Energy Transition Future Leaders Academy

Syllabus

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About the Organizers

The Greek Energy Forum founded and headquartered in London since 2013 and currently featuring branch offices in Brussels, Athens, Nicosia, Dubai, and Washington DC is an international energy think tank consisting of Greek energy professionals holding international corporate posts and sharing a common interest in the broader energy industry in Greece and Southeastern Europe. The members of the Greek Energy Forum hold international corporate posts and their expertise spans across the energy industry spectrum, benefiting the Greek Energy Forum with a multi-disciplinary skill set and a holistic approach to its field.

The American College of Greece (ACG) is the oldest and largest U.S., accredited, nonprofit educational institution in Europe. Guided by its mission to add distinctive and sustainable value to our students, Greece, American education, Hellenic heritage, and the global community through transformative teaching, scholarship, and service, ACG has grown into an independent, comprehensive educational institution enrolling more than 7,000 students from Greece and more than 65 other countries. ACG’s educational activities span across all educational levels separated in three divisions including Pierce (2,400+ students in grades kindergarten and elementary to high school), Deree (4,200+ undergraduate and graduate students), and Alba (500+ graduate business students plus Executive Education).

The Center of Excellence in Logistics, Shipping & Transportation (CoELST) at ACG exploits the intellectual and pedagogical resources of ACG as well as the talents of leading scholars, fellows, and businesspeople in order to promote the creation and adoption of innovative practices and policies designed to foster excellence in transportation-related, supply chain and energy fields and thus to assist in transcending the current economic challenges in Greece. The CoELST seeks to foster innovative applied research, teaching and public outreach to help propel Greece’s economic growth by means of academic programs, fellowships, internships, lectures, policy papers, media productions, symposia and conferences.

Academy General Information

Organizers: Greek Energy Forum & The American College of Greece
Duration: 4 days
Location: Athens
Venue: ACG Events Hall, Gravias 6, 153 42, Aghia Paraskevi
Lecturers: 20
Delegates: 40
Guest students: 10
Description & Purpose

The objective of the Energy Transition Future Leaders Academy program is to identify high-caliber university students and young professionals with proven, genuine interest in the energy sector and educate them on key elements of the EU’s Energy Transition policies.

Our purpose is to offer these promising young individuals an intensive, challenging and rewarding course on the structure that makes EU’s Energy Transition an essential part of the European Union. During the course of the Academy we examine the fundamental principles that shape the European Energy Transition, we analyze the benefits, evaluate the goals, identify the vulnerabilities, and suggest improvements for EU’s energy transition policy.

The Academy aspires to create a recurring, small, but valuable core of young energy experts equipped with specialized knowledge to understand, defend, promote, and enrich the EU’s Energy Transition.

The academic program consists of four sessions covering four vital EU Energy Transition policy areas: Decarbonization & Energy Efficiency, the Internal Energy Market, Energy Security & Solidarity, and Renewable Gases & Transport.

Learning Goals

- Understand the key structural elements of core EU Energy Transition policies.
- Evaluate the drives behind each of the core policy areas.
- Review the critique and vulnerabilities of these policies.
- Analyze the benefits for the member states.
- Explore alternative policies for the EU’s Energy Transition objectives.
- Identify the critical benchmarks that determine the future of EU’s energy transition.
- Develop a mindset for innovative, out-of-the-box problem-solving for the energy transition.

Sessions Structure
- **Lectures**
  Each session starts with four, back to back lectures with a duration of 30 minutes each. The four lectures in each session cover four different aspects of one policy area. Lectures are conducted by industry executives, academics and policy makers.

- **Debate**
  After the lectures, a debate takes place between different teams of delegates coached by the lecturers. The teams are assigned to defend or attack certain aspects of the policy area presented in the session. The subject of the debate, the teams and the offence-defense sides are assigned two weeks before the Academy program starts in order for the delegates to prepare accordingly.

- **Discussion**
  Following the debate, an open 30-minute discussion between the lecturers and the delegates takes place. During the discussion, all the issues arising from the debate as well as the lectures are evaluated and analyzed.

- **Workshop**
  The delegates work in small teams in order to produce a short paper on the issues presented, debated and discussed during the session. During the 60-minute workshop the groups of delegates need to construct the basic framework of their paper. The full body of the paper is delivered within a period of two weeks after the end of the Academy program.

- **Networking**
  At the end of each session there is a networking meeting where the delegates get to meet and talk with the lecturers of the session. Delegates also have a 10-minute interview and discussion with one of the lecturers of their choice where they get the opportunity to present themselves, their work and interests.
Course Policies and Deadlines

▪ Delegates

The delegates selected to participate in the Academy are expected to participate in a total of 10 hours of lectures and 5 hours of group work during the course of the Academy in order to successfully complete the program.

Before attending the Academy, all delegates are expected to study and prepare arguments on the subject of the debate for each of the five sessions of the program. The subject of each debate will be sent to each delegate two weeks before the start of the program.

