

Press Release

European Clean Hydrogen Alliance publishes 'Learnbook on Hydrogen Imports to the EU market'

(Brussels, 21 December 2023, PR0312) **Today, the European Clean Hydrogen Alliance published its Learnbook on Hydrogen imports, which is intended to serve as an overview document and reference point for discussions on hydrogen imports. To reach the European ambitions hydrogen imports to the EU are needed. Different import options are possible – each with specific benefits and challenges. The Learnbook provides insights into the different import options and on tackling the most pressing challenges.**

Hydrogen will play a major role in decarbonising the European industry – as laid out in European policy and strategies. The REPowerEU plan foresees 10 million tonnes of yearly hydrogen imports to the EU by 2030, for example. To meet this ambition and to satisfy future demand, the EU needs hydrogen imports, which can come in different options with specific challenges and benefits each.

One pillar of hydrogen imports is the development of international strategic partnerships and supporting growth of large-scale production projects. In this regard, the Learnbook gives an overview of potential suppliers and important export projects. The document also lists planned import projects and related infrastructure – separated into a section for maritime routes and a section for pipeline routes. The new framework for gas and hydrogen will help to kick-start the market – however, additional regulatory developments are needed as well – including definitions, standards and environmental regulations.

Infrastructure will serve as a crucial pillar and as an enabler of building up the hydrogen economy. Europe has valuable infrastructure assets, and there are many instances where existing infrastructure (ports, terminals, pipelines, etc.) could be repurposed to allow cost-effective high-volume imports. Assessment and development of relevant infrastructure at national and trans-European level needs to follow.

Jean Bergevin, Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs Senior Expert, says, *“Europe needs intra (within the internal market) and eventually extra (from third countries) clean hydrogen and hydrogen derivative imports if it wants to reach its projected*

ambitions. This Learnbook provides a very timely overview of benefits and challenges for imports. The European Clean Hydrogen Alliance provides an excellent framework for cooperation among its members and delivers valuable assessments for decision makers. The alliance's strong work on supporting the future EU hydrogen economy continues – which will contribute to economic growth, job generation and decarbonisation.”

Piotr Kuś, ENTSOG General Director, comments, *“Infrastructure serves as an enabler for hydrogen imports – whether through ports, terminals or pipelines, for example. We are honoured to act as a facilitator of the ECH2A Transmission and Distribution Roundtable, which created this Learnbook including a variety of perspectives and opinions from academia, NGOs and industry.”*

The Learnbook on Hydrogen imports is a product of the Transmission and Distribution Roundtable of the European Clean Hydrogen Alliance and is available on the website of Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs [here](#) and on the ENTSOG website, [here](#).

The Learnbook is the second Learnbook from the Transmission and Distribution Roundtable, with the first Learnbook focusing on Hydrogen Supply Corridors. Additional Learnbooks on Financing and Implementation of Projects are planned in separate task forces of the Transmission and Distribution Roundtable.

Should you require any further information, please contact external Communications Manager Ms. Carmel Carey at ENTSOG.Communications@entsog.eu.

Editorial notes

- > [The European Clean Hydrogen Alliance](#) was set up in July 2020 to support the large-scale deployment of clean hydrogen technologies by 2030. It brings together renewable and low-carbon hydrogen production, demand in industry, mobility and other sectors, and hydrogen transmission and distribution. Its members come from industry, public authorities, civil society, and other stakeholders. More information is available on the [ECHA website](#).
- > [The European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas \(ENTSOG\)](#) was founded in line with Regulation (EC) 715/2009 and has played a key role in facilitating integration of the European gas markets, ensuring technical interoperability and providing security of supply by gas infrastructure planning. Looking forward, ENTSOG is contributing to the net-zero decarbonisation by 2050, in particular, by the integration of renewable and low carbon gases via future-proof gas transmission pipelines, in line with the EU energy and climate goals. More information on ENTSOG can be found on our website – or contact info@entsog.eu.