EMPOWERING MEDITERRANEAN REGULATORS FOR A COMMON ENERGY FUTURE

Co-funded by the European Union
Established 12 years ago, MEDREG is the Association of Mediterranean Energy Regulators, which includes 27 regulators from 22 countries, spanning the European Union (EU), the Balkans and North Africa.

Mediterranean regulators work together through constant cooperation to promote a permanent exchange of know-how, data collection and dissemination of expertise, making use of comprehensive studies, recommendations, reports and specialised training sessions. The European Union has been a continuous promoter of MEDREG since its creation, through the active involvement of the European Commission’s Directorate General for Energy (DG ENER) and the Directorate General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR), which co-finances MEDREG activities.

27 REGULATORS FROM 22 COUNTRIES
MIXED MEMBERSHIP WITH REGULATORS FROM 8 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, 4 BALKAN COUNTRIES AND 10 MIDDLE EAST AND NORTHERN AFRICA (MENA) COUNTRIES
11 MEMBERS REGULATE ELECTRICITY AND GAS, 12 REGULATE ELECTRICITY ONLY AND 4 REGULATE GAS ONLY
SOME ALSO REGULATE OTHER SECTORS SUCH AS WATER, OIL, WASTE AND TELECOMS.
21 ARE INDEPENDENT REGULATORS, WHILE 6 ARE MINISTRIES
THE MEDREG REGIONAL COOPERATION PROJECT STARTED IN 2007

MEDREG’s mission is to provide a level playing field for all Mediterranean energy actors by encouraging and facilitating the establishment of a sound legal and regulatory framework. Based on independent and objective regulatory bodies, energy markets are more likely to attract investment, ensure the efficient use of the system and of investments and encourage fair practices towards consumers.

1 Foster cooperation, information exchange and assistance among members, providing a permanent discussion framework and cooperation network
2 Provide capacity development activities through study visits, training sessions and workshops
3 Support initiatives of common interest in key areas such as infrastructure investment and development, innovative financing solutions for the Mediterranean and research in the field of energy regulation
4 Foster sustainable development in the energy sector through greater efficiency and integration of energy markets based on secure, safe, cost-effective and environmentally sustainable energy systems
5 Promote a greater compatibility of the energy markets and legislation and seek progressive market integration in the Euro-Mediterranean region
# Our Members

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<td>CREG</td>
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<td>Italy</td>
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<td>Jordan</td>
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<td>Spain</td>
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**Organisational Chart**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**PRESIDENCY**
- President • EMRA, Turkey
- Vice-President • CRE, France
- Vice-President • ERE, Albania
- Permanent Vice-President • ARERA, Italy

**COMMUNICATION OFFICERS NETWORK**

**SECRETARIAT**
- Milan, Italy

**INSTITUTIONAL GROUP**
- Co-Ch: RAE, Greece
- Co-Ch: PUA, Israel
- VCh: ERE, Albania

**ELECTRICITY GROUP**
- Co-Ch: CRE, France
- Co-Ch: EMRC, Jordan
- VCh: PERC, Palestine

**GAS GROUP**
- Co-Ch: GasReg, Egypt
- Co-Ch: ARERA, Italy
- VCh: EMRA, Turkey

**RENEWABLES GROUP**
- Co-Ch: CERA, Cyprus
- Co-Ch: ERSE, Portugal
- VCh: CREG, Algeria

**CONSUMER ISSUES GROUP**
- Co-Ch: CNMC, Spain
- Co-Ch: REWS, Malta
- VCh: CREG, Algeria

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**General Assembly**

The General Assembly (GA) is the decision making body responsible for defining MEDREG’s strategy and for approving the Action Plan, operational guidelines, budget, reports and position papers elaborated by the Working Groups. It is composed of high-level representatives from MEDREG members. The General Assembly meets every six months.

MEDREG’s 27th General Assembly in Tirana (Albania) on 19 June 2019
MEDREG focuses on five areas of activity through its Working Groups which are led by regulatory staff.

