THE FUTURE LOOK OF ENERGY AND THE GREEN DEAL PRESENTED AT THE THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL ONLINE VIDEO-CONFERENCE ON ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION ORGANIZED BY CRE

5 May 2020, Dan PREOTESCU

The future look of the Energy and the European Green Deal enabled by a Stable and Smart Grid with High RES were two of the main topics addressed by the two distinguished keynote speakers in the Opening Part of the first International Online Video Conference under the title *„Integrated Approach in the Management and Operation of Electricity Transmission and Distribution Networks*" organized by the Romanian Energy Center (CRE) on 30th April. More than 220 participants representing more than 120 organizations from over 35 countries and 28 high-level speakers have jointly contributed to the success of the Event. This International Stakeholders Consultation focused on the preliminary results and the synergies within the European H2020 Projects SOGNO, WISEGRID, PHOENIX, CROSSBOW, EDDIE and DEFENDER.

"*Indirectly, the coronavirus pandemic we are facing today has forced us all to rely on **21st century technologies - artificial intelligence, the internet, social media, digital learning platforms, augmented and virtual reality, drones, 3D printing** and more to keep us going life*" highlighted Mihai PAUN – Vice-President of the Romanian Energy Center Association and Chair of this International Conference in the Opening of the Event. "*This unprecedented context causes us to **become much more dependent on the advanced digital, biological and physical technologies** we benefit from, and much **more receptive** to how we can use these innovative technologies to create new possibilities. The currently implemented extraordinary restrictions on human movement has led us to **turn towards Digitalization even more than before***" he continued.

The main objectives of the event were: **Consultation with Stakeholders** on the Preliminary Results on Electricity T&D grid operation, regulation, standardization, as well as on New Solutions and Services proposed to TSOs and DSOs for improving the operation and security of the electricity grid trough Digitalisation and Education; **Dissemination of the Projects Solutions** for the Management of Variable Renewable Energies and Storage Units enabling more Secure Smart Grid; **Presentation of integrated solutions and Business Models** for the integration of more RES into the European Smart Grid with increased protection and fast mitigation of the Cyber-Attacks against assets and the Networks of the Future; **Identify synergies within EU H2020 Projects** on Electricity T&D; **Consolidating** the European dimension of **Innovation and Development** in the Energy Sector.

"*Among all European organizations responding to a World Energy Council - WEC questionnaire over 95% had been already affected by the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, with third of it experiencing significant disruptions. The most critical areas impacted are: reduced productivity, decrease in demand and cash flow issues*" stressed the President of the Committee for Industries and Services of the Romanian Parliament - Chamber of Deputies – Iulian IANCU, who spoke on *"**Ensuring Clean and Secure Energy for All European Citizens**". "**Europe is divided into two**, which demonstrates there is no unique voice in energy; there is no prioritization of interconnection projects, and the European power demand appears to have found its bottom*" he concluded.

According to the Team Leader on Smart Grids at the Directorate-General for Energy of the European Commission - Manuel SANCHEZ JIMENEZ **"*The Green Deal** set up the policy and instruments to transform EU's economy for a sustainable future and the **Smart Grids** are key for the transition towards the **Energy System Integration strategy.** Smart Grids are about the **digital transformation of the energy sector."** "Looking ahead towards a **clean, affordable and secure European energy**, the deployment of Smart Grids calls for: accompanying actions to develop and implement **clear procedures for access to data, interoperability requirements, cybersecurity and synergies** with other sectors; **investments on new data processing infrastructures** for flexibility services which guarantee cost-effective investments and add value to **both grid operators and users; research and innovation on power electronic** technologies to overcome physical restrictions and **emerging disruptive technologies** for further integrate distributed energy resources; and **Updated traditional human resources** and create **new 'digital' skills at all levels**"* he concluded.

Under the current challenging circumstances when the needs for more communication are obvious, the Event highlighted the advantages of an „**Integrated Approach in the Management and Operation of Electricity Transmission and Distribution Networks", the key roles of innovation, digitalization and education** to ensure the continuity of electricity supply and the main functions of the power sector in Europe.