

2025-2027

PRESIDENCY **MANIFESTO**

Powering a Competitive,
Sustainable and Secure Europe

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Europe stands at a critical juncture shaped by several distinct and powerful forces. We face a pivotal moment to reignite our industrial productivity, economic competitiveness and sustainable growth. Climate change makes Europe the fastest warming continent in the world¹. Russia's war against Ukraine and intensified geopolitical rivalry have profoundly altered the continent's security landscape. Simultaneously, technological development is accelerating rapidly, particularly in the field of artificial intelligence (AI) and computing. Clean energy, and especially electricity, underpins entire sectors and is essential in achieving Europe's ambitious environmental, technological and economic goals.

Unlocking European economic competitiveness, sustainability and security is anchored in clean electrification and a shift away from fossil fuels—not only in power generation, but across the industry, transport and buildings sectors. The power industry must focus on delivering for customers and meeting their evolving needs. To achieve this, we strive for a reliable European power system that is both cost-efficient, sustainable and resilient. This requires robust European leadership based on the ambitions of the Green Deal, reinforced by market-driven and technology-neutral regulation and underpinned by a deeply integrated power market built on seamless cooperation across Europe.

The Eurelectric Presidency Team is committed to advancing a forward-looking power industry that facilitates a competitive, sustainable and secure Europe. We focus on three strategic priorities: Customer-driven electrification to boost industrial competitiveness; Energy security and security of supply for resilience; and Digital transformation to prepare for the future.

Priority 1: Clean electrification to facilitate competitiveness and growth for customers and European industries

Electrification is critical to restoring industrial competitiveness, accelerating economic growth and achieving climate neutrality. However, progress across Europe has been too slow². The European power sector must work together with customers to address the opportunities and challenges they face in terms of competitiveness and transition away from fossil fuels. Delivering affordable, clean and reliable electricity is critical to enabling large-scale electrification in industries.

Key areas of focus:

- Develop and implement a robust, ambitious and collaborative Electrification Action Plan, supported by decisive policies that address both energy consumers and producers' needs.
- Accelerate targeted financing for electrification projects and develop de-risking instruments to unlock long-term, capital-intensive partnerships between customers and the energy sector.
- Streamline permitting processes by reducing bureaucratic hurdles and prioritising grid connections for industrial electrification projects.
- Implement a fit-for-purpose energy taxation system that is aligned with climate goals and non-discriminatory of clean technologies and energy vectors.

¹ <https://www.copernicus.eu/en/news/news/copernicus-global-climate-report-2024-confirms-last-year-warmest-record-first-ever-above>

² <https://www.iea.org/data-and-statistics/data-tools/energy-statistics-data-browser?country=WEOEUR&fuel=Energy%20consumption&indicator=TFCbySource>

- Secure a robust grid investment framework for a well-interconnected and cross-border pan-European electricity network that facilitates rapid electrification and delivers cost-effective and affordable power to the customers.
- Build on the existing robust market design and implement the Electricity Market Design legislation and associated EU financial regulation, with a specific focus on liquid, well-interconnected EU-wide power markets and unlocking flexibility across production, storage, and consumption.

Priority 2: Energy security and security of supply to strengthen Europe's resilience

Electrification is key to Europe's energy security and overall resilience. Resource adequacy and security of supply need to be maintained at all times in an increasingly weather-dependent and decentralised system. A robust and resilient European power system is not a given, but requires continuous learning, frequent adaptation and full commitment by all involved parties. In parallel, attention must be given to preparedness, physical protection and cybersecurity to safeguard critical European infrastructure and resilience of supply chains. Achieving this will require sustained investment not only from the power sector itself, but also supportive public policies and collaboration across sectors and country borders.

Key areas of focus:

- Establish physical and cyber security strategies, continuity plans and regular rehearsal of crisis management procedures and foster cooperation and voluntary action—across borders as well as between authorities, governmental agencies, businesses and third-sector organisations.
- Foster diversification of critical imports for, e.g., fuels, technologies, materials and components and development of relevant European supply chains.
- Review the EU's energy security architecture based on a global systemic approach to reflect today's geopolitical realities and related risks, energy system electrification and climate impacts.
- Implement the Electricity Market Design legislation, that is market-based and technology neutral, and that addresses all system needs including system adequacy, secures timely investments in renewable and low-carbon electricity, and ensures infrastructure resilience by allocating resources efficiently across the value chain.

Priority 3: Intelligent power to drive the European digital opportunity and future-proof Europe's energy system

There has been a step change in the capabilities of AI, fuelled by major technical innovations, the explosion of available data and decrease in computational costs. AI, cloud computing and connected technologies are reshaping industries and societies, including how we produce, manage and consume energy. Digital technologies and AI have the potential to deliver an enhanced and resilient power system. At the same time, electricity is a foundational enabler of AI, and the power sector can become a cornerstone for European digital and AI ambitions and thus power the next chapter of European economic growth. To fully embrace this opportunity, the European power sector needs to scale digital technologies to optimise system performance, unlock innovation and future-proof Europe's energy infrastructure.

Key areas of focus:

- Showcase and drive deployment of digital and AI technologies to optimise the operations of the power sector, including empowering consumers, unlocking flexibility and enhancing interconnectivity of the European power markets.
- Continue to digitalise European energy infrastructure to enable deployment of the advanced digital and AI applications, maintaining particular focus on cybersecurity and data interoperability in AI-driven energy systems.
- Facilitate European digital and AI development and the associated economic growth without putting pressure on our residential, commercial and industrial customers.
- Drive the development of a strategic roadmap for digitalisation and AI in the energy sector and contribute to the alignment of policies and frameworks that sit at the intersection of energy and AI, aiming to foster digital transformation, European competitiveness and energy transition.

To achieve our vision, Eurelectric's Presidency Team is committed to work in a focused, engaging and open manner. We focus on addressing and proactively providing solutions to issues on the EU agenda today and tomorrow. We work together with all stakeholders, in particular with our members and our customers, and commit to transparent communication and dialogue. Finally, the Presidency Team makes itself available for the Eurelectric's Secretariat to steer, but also to work together and ensure everyone can give their best in achieving this vision.