On 24 January 2017, Jan Ingwersen, General Manager of ENTSOG was invited to a panel discussion during the ACER/CEER conference in Brussels. The panel was on “Integrating gas and electricity markets for future-proofing the EU energy market design”. (See below some of his statements)

Security of Supply: Relying on market mechanisms requires that gas markets are well-functioning. This was confirmed by the latest ACER Market Monitoring Report. And it requires well-developed gas infrastructure, which is also confirmed by the most recent TYNDP.

Further improvements are still needed in some parts of Europe, but this is probably more a matter of full implementation, rather than the need for new regulation.

Coordination and integration of electricity and gas markets can be further improved: For climate reasons (lower emissions than coal, lignite and oil), for economic efficiency (utilising existing infrastructure) and for security of supply (a 2 string energy supply that can support each other).

On the “Quo vadis” -Study and the subsequent consideration of new gas legislation: “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it.” – Mirroring electricity legislation on gas: It is very important to do that carefully. – Most importantly: Consider the involvement of everyone concerned: also stakeholders such as consumers and shippers.