



FOR AMBITIOUS AND EVIDENCE-BASED  
CLIMATE AND ENERGY POLICIES  
SINCE 2015

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# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



# IEECP

INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN ENERGY AND CLIMATE POLICY

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by Vlasios Oikonomou

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# FOREWORD

In 2021, the European economy is still struggling with the COVID19 scars yet trying to escape the uncertainty and move on to a recovery phase. 2021 saw political changes, and we were happy to see some measures implemented by the European Commission, such as the proposed revision of the Energy Efficiency Directive strengthening / creating several provisions to fight energy poverty and protect vulnerable consumers.

A new obligation was imposed on Member States to achieve a minimum part of their energy savings target with energy-poor households, vulnerable customers and, where applicable, people living in social housing.

The focus of the targets on these groups, as also highlighted by our ENSMOV project, can enhance the role of energy efficiency as key policy to alleviate energy poverty. The policy trajectories that were started need to be confirmed in the next years to ensure the EU will follow the "green" pathway of the Green Deal, allowing for job creation with clean energy and moving towards energy justice and inclusion.

At the time of writing these words, in 2022, a new energy landscape has to be drawn by us all, policymakers, researchers, the industry, NGOs, away from imported fossil fuels. The Russia and Ukraine crisis has led Europe to an energy crisis, worsening the situation for many already struggling to pay their energy bills.

The latest IPCC reports were also released early 2022: policy makers must listen to science and implement long term solutions for the benefit of all. IEECP is happy to provide them research and data through many project outputs, we put the spotlight on some in this report.

The last years have, more than ever, made us aware that there are uncertainties that can change our lives and businesses in an instant. As with every obstacle, there is a way to turn it into an opportunity – during great uncertainty, it becomes ever more important to focus on creating innovative solutions and building an agile community that can easily adapt to change. Now, we are all in this together to shape the green energy future – we owe it to the next generation.

We invite you to join us on the innovative path to a more sustainable future - use our available ideas, research, and findings to improve your policies, businesses, and everyday living.



**VLASIOS OIKONOMOU**  
Managing Director – Chairman



# WHO WE ARE

For a climate and energy transition that leaves no one behind, IEECP develops proposals, participates and leads projects on various topics and through key support services.

## Some of our topic areas

Efficiency first

EMS, audits and multiple benefits

Energy poverty

Climate change mitigation and adaptation

Renewable energy communities

Innovative local and regional sustainability

Financing

Energy Savings Obligations and alternative measures

4

## Key services

Policy design, recommendations, implementation and evaluation

Project management, communication and dissemination

Innovative business and financing models

Knowledge-exchange, stakeholder engagement and capacity building

Literature review, data analysis

Tools, libraries and learning programmes



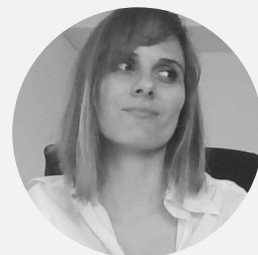
# THE TEAM

## IEECP Board 2021



Zsolt Lengyel (Marketing Director – Secretary), Vlasios Oikonomou (Managing Director – Chairman) and Vassilis Stavrakas (Financial Director – Treasurer)

## IEECP Team



**From left to right, top down:** Filippos Anagnostopoulos, Stefan Bouzarovski, Jean-Sébastien Broc, Mia Dragović Matosović, Marine Faber Perrio, Erik Faassen, Axelle Gallerand, Jen Heemann, Mara Oprea, Giulia Pizzini, Ivana Rogulj, George Stravodimos, Martijn Rietbergen.

# 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

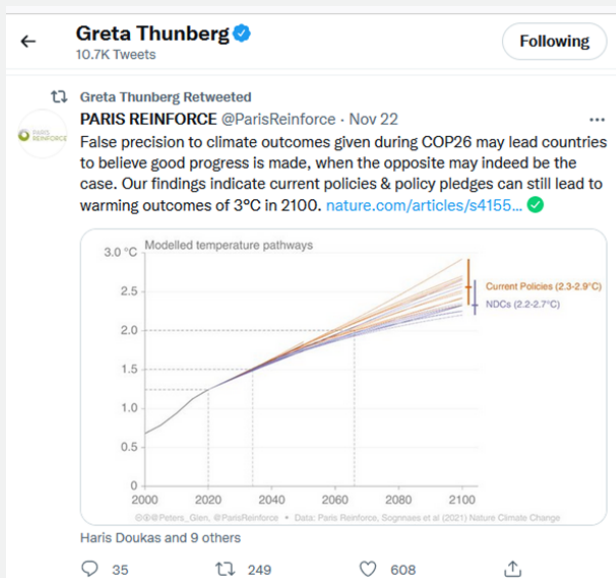
In 2021, IEECP kicked-off 2 new H2020-funded projects as coordinator: REGILIENCE and PROSPECT+, a follow up to the ending PROSPECT. IEECP added (many) more to its portfolio, to start in 2022.