**OUR GOVERNANCE**

Gülefşan Demirbaş  
PRESIDENT  
(EMRA, TURKEY)

Petrit Ahmeti  
VICE-PRESIDENT  
(ERE, ALBANIA)

Christine Chauvet  
VICE-PRESIDENT  
(CRE, FRANCE)

Stefano Besseghini  
PERMANENT VICE-PRESIDENT  
(ARERA, ITALY)

Fabio Tambone  
SECRETARY GENERAL  
(MEDREG SECRETARIAT)

**SECRETARIAT**

Hosted by its Italian member ARERA in Milan, the Secretariat implements MEDREG’s strategy as defined by GA members, enhancing MEDREG accountability and institutional cooperation in the Mediterranean energy sector. The Secretariat provides continuous support to the President, Vice-Presidents and members, as well as to the Working Groups in the implementation of the Action Plan. Moreover, the MEDREG Secretariat fosters information exchange among its members through a Communication Officers network that promotes MEDREG’s message in each member country.

**Main areas of work**

MEDREG focuses on five areas of activity through its Working Groups which are led by regulatory staff.

- **INSTITUTIONAL** We study and promote the role and competencies of regulatory authorities, and coordinate MEDREG’s institutional presence in EU and international contexts.
  We maintain a dialogue on energy regulation with the European Union, international institutions, regional regulatory organisations and other bodies.

- **GAS** We assess the current status of natural gas and liquefied natural gas (LNG) markets in Mediterranean countries, their regulatory frameworks and possible evolutions. We also elaborate Guidelines of Good Practice (GGP) and recommendations that could lead to the development of an integrated, competitive, transparent, secure and effective gas market in the region.

- **ELECTRICITY** We monitor the status of electricity markets and their regulatory frameworks in MEDREG countries and propose viable paths for their harmonized development. We also identify essential requirements that will lead to strengthened and well-functioning regional electricity markets in the region.

- **ENVIRONMENT, RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY** We focus on the legislative and regulatory mechanisms used to promote renewable electricity generation, energy efficiency and renewable energy sources (RES) deployment in the Mediterranean basin, with particular attention to off-grid solutions and independent power producers (IPPs).

- **CONSUMERS** We work on enhancing the protection of household consumers in MEDREG countries.
  We produce surveys and recommendations on energy billing, consumer protection and information. We also identify and promote best practices in consumer protection, including vulnerable consumers, quality of service for electricity and gas and consumer associations.
IDENTIFYING REGULATORY OPTIONS FOR THE STIMULATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

In a report that assesses the level of development of power systems, MEDREG identifies priorities and challenges for the stimulation of relevant investments in the Mediterranean region. MEDREG calls for a new approach toward the assessment of electricity infrastructure investments, pleading to:

- Clarify the institutional architecture at national level;
- Improve investment planning capacity;
- Ensure a proper level of transparency and know-how; and
- Build upon regulators’ competences.

EMPOWERING ALGERIA TO DETERMINE RES PRICES THROUGH AUCTIONING SYSTEM

In the context of Algeria’s new strategy for renewable energy development that comprises the introduction of public tenders as a method to determine the renewable energy selling price, the energy regulator CREG is contributing to the process of validating renewable energy selling prices resulting from investors’ responses to tenders and from auctions.

To support CREG in this process and the launch of a first auction for the production of 150 MW of photovoltaic (PV) solar energy, MEDREG organised a technical workshop to share the lessons learned on the factors influencing prices in renewable energy auctions in October 2018 in Algiers. This tailor-made activity looked at how to include stakeholders’ view in the design of auctions, define appropriate requirements to participate in the auction and select a winner to implement the project. The MEDREG workshop, which was part of an exhaustive capacity building process at CREG, provided effective tools to assess the offers made through auctions.

STRENGTHENING THE JORDANIAN REGULATOR’S CAPACITY TO CORRECTLY GIVE, MONITOR AND WITHDRAW LICENCES

MEDREG developed recommendations and provided a concrete roadmap to Jordan to improve its electricity licencing procedures. In 2018, the Jordanian regulator (EMRC) undertook a MEDREG peer review on a voluntary basis to improve its licencing procedures for the electricity generation, transmission, and distribution, including licences for the commerce and self-consumption of renewable energy sources (RES). In 2019, these recommendations translated into dedicated capacity-building activities that foster applicable solutions for Jordan to issue and manage licences in line with the best practice.

