians each year, most of which take place in the European Parliament. The most important event is an annual Inter-Parliamentary Meeting on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency which is a meeting of parliamentarians from 27 EU Member States. This conference takes place in a different national parliament on a rotation basis.