Basic information

2025/2006(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Electricity grids: the backbone of the EU energy system **Subject** 3.60 Energy policy 3.60.03 Gas, electricity, natural gas, biogas	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
ITRE Industry, Research and Energy	STÜRGKH Anna (Renew)	13/01/2025
	Shadow rapporteur KELLY Seán (EPP) TOBBACK Bruno (S&D) GYÜRK András (PfE) KRUTÍLEK Ondřej (ECR) PETER-HANSEN Kira Marie (Greens/EFA) TAMBURRANO Dario (The Left)	

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Energy	JØRGENSEN Dan

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
23/01/2025	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
13/05/2025	Vote in committee		
18/05/2025	Committee report tabled for plenary	A10-0091/2025	Summary
18/06/2025	Debate in Parliament		
19/06/2025	Decision by Parliament	T10-0136/2025	Summary
19/06/2025	Results of vote in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2025/2006(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ITRE/10/01597

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE768.244	24/02/2025	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE770.173	21/03/2025	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A10-0091/2025	18/05/2025	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T10-0136/2025	19/06/2025	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2025)11-19	19/11/2025	

Meetings with interest representatives published in line with the Rules of Procedure

Rapporteurs, Shadow Rapporteurs and Committee Chairs

Transparency

Name	Role	Committee	Date	Interest representatives
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	27/02/2026	Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH Raphson.ai (AIT Spinoff)
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	21/01/2026	epicenternetwork.eu
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	14/01/2026	Haslinger / Nagele Rechtsanwälte GmbH
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	13/01/2026	REScoop.eu vzw
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	12/01/2026	Austrian Power Grid AG
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	01/12/2025	GE Vernova Inc.
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	19/11/2025	Green Finance Institute (GFI)
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	18/11/2025	European Initiative for Energy Security (EIES)

STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	10/11/2025	VÖWG
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	23/09/2025	ENTSO-E
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	02/09/2025	E.ON SE
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	10/06/2025	National Energy System Operator
KELLY Seán	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	09/06/2025	Car Rental Council of Ireland
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	14/05/2025	Vantage Towers AG
KELLY Seán	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	14/05/2025	Europacable
KELLY Seán	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	14/05/2025	ENTSO-E
KELLY Seán	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	13/05/2025	Enoda LTD
KELLY Seán	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	13/05/2025	Microsoft Corporation
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	09/04/2025	EPIA SolarPower Europe
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	08/04/2025	EU DSO Entity
KELLY Seán	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	01/04/2025	Siemens Energy AG
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	26/03/2025	ORSTED
GYÜRK András	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	18/03/2025	Eurelectric aisbl
TAMBURRANO Dario	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	17/03/2025	smartEn Smart Energy Europe
TAMBURRANO Dario	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	17/03/2025	E-MOBILITY EUROPE
PETER-HANSEN Kira Marie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	13/03/2025	The Regulatory Assistance Project
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	13/03/2025	The Coalition for Energy Savings
TAMBURRANO Dario	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	12/03/2025	Terna spa
TAMBURRANO Dario	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	12/03/2025	Bellona Europa
GYÜRK András	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	12/03/2025	Eurelectric aisbl
GYÜRK András	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	12/03/2025	Open Fiber
TAMBURRANO Dario	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	12/03/2025	TotalEnergies SE
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	11/03/2025	ELECTRICITE DE FRANCE
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	11/03/2025	Open Fiber