IEECP was commissioned by the European Climate Foundation (ECF) to prepare a study focusing on the policies to decarbonise residential buildings in Central, Eastern and Southern EU, the impact on energy poverty and the mitigation strategies. Three reports were launched in 2022, with a high-level event organised by EU media EurActiv. Many more studies were authored or co-authored by IEECP, opinion pieces or articles written, you can find highlights in the next pages.

The EU Commission DG ENER tender on article 7 of the EED was quoted in the fit for 55 package (July 2021).

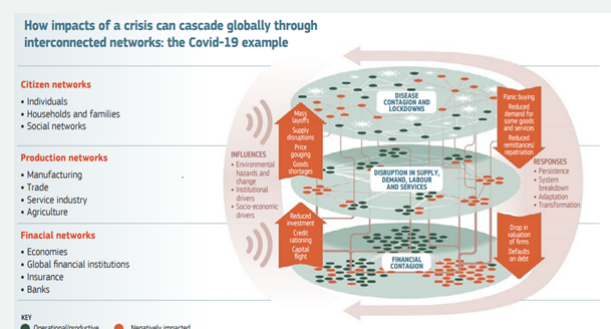
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IEECP's team members have proudly joined **boards**, such as Ivana Rogulj for the WELLBASED project, or Mia Dragović Matosović in the Steering Board of DOOR - Croatian Society for Sustainable Development Design.



IEECP presented how it supports various policymakers in the energy transition implementation and how it gathers stakeholders, in a **video** realised by RTL Z, De Nieuwe Economie.

In the end, the right energy and climate transition is the one that leaves no one behind.



The H2020 **Paris Reinforce** project generated high interest, as showed by the feature in the EU Commission report "Climate Action in the Post-COVID-19 world: Insights from EU-funded projects on how to build forward better" and retweet by activist Greta Thurnberg.

# 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

## Key publications

Many important publications authored (or co-authored) by IEECP were released, such as:

- **Good practices from 10 European countries on alleviating energy poverty**, in 10 country factsheets and a European one identifying policies and measures that actively tackled energy poverty across Europe following 4 themes: Governance, Indicators, Main national measures and good practices. Commissioned by the French ONPE.
- **Policy developments in EU and strategies for Pay for Performance business models** (H2020 SENSEI)
- **Guidelines on policy design options for the implementation of E1st in buildings and the related energy system**: adds a holistic perspective to the concept of E1st and provides guidelines to promote integrated approaches for implementing E1st across different policy areas within the energy system (H2020 enefirst)
- **Priority areas of implementation of the E1st principle in buildings and related energy systems**: identified policy approaches for implementing the E1st principle in the policy areas of buildings and related energy systems with the potential to be fully implemented across the EU (H2020 enefirst)
- **Implementation map on barriers and success factors for E1st in buildings as well as the related legislative and non-legislative changes required** (H2020 enefirst)
- **The role of the Energy Efficiency Directive article 7 in alleviating energy poverty** (H2020 ensmov and SocialWatt)

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# 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

## IEECP in the media

Articles and opinions authored (or co-authored) by IEECP were released, such as:

- **Columns for eceee:**

- Time for energy efficiency to be valued as grid resource. RAP and IEECP co-author a column introducing a concept studied in the H2020-funded project SENSEI. The article was then featured in the 2021 Spring Double Issue of the EU-China Energy Magazine, and translated to Chinese: "能效对于电网的资源价值仍被决策者低估".
- Let cost-effectiveness guide recovery funding to national efficiency programs, authored by IEECP.

- **Opinions for EurActiv:**

- Hiding fossil fuel subsidies under clean energy targets?
- Investing in fossil fuels amidst an energy price shock: the case of Greece, by NTUA and IEECP.