ACCOMPANYING REGULATION IN MOROCCO

MEDREG is supporting the National Electricity Regulatory Authority (ANRE), established in 2018. We are offering our full support to bring the new regulator up to speed on MEDREG activities. Concretely, we recently explored synergies between Morocco and the Mediterranean regulators to integrate RES in its electricity market. MEDREG gave an overview of the legislative, policy and regulatory tools applied in the Southern Mediterranean countries to incentivize renewable energy projects, thus helping Morocco to achieve the objectives of its energy policy, and in particular those it has set for 2030 and 2050. MEDREG also provides technical support to ANRE officials, through regular meetings, seminars and training courses.

**Thanks to experiences of RES auction systems implemented in various developing regions of the world, shared in the MEDREG support framework, we gained a clear idea on the priorities to take into consideration in order to evaluate and endorse the fairest and most economical viable RES electricity prices in Algeria.**

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*Mr. Hichem Rimouche*
Tariff Director (CREG, Algeria)
**DRAWING A GAS INFRASTRUCTURE MAP**

MEDREG’s report brings more clarity on the expectations, aims and motives of the Mediterranean countries’ infrastructure investment evaluations and decisions, in terms of increasing security of supply, providing market security and diversifying natural gas sources or routes. 14 MEDREG regulators shared the ways they use their transmission and storage capacity, shedding light on future investment plans across MEDREG members.

**CONNECTING ISRAELI HOUSEHOLD CONSUMERS TO GAS**

As natural gas in Israel is now entering the residential sector, MEDREG provided the Israeli Natural Gas Authority (NGA) with technical assistance to understand how to set up an efficient gas supply for domestic consumers. MEDREG led a study visit in 2018 to fellow members, the Spanish and Turkish regulators, who undertook similar gas reforms and that were able to share their experience and practical knowledge with NGA.

“Thanks to MEDREG’s support, we exposed ourselves to both the mature market of Spain and the newly established and flourishing market of Turkey. It has been a very important experience for the Israeli natural gas industry, which is now entering into the stage of natural gas penetration to the residential sector. There are very few countries that possess a developed natural gas regulation and similar climatic conditions to those of Israel, so the chance MEDREG provided us to have long and fruitful workshops with the regulators of Spain and Turkey was extremely valuable.”

Mr. Constantine Blyuz, Chief Economist (NGA, Israel)

**ENCOURAGING BEST PRACTICES FOR CONSUMERS’ DISPUTE SETTLEMENT AND DISCONNECTION PROCEDURES**

Following the best practice, we issued recommendations on the procedures applicable to disputes between consumers and their providers. MEDREG’s benchmarking analysis shows that regardless of the level of customers’ protection, consumers’ protection is gaining a growing interest. We are tackling disconnection practices too, by looking at the impact that the current disconnection procedures have on consumers in MEDREG countries. We prepare the ground for the elaboration of recommendations at regional and national level to promote disconnection practices that take into account vulnerable consumers.

**SUPPORTING THE EVALUATION OF A NET METERING SYSTEM IN PALESTINE**

A report was made for the Palestinian member PERC to highlight the technical and economic impact that net metering could have on the Palestinian grid. The report draws recommendations on the regulatory, economic procedural, technical and capacity development steps to be taken in order to implement net metering in Palestine. The report was used by PERC and presented to the Energy Ministry which took the recommendations into account in the new net metering rule.

**MONITORING THIRD PARTY ACCESS TO GAS NETWORKS**

MEDREG drew guidelines on Third Party Access (TPA) to the Mediterranean gas networks. We identified the countries which meet satisfactory practices, and the ones which do not, in areas such as market opening, unbundling, TPA to the infrastructures, network code and TPA rules, tariffs, methodologies for capacity allocation and congestion management, balancing, anti-hording mechanisms, quality of service and dispute settlement.
MEDREG advocates its positions and shares its recommendations for a common vision of energy regulation at regional level. We cooperate with international organisations, financial institutions, regional and international associations (fellow regulators, companies, consumers, conservation agencies, etc.).