TAMBURRANO Dario	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	11/03/2025	Eurelectric aisbl
TAMBURRANO Dario	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	11/03/2025	EPIA SolarPower Europe
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	11/03/2025	Google Ireland Limited and its affiliates
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	07/03/2025	Council of European Energy Regulators
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	06/03/2025	EPIA SolarPower Europe
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	06/03/2025	A2A
KELLY Seán	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	06/03/2025	EU DSO Entity E-Distribuzione
GYÜRK András	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	06/03/2025	GEODE - The voice of local energy distributors across Europe
TAMBURRANO Dario	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	06/03/2025	Finnish Energy - Energiateollisuus ry GEODE - The voice of local energy distributors across Europe
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	06/03/2025	GEODE - The voice of local energy distributors across Europe
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	06/03/2025	Euroheat and Power
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	05/03/2025	E.ON SE
KELLY Seán	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	05/03/2025	E.ON Nordic
GYÜRK András	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	05/03/2025	E.ON SE
PETER-HANSEN Kira Marie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	05/03/2025	Axcelfuture
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	05/03/2025	BDEW Bundesverband der Energie- und Wasserwirtschaft e. V.
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	05/03/2025	Energy Storage Europe
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	05/03/2025	E-MOBILITY EUROPE
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	04/03/2025	ENEL SpA
KELLY Seán	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	04/03/2025	Hitachi Energy
KELLY Seán	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	04/03/2025	EirGrid Group plc
GYÜRK András	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	04/03/2025	A2A
TAMBURRANO Dario	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	04/03/2025	Huawei Technologies
TAMBURRANO Dario	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	04/03/2025	ENEL SpA
TAMBURRANO Dario	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	04/03/2025	A2A
TAMBURRANO Dario	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	04/03/2025	European Association of the Electricity Transmission and Distribution Equipment and Services Industry

STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	04/03/2025	CurrENT Europe
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	03/03/2025	Gas Infrastructure Europe
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	27/02/2025	KIC InnoEnergy SE
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	27/02/2025	#SustainablePublicAffairs
KELLY Seán	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	27/02/2025	CurrENT Europe
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	26/02/2025	Europacable
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	26/02/2025	Hitachi Europe Ltd.
TAMBURRANO Dario	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	25/02/2025	Euroheat and Power
TAMBURRANO Dario	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	25/02/2025	#SustainablePublicAffairs
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	24/02/2025	smartEn Smart Energy Europe
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	20/02/2025	European Data Centre Association
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	20/02/2025	The European Association of the Electricity Transmission and Distribution Equipment and Services Industry
PETER-HANSEN Kira Marie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	20/02/2025	EPIA SolarPower Europe
KELLY Seán	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	20/02/2025	IBERDROLA
KELLY Seán	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	20/02/2025	Climate Action Network Europe
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	18/02/2025	Roundtable for Europe's Energy Future
TAMBURRANO Dario	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	18/02/2025	Hitachi Energy
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	18/02/2025	Energy Efficiency for Europe
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	17/02/2025	European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity
PETER-HANSEN Kira Marie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	17/02/2025	Climate Action Network Europe Council of European Energy Regulators Elia Transmission Belgium Green Power Denmark smartEn Smart Energy Europe European Distribution System Operators
GYÜRK András	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	14/02/2025	Open Fiber
KELLY Seán	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	14/02/2025	Eurelectric aisbl
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	13/02/2025	RGI - Renewable Grids Initiative
PETER-HANSEN Kira Marie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	12/02/2025	Hitachi Energy

KELLY Seán	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	12/02/2025	European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	12/02/2025	TransnetBW GmbH
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	12/02/2025	E-Control
TAMBURRANO Dario	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	12/02/2025	CurrENT Europe
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	10/02/2025	Elia Transmission Belgium
PETER-HANSEN Kira Marie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	07/02/2025	T&D Europe
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	07/02/2025	Bundesministerium für Klimaschutz, Umwelt, Energie, Mobilität, Innovation und Technologie Österreich
PETER-HANSEN Kira Marie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	06/02/2025	European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity
GYÜRK András	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	06/02/2025	European Association of the Electricity Transmission and Distribution Equipment and Services Industry
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	06/02/2025	Form Energy, Inc.
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	06/02/2025	Siemens AG
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	06/02/2025	CEFIC - European Chemical Industry Council
PETER-HANSEN Kira Marie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	05/02/2025	Offshore Norge
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	05/02/2025	Fluxys SA
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	05/02/2025	Sympower B.V.
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	05/02/2025	European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	04/02/2025	AGORA Foundation
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	04/02/2025	EU DSO Entity
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	04/02/2025	E.ON SE
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	03/02/2025	ENEL SpA
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	03/02/2025	ENEL SpA
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	31/01/2025	E-Control
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	30/01/2025	SolarEdge Technologies Inc
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	30/01/2025	WIENER STADTWERKE GmbH
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	29/01/2025	EU Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	29/01/2025	Climate Action Network Europe
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	28/01/2025	Energyville

