

5th European Energy & Industry Conference 2025: bridging policy and industry for a sustainable energy future

Brussels, 16 December 2025 – Europe stands at a pivotal moment in its clean energy and industrial transition. The 5th European Energy & Industry Conference, held on 9 December in Brussels, brought together over 300 high-level participants – including EU policymakers, 22 industry partners and C-level industry leaders from all over Europe – to chart a course for a sustainable, competitive future, as the EU prepares to launch its transformative policy packages.

The conference delivered a clear call to action: Europe must accelerate its twin transitions – energy and industry – while safeguarding competitiveness. Speakers stressed the need for affordable, low-carbon energy, bold policy measures, and cross-sector collaboration to meet climate goals. Financing mechanisms, innovation, and infrastructure upgrades emerged as critical enablers, alongside strategies to balance sustainability with industrial strength.

Accelerating Europe’s clean energy and industrial transition

Opening the conference, Frederic Soudain, Chairman of the Growth & Strategy Board at logos – Business Bridge Europe, highlighted the need for Europe to accelerate its progress: “Access to affordable and low-carbon energy is crucial for competitiveness and climate leadership”.

Held on the eve of the adoption of the European Grids Package, the conference underscored the urgency for rapid decarbonisation, robust infrastructure, and policies that stimulate demand for low-carbon solutions. EU policymakers, industry partners, and innovators gathered to address these challenges head-on, recognising that the coming months will be decisive for Europe’s climate and industrial ambitions.

Key insights: cross collaboration between policymakers and industry stakeholders

- **Affordable and clean energy for competitiveness:** Speakers discussed scaling clean manufacturing while keeping energy affordable. They emphasised infrastructure for electrification, biomethane and hydrogen, and the need for innovative tools to overcome regulatory and funding challenges.

“There’s currently no demand on the other side. We need a balanced approach to keep prices affordable. Energy is not only a climate issue – it’s also about competitiveness and security” —
Christophe Grudler MEP, ITRE committee, European Parliament.

- **Accelerating and financing the clean transition:** Panellists highlighted the importance of bold policy action, accelerating electrification, and the risks of delaying energy transformation, while stressing the need for innovation and collaboration across sectors.

“The Clean Industrial Deal sends a clear signal: decarbonise and help industries build a business case. The European Climate Law and the new Multiannual Financial Framework will support this. Industry wants to decarbonise – as authorities, our job is to ensure projects can secure funding,

simplify access to EU funds, and support SMEs.” — Alexandre Paquot, Director Innovation for Clean Growth and Low Carbon Economy, DG CLIMA, European Commission.

• **Electrification and grids:** The session focused on the bottlenecks in electrification, highlighting system integration, investment, and regulatory reform to accelerate the energy transition and protect competitiveness.

“Electrification needs strong infrastructure support. The upcoming European Grids Package should help accelerate permitting, which is currently a major bottleneck.” — Ahlem Friga-Noy, CEO High Representative to the European Institutions and Senior Vice-President European Affairs, TotalEnergies.

• **Technology neutrality in road transport:** The panel addressed cutting emissions through a technology-neutral approach, highlighting electric, hydrogen, and sustainable fuels, and the leadership of corporate fleets in early adoption.

“The energy transition is here to stay. If we truly want to decarbonise road transport, we must use every tool available – electric, hydrogen, sustainable fuels – and find ways for these solutions to coexist.” — Ana Álvarez Rodríguez, Head of EU Public Affairs, REPSOL.

• **Balancing competitiveness and the green transition:** Speakers explored reconciling growth and sustainability, emphasising strategic autonomy, fair competition, and the need to balance energy costs with climate ambition.

“Energy will remain more expensive in Europe than elsewhere, and that’s a challenge. We must find the right balance between competitiveness and sustainability.” — Philippe Lamberts, Advisor for the European Green Deal to President von der Leyen, European Commission.

The road ahead: from vision to action

The conference concluded with a strong call for integrated strategies, cross-sector collaboration, and policy alignment to secure a sustainable and competitive future for Europe’s energy and industry sectors. Speakers emphasised that different policy packages and initiatives must work together for impactful change – highlighting the need for coordinated action across all areas to deliver on Europe’s climate and industrial ambitions.

About the European Energy and Industry Conference

The [European Energy and Industry Conference](#), organised by Business Bridge Europe, logos public affairs and mci group, returned for its fifth edition in 2025. The event brings together a wide range of energy-interested stakeholders, from key EU decision-makers to top energy and industrial leaders, think-tankers and ambitious and promising start-ups. Transcending sectoral discussions, it connects the dots between all the main viewpoints through comprehensive,



inclusive debates and countless informal meetings and conversations alongside the official programme.

Since the first edition in 2014, this annual high-level conference has served as an independent and pro-European industry platform for in-depth and informal discussions on the challenges associated with reconciling Europe's decarbonisation efforts with industrial ambition and competitiveness.

About Business Bridge Europe

Business Bridge Europe is a Brussels-based public affairs and advocacy consultancy with 16 years of experience supporting clients in European Union policy and international relations. The company has a strong track record in the space, defence, and energy sectors, and is the organiser of flagship events such as the European Energy and Industry Conference, the European Defence and Security Conference, and the European Space Conference.

Since 2023, Business Bridge Europe has been part of logos, a global public affairs and communications agency with 26 years of expertise across policy areas including transport, mobility, defence, space, and aviation. Logos is a member of the [mci group](#), further strengthening Business Bridge Europe's international reach and capabilities.

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