**REGULATORS**

- CEER (Council of European Energy Regulators)
- ERRA (Energy Regulators Regional Association)
- ECRB (Energy Community Regulatory Board)
- ariae

**INSTITUTIONS AND PARTNERS**

- Med-TSO (Mediterranean Transmission System Operators)
- giz (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH)
- Energy Charter
- OME
- RES4MEDI
- PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA MEDITERRANÉE

الجمعية البرلمانية للبحر الأبيض المتوسط
MEDREG: a unique partner at the crossroads of the Mediterranean

We offer a cooperative platform bringing together regulators, the entities governing the technical side of the market.

We regularly share key regulatory findings attracting major energy stakeholders in our events and workshops.

We have a unique position to dialogue with the most influential institutions of the Mediterranean region.

We are a reliable and recognized institutional partner to grasp the trends and evolutions of the Euro-Mediterranean energy sector.

We are part of networks of diverse energy actors covering critical issues and shaping the future of Euro-Mediterranean energy integration.
INTERNALLY
Composed of representatives from the 27 Member regulators responsible for promoting MEDREG’s messages in their respective member country, the Communication Officers (COs) Network ensures a constant flow of information to improve the knowledge of MEDREG at national level. It also enables the dissemination and amplification of our activities regionally and facilitates the cooperation between MEDREG and the other energy stakeholders in the Mediterranean region. The COs Network exchanges frequently by virtual means and meets physically once a year.

WEBSITE
MEDREG’s activities, reports, publications, planned events and other resources are published on the website which is regularly updated. It consists of a public section offering a myriad of information and of an area dedicated and reserved to members where working documents and scheduled internal meetings are made available.

MEDIA, NEWSLETTERS AND ALERTS
Regular alerts, newsletters and press releases are disseminated throughout the Mediterranean region, informing members, external partners, journalists and stakeholders about our activities, recent reports and achievements.

SOCIAL MEDIA
MEDREG is active on LinkedIn, Twitter, Youtube and Instagram. Our social media pages keep our growing followers up-to-date with MEDREG’s latest news and related regulatory developments in the Mediterranean. In addition, we regularly elaborate short video interviews, posted on our website and YouTube channel, which explain in a pedagogical way our main reports and support activities to members.

PUBLICATIONS
We produce reader-friendly brochures, leaflets, infographics, handbooks and case studies translating our most relevant technical work. This promotional and informative material is widely distributed digitally and at high-level international fora. MEDREG also publishes annual reports that present the organisation’s main achievements.

HIGH-LEVEL INTERNATIONAL EVENTS
MEDREG frequently intervenes and presents its role and activities at various high-level international conferences and meetings. Events where we recently advocated our vision include the African Energy Forum, COP side events, Mediterranean Dialogues, Solidar Tunisie, POWER-GEN, the Centre for the Mediterranean Integration, GIZ trainings, meetings of the Union for the Mediterranean and Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean as well as various EU workshops and conferences.
**Latest reports**

**INSTITUTIONAL**
- Peer Review to the Jordanian Energy Regulator (EMRC) on electricity licensing procedures - AR - EN
- Case Study of EgyptERA peer review - EN
- Support to the evaluation of a net metering system in Palestine - AR - EN
- Mediterranean Energy Regulatory Outlook 2017 - EN

**ELECTRICITY**
- Regulatory options for the stimulation of infrastructure investments - AR - EN - FR
- Mediterranean Electricity Market Observatory (MEMO) - EN
- Methodologies used by Regulators to Evaluate Investment Projects and Investment Plans - EN
- Performance Indicators and Penalties Applicable to Generators in Case of Failure - EN

**GAS**
- Guidelines of Good Practice on Capacity Allocation AR - EN - FR
- Guidelines of Good Practice on Third Party Access AR - EN - FR
- Gas Infrastructure Map - EN
- Assessment of Natural Gas Competition and Market Prices within MEDREG Members - EN

**ENVIRONMENT, RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY**
- Smart Grids in Mediterranean Countries - AR - EN
- Benchmarking Assessment on the Development of Mediterranean RES - EN

**CONSUMERS**
- Overview on Disconnection Procedures Due to Non-Payment in the Mediterranean Region - EN
- Complaint Handling & Dispute Settlement Procedures available to Household Customers - Status review - AR - EN - FR
- Best practices to enhance consumers’ engagement - EN

All MEDREG reports are available for free on our website www.medreg-regulators.org
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