PETER-HANSEN Kira Marie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	28/01/2025	Energinet
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	28/01/2025	Agora Energiewende
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	28/01/2025	Eurelectric aisbl
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	28/01/2025	National Grid Commercial Holdings Limited
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	28/01/2025	WindEurope
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	28/01/2025	ENTSO-E
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	28/01/2025	Schneider Electric
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	28/01/2025	Bruegel
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	28/01/2025	Siemens Energy AG
PETER-HANSEN Kira Marie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	22/01/2025	ENEDIS
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	22/01/2025	#SustainablePublicAffairs
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	22/01/2025	WindEurope
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	21/01/2025	ENEDIS
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	21/01/2025	EU DSO Entity
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	20/01/2025	ENEDIS
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	17/01/2025	Fingrid Oyj
PETER-HANSEN Kira Marie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	17/01/2025	Green Power Denmark
GYÜRK András	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	17/01/2025	E.DSO - European Distribution System Operators AISBL
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	15/01/2025	EU DSO Entity Eurelectric aisbl GEODE - The voice of local energy distributors across Europe CEDEC
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	15/01/2025	IBERDROLA
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	15/01/2025	National Grid Commercial Holdings Limited
PETER-HANSEN Kira Marie	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	15/01/2025	EU DSO Entity Eurelectric aisbl GEODE - The voice of local energy distributors across Europe CEDEC E.DSO.
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	14/01/2025	REScoop.eu vzw
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	14/01/2025	Climate Action Network Europe
STÜRGKH Anna	Rapporteur	ITRE	14/01/2025	IBERDROLA

TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	13/01/2025	CEDEC
GYÜRK András	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	13/01/2025	MVM Energetika Ltd.
GYÜRK András	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	13/01/2025	Eurelectric aisbl
TOBBACK Bruno	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	08/01/2025	Energia Federatie

Other Members

Transparency		
Name	**Date**	**Interest representatives**
CHAHIM Mohammed	20/06/2025	National Energy System Operator
GEIER Jens	22/04/2025	Siemens Energy AG
GEIER Jens	06/03/2025	TransnetBW GmbH
GORI Giorgio	06/03/2025	ENEL SpA
ANDREWS Barry	04/03/2025	EirGrid Group plc
ANDREWS Barry	25/02/2025	Bruegel
KNOTEK Ondřej	19/02/2025	Hitachi Energy
GEIER Jens	28/01/2025	STEAG GmbH

Electricity grids: the backbone of the EU energy system

2025/2006(INI) - 19/06/2025 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 418 votes to 112, with 45 abstentions, a resolution on electricity grids: he backbone of the EU's energy system.

Stressing that electricity grids are central to the Union's transition to a competitive net-zero emissions economy by 2050, Parliament called on Member States to explore, optimise, modernise and fully develop their electricity network capacity, including transmission and distribution. The widespread blackout that occurred in the Iberian Peninsula and parts of France on 28 April 2025 demonstrated, among other things, the importance of increasing the energy grid's resilience.

Importance of electricity grids for the European energy transition

Faced with the expected 60% increase in electricity consumption by 2030, Parliament highlighted the growing need **to integrate a significant share of variable renewable energy into the grid** and the need for grids to adapt to a more decentralised, digitalised and flexible electricity system, with a view to an additional cross-border capacity of 23 GW by 2025 and 64 GW by 2030. More than 40% of the Union's distribution grids over 40 years old and need to be modernised.

Members believe that dispatch-down of renewables, caused by grid congestion and curtailment, represents an unacceptable waste of valuable renewable electricity and money. The Commission is called upon, as part of its next package of measures on European networks, to define an **EU strategy** to vastly reduce the dispatch-down of renewable electricity.

Electricity grid infrastructure is a priority for achieving the Union's strategic autonomy. Parliament highlighted the role of **smart grids** in improving congestion management and optimising the distribution of electricity from renewable sources. It called for the development of enabling frameworks for **renewable energy communities**, which are often held back by regulatory and financial barriers to accessing the grid and network financing.