- **Articles:**

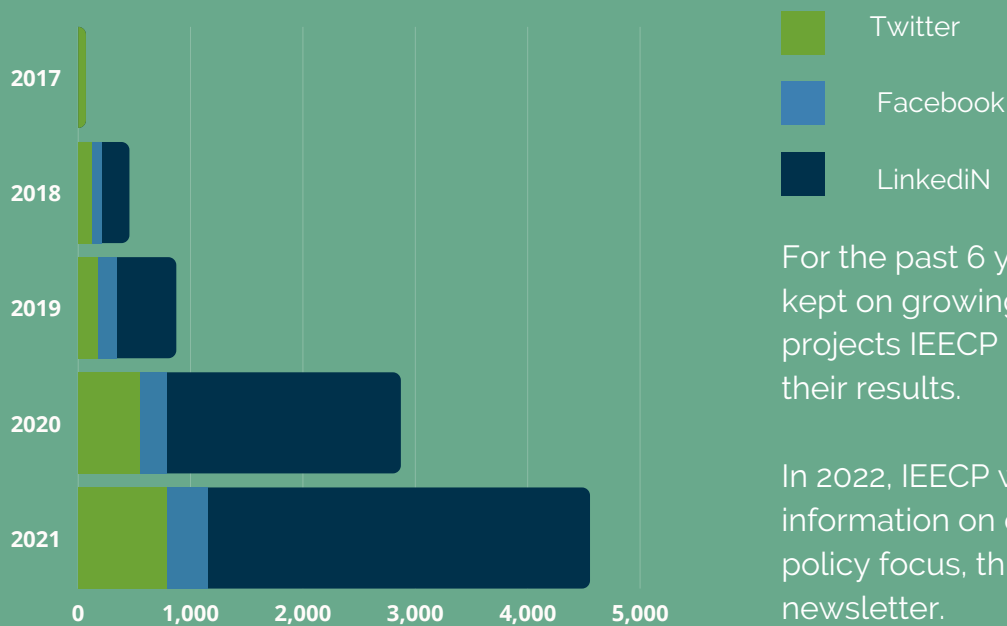
- Long term matters: What kind of decarbonisation matters most? (Investment and Pensions Europe (IPE))
- Will the arsonist become the best firefighter? The inspiring and historic case of the "Inaugural 2025 Target Setting Protocol" NZAOA - UN PRI - UNEP FI (LinkedIn Pulse).
- Articles in Greek: Νέο Εξοικονομώ: Κατευθύνσεις Ενεργειακής Αυτάρκειας και Ανθεκτικότητας for B2green, Φυσικό αέριο: Καύσιμο μετάβασης ή ενεργειακής ένδειας for Kathimerini, Επιδοτώντας ορυκτά καύσιμα πίσω από τους στόχους για την ενέργεια και το κλίμα for EnergyPress.

And many **blogs** such as how to tackle energy poverty whilst dealing with a historical rise in energy prices in France, for the H2020 ENPOR.





# IEECP IN FIGURES



For the past 6 years, IEECP's outreach has kept on growing, generating interest in the projects IEECP manages / participates in and their results.

In 2022, IEECP will become an EU hub of information on energy and climate, with a policy focus, through a reshaped website and newsletter.

20  
PROJECTS

EU-funded (Horizon2020 programme and tenders for DG ENER of the European Commission), as well as national public tenders and commissioned projects for international organisations.

95%

Success rate on proposals submitted in 2021: stay tuned, they are many, on key topics, and they will start from September 2022.

OVER  
9000

Website visitors. Most visitors come from The Netherlands, Greece, the US, France, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Finland, China and the UK.

OVER  
35

Projects collaborating together in what is referred to as "sister projects" groups (through IEECP's leadership for BECoop, ICCEE, DEESME, etc.), sharing activities and outputs.

OVER  
25

Events organised or where IEECP spoke, including at [EUSEW](#), Sustainable Places or at the 16th International Summer School on National Energy and Climate Plans 2021-2030 where Ivana Rogulj gave a lecture on energy poverty. IEECP spoke at the Launch Event of the EC's Recommendation and Guidelines on Energy Efficiency First: From principles to practice, which mentions many times the enefirst project in the sources.



# PROJECTS & PARTNERS

IEECP manages EU-funded climate action and energy transition projects, as **coordinator**:

