

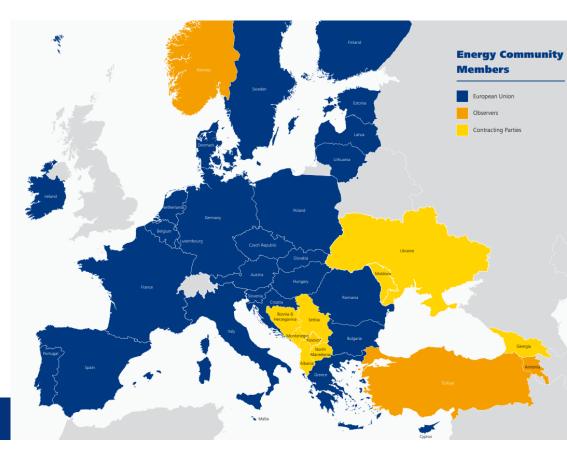


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# The Energy Community framework

- Based on a legally binding international Treaty including the Western Balkans and the Eastern Partner countries;
- EU represented by the Commission;
- Historically focusing on integrating energy markets, but gradually extended to competition, environment and climate action;
- Supporting Contracting Parties to align selected parts of the EU acquis communautaire as preparation for the accession process





### Context

#### Energy Community Decarbonisation Roadmap:

- ✓ adopted in November 2021 by the Ministerial Council in Belgrade clear and predictable roadmap on introducing parts of EU acquis on decarbonisation;
- ✓ supporting the development and implementation of 2030 targets in the EnC;
- ✓ Dialogue between the EU and Contracting Parties on **decarbonisation priorities**, **process**, **timeline**;
- ✓ Making progress on agreeing to a carbon pricing system for Contracting Parties of the Energy Community;
- ✓ Shared political messages on coal phase-out and fossil-fuel subsidies;

#### Reasons:

- ✓ Significant transboundary pollution from coal plants in the Western Balkans region;
- ✓ Slow progress on implementing the polluters pay principle and introducing carbon pricing;
- ✓ Carbon leakage;



### **Developments in 2022**

#### Adoption of the Energy Community MRVA package

- ✓ MRR regulation Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2066 on the monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions amended by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2085
- ✓ **AVR regulation** Regulation (EU) 2018/2067 on the verification of data and on the accreditation of verifiers amended by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2084
- ✓ ETS Directive (parts) Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 October 2003 establishing a scheme for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the Community and amending Council Directive 96/61/EC
- Very close to the EU compliance cycle and framework, with adaptations to Contracting Parties (e.g. links to other acquis);
- Legal obligation on Contracting Parties to transpose (by 31 December 2023) and implement (tentative period between Jan 2024 and Jan 2026);



## **Developments in 2023**

- "EU Climate and Energy Diplomacy is a core component of EU's foreign policy"
  - Council conclusions on Climate and Energy Diplomacy "Bolstering EU climate and energy diplomacy in a critical decade", No. 7248/23, 9 March 2023
- "the Council invites the High Representative and the Commission to build on ongoing initiatives and to explore the opportunities for increased cooperation with countries that rely heavily on fossil fuels, especially coal, in particular in the Western Balkans, the Eastern Neighbourhood..." Council conclusions on Climate and Energy Diplomacy "Bolstering EU climate and energy diplomacy in a critical decade", No. 7248/23, 9 March 2023

Regulation (EU) 2023/956



### **Next steps**

- Finish the transposition and start implementing the MRVA Package;
- Coordinate the efforts of Contracting Parties to comply with the exemption criteria of CBAM;
- Continued discussion on the possible design for a regional ETS;
- Ensure alignment between climate action and energy policies (NECPs and electricity market coupling).



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