Regulatory situation and difficulties

Parliament called on the Commission and the Member States to work towards **integrated and cross-sectoral network planning** at local, regional, national and Union levels with a view to increasing the system's efficiency and reducing costs. It called on the Member States to complete the projects of common interest (PCIs) and on the Commission to urgently propose a **targeted revision of the TEN-E Regulation** in order to: i) to introduce a robust planning process, ii) to ensure that scenarios are developed in line with the decarbonisation agenda and facilitate access for smart grid projects, and iii) to introduce a simplified application procedure for small and medium-sized distribution system operators.

Given that network planning is a long-term process closely linked to investment stability, Members proposed extending the time frame of network development plans to **20 years**. They also insisted on maintaining the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF-E), which has proven to be a key instrument for co-financing cross-border energy infrastructure.

The resolution highlighted the importance of establishing **clear indicators** to measure whether the EU is on track to achieve the necessary network expansion and strengthening to meet its 2050 targets. Members called on the Commission to amend Directive (EU) 2019/944 on the internal electricity market and introduce transparent priority connection criteria.

Deploring the delays and uncertainties surrounding several interconnection projects, Parliament called on the Commission to propose, by June 2026 at the latest, a **binding interconnection target for 2036**, based on a needs assessment. It also stressed the need to speed up permitting procedures for electricity infrastructure and called on the Commission to closely monitor the implementation of the Renewable Energy Directive and regularly assess whether the revised permitting provisions are sufficient to achieve the Union's objectives. Members stressed the need to improve the **public procurement framework** and called for networks and related technologies to be explicitly recognised as **strategic sectors**.

Funding

Parliament called on the Commission and the Member States, in the preparation of the next MFF, to significantly increase the CEF-E envelope and the percentage of CEF-E funds dedicated to network projects as a separate appropriate resource. It called on the Commission to propose a dedicated financing instrument, for example drawing on revenues from the market-based emission reduction scheme, to enable Member States to support decentralised and innovative grid projects with clear European added value, including smaller projects.

Grid-enhancing technologies, digitalisation, innovative solutions and resilience

The resolution highlighted that grid reinforcement technologies, digital solutions and data management technologies, as well as smart energy devices, often using artificial intelligence, can significantly increase the efficiency of existing grid capacities and optimise the use of existing resources. Members urged the Commission further promote these innovative technologies when assessing projects seeking EU funding.

Members urged the Commission and Member States to continue and increase the digitalisation of the European electricity grid. They stress the urgent need to **strengthen the security and resilience of critical electricity infrastructure**, including interconnectors and subsea cables. Furthermore, national regulatory authorities should take into account the costs incurred by operators in adopting cybersecurity and resilience measures.

Supply chain, raw materials and need for skills

Parliament highlighted the need to strengthen network supply chains to expand the supply of affordable network technologies and thus limit the costs borne by consumers through network charges. It called for a **strategic approach to the procurement of critical network-related energy technologies**, components or materials to avoid developing dependencies on single suppliers outside the Union. Members urged maximum standardisation of key electricity grid equipment and finally stressed the urgent need to address labour shortages in the energy sector.

Electricity grids: the backbone of the EU energy system

2025/2006(INI) - 18/05/2025 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy adopted the report by Anna STÜRGKH (Renew, AT) on electricity grids: the backbone of the EU energy system.

The report highlighted that completing the integration of the EU's energy market will save up to EUR 40 billion annually and that a 50% increase in cross-border electricity trade could increase the EU's annual GDP by 0.1%. Members called on Member States to **explore, optimise, modernise and fully develop the capacity of their electricity networks** , including transmission and distribution.

Importance of electricity networks for the European energy transition

With electricity consumption expected to increase by 60% by 2030, the report highlighted the growing need **to integrate a significant share of variable renewable energy into the grid** and the need for grids to adapt to a more decentralised, digitalised and flexible electricity system.

Members recalled that by 2030, the EU must invest approximately EUR 375 billion to EUR 425 billion in distribution networks and EUR 584 billion in total in electricity transmission and distribution networks. They noted with concern that in 2023, the costs of managing electricity grids congestion in the EU summed up to EUR 4.2 billion and continue to rise, and that curtailment is an obstacle to increasing the share of renewable energy sources. The Commission is invited, as part of its next package of measures on European networks, to define an **EU strategy** to significantly reduce curtailment of renewable electricity production.

The report highlighted the role of **smart grids** in improving congestion management and optimising the distribution of electricity from renewable sources. Members deplored the fact that delays in responding to grid connection requests are slowing down electrification. They also stressed the importance of **supporting energy communities**, which are often held back by regulatory and financial barriers, and called for appropriate regulatory frameworks that empower citizens, municipalities, SMEs, and businesses to actively participate in the electricity market.

Regulatory situation and difficulties

The report highlighted that the TEN-E Regulation and Projects of Common Interest (PCIs) and Projects of Mutual Interest (PMIs) are effective tools for developing the Union's cross-border energy infrastructure. It called on Member States to fully implement the PCIs and on the Commission to urgently

propose **a targeted revision of the TEN-E Regulation** to ensure, *inter alia*, that scenarios are developed in line with the decarbonisation agenda and facilitate access for smart grid projects.

Given that network planning is a long-term process closely linked to investment stability, Members proposed extending the duration of network development plans to **20 years**. They also insisted on maintaining the **Connecting Europe Facility** (CEF-E), which has proven to be a key instrument for co-financing cross-border energy infrastructure.

The report highlighted the importance of establishing **clear metrics** to measure whether the EU is on track to achieve the necessary grid expansion and reinforcements needed to meet its 2050 targets. Members believe that national regulatory authorities (NRAs) could benefit from clear legislative provisions on how Member States can prioritise grid connections, so as to move away from the 'first come, first served' principle. They therefore called on the Commission to amend Article 6 of Directive (EU) 2019/944 on the internal market in electricity and introduce **transparent priority connection criteria.**

Deploring the delays and uncertainties surrounding several interconnection projects, the report called on the Commission to propose, by June 2026 at the latest, a **binding interconnection target for 2036**, based on a needs assessment. It also stressed the need to speed up authorisation procedures for electricity infrastructure. Members stressed the need to improve the **public procurement** framework to address the challenges network operators face with regard to supply chains. They called for networks and related technologies to be explicitly recognised as **strategic sectors.**

Funding

The report called on the Commission and the Member States, in the preparation of the next MFF, to significantly increase the CEF-E envelope and the percentage of CEF-E funds dedicated to network projects as a separate appropriate resource. It called on the Commission to propose **a dedicated financing instrument**, for example drawing on revenues from the market-based emission reduction scheme, to enable Member States to support decentralised and innovative grid projects with clear European added value, including smaller projects.

Grid-enhancing technologies, digitalisation, innovative solutions and resilience

The report highlighted that grid reinforcement technologies, digital solutions and data management technologies, as well as smart energy devices, often using artificial intelligence, can **significantly increase the efficiency of existing grid capacities** and optimise the use of existing resources. Members therefore urged that these innovative technologies and solutions be explored and that the Commission further promote these innovative technologies when assessing projects that apply for EU funding.

Members urged the Commission and Member States to continue and increase the **digitalisation** of the European electricity grid. They stressed the urgent need to strengthen **the security and resilience of critical electricity infrastructure**, including interconnectors and subsea cables. Furthermore, national regulatory authorities should take into account the costs incurred by operators in adopting cybersecurity and resilience measures.

The report urged the Commission, DSOs and TSOs to develop an **EU-owned common European energy data space**, where harmonised data is managed, exchanged and stored securely across the Union.

Supply chain, raw materials and need for skills

The report highlighted the need to strengthen network supply chains to expand the supply of affordable network technologies and thus limit the costs borne by consumers through network charges. It called for **a strategic approach to the procurement of critical network-related energy technologies**, components or materials to avoid developing dependencies on single suppliers outside the Union. Members urged maximum standardisation of key electricity grid equipment and finally stressed the urgent need to address labour shortages in the energy sector.