One week before the start of the program, all delegates are expected to submit a list with the lecturers they choose to have an interview with, at the end of every session. The information of all the lecturers will be sent to each delegate two weeks before the start of the program.

Two weeks after the conclusion of the program, all delegates are expected to submit the final texts for the papers they prepared during the course of the workshops for sessions of the Academy. Delegates who successfully complete the program are awarded an Academy Diploma from GEF.

▪ Guest Students

Guest undergraduate students are expected to have followed a minimum of 8 out of 10 hours of lectures in order to receive an Attendance Certificate from the Academy.

Guest students can attend but not participate in the debates but are encouraged to actively participate in the discussion section of each session.

Guest students cannot participate in the workshops and interview sections but are encouraged to participate in networking events with the lecturers and delegates.
Reading Material

- Before attending the Academy, delegates will receive a bibliography list including scientific articles, books and internet sources relevant to the subjects taught in each of the lectures during the five sessions of the Academy.
- During the course, delegates will have access to notes for all the lectures in each session.
- Upon successful completion of the Academy program, delegates gain access to GEF’s publication material including sector analysis, articles, interviews and speeches from various GEF’s conferences.

Learning & Study Hours

- Lectures: 10 hours
- Group work: 5 hours
- Self-study: 20 hours

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the Academy program delegates will be able to:

- Master specialized knowledge on the function and development of core EU’s energy transition areas.
- Defend and promote the core energy transition policies of the EU.
- Recognize turning points and benchmarks in the future of the energy sector in Europe.
- Contribute to the development of corporate or public-policy level action plans affected by EU’s core energy transition policies.
Lectures

Session 1 – Energy Security & Solidarity
Lecture A: Security of supply in the oil & gas sector in Europe
Lecture B: Security of supply of electricity and of transmission and distribution networks
Lecture C: Security of supply in Renewable Energy Sources and green gases
Lecture D: Geopolitical challenges and cooperation in the European energy sector

Session 2 - Internal Energy Market
Lecture A: Key legislation elements of the internal energy market
Lecture B: Regulation of energy wholesale markets, Exchanges, and price formation
Lecture C: Energy consumer protection, participation and information policies
Lecture D: RES integration & interconnection of energy networks

Session 3 – Decarbonization & Energy Efficiency
Lecture A: Key elements of the EU Emissions Trading System
Lecture B: Energy intensity and RES shares in the EU industry sector
Lecture C: Smart grids, alternative low-emissions fuels, and energy storage
Lecture D: Financing efficiency investments

Session 4 – Renewable Gases & Transport
Lecture A: The compliance roadmap to 2050 for Shipping
Lecture B: Biomethane production and supply chains
Lecture C: Hydrogen fundamentals and its value chain
Lecture D: Achieving net-zero in Road Transport via Renewable Gases
Daily Schedule

DAY 1 (Wednesday)

Opening Ceremony
16:00 – 17:00 Registrations
17:00 – 19:00 Opening Ceremony & Keynote Speakers
19:00 – 20:00 Meet the Delegates
20:00 – 22:00 Cocktail reception

DAY 2 (Thursday)

Morning session - Energy Security & Solidarity
09:00 - 11:00 Lectures
11:00 – 12:00 Debates
12:00 – 13:00 Discussion
13:00 – 14:00 Networking & Interviews
14:00 – 15:00 Lunch Break

Evening session - Internal Energy Market
15:00 - 17:00 Lectures
17:00 – 18:00 Debates
18:00 – 19:00 Discussion
19:00 – 20:00 Networking & Interviews
21:00 – Social event
DAY 3 (Friday)

Morning session – Decarbonization & Energy Efficiency
09:00 - 11:00 Lectures
11:00 – 12:00 Debates
12:00 – 13:00 Discussion
13:00 – 14:00 Networking & Interviews
14:00 – 15:00 Lunch Break

Evening session – Renewable Gases & Transport
15:00 - 17:00 Lectures
17:00 – 18:00 Debates
18:00 – 19:00 Discussion
19:00 – 20:00 Networking & Interviews
21:00 – Social event

DAY 4 (Saturday)

Morning session – Workshops
09:00 – 11:00 Workshop on Energy Security & Solidarity:
Case Study – Competition & cooperation between transnational pipelines and LNG
11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break
11:30 – 13:30 Workshop on the Internal Energy Market:
Case Study - Integration of new RES and Storage infrastructure into existing transmission and distribution networks
13:30 – 14:30 Lunch break
14:30 – 16:30 Workshop on Decarbonization & Energy Efficiency:
Case Study – Introducing green PPAs for SMEs
16:30 – 18:30 Workshop on Renewable Gases & Transport:
Case study – Integrating Renewable Gases to achieve net-zero in Road Transport

20:30 – 23:00 Closing Ceremony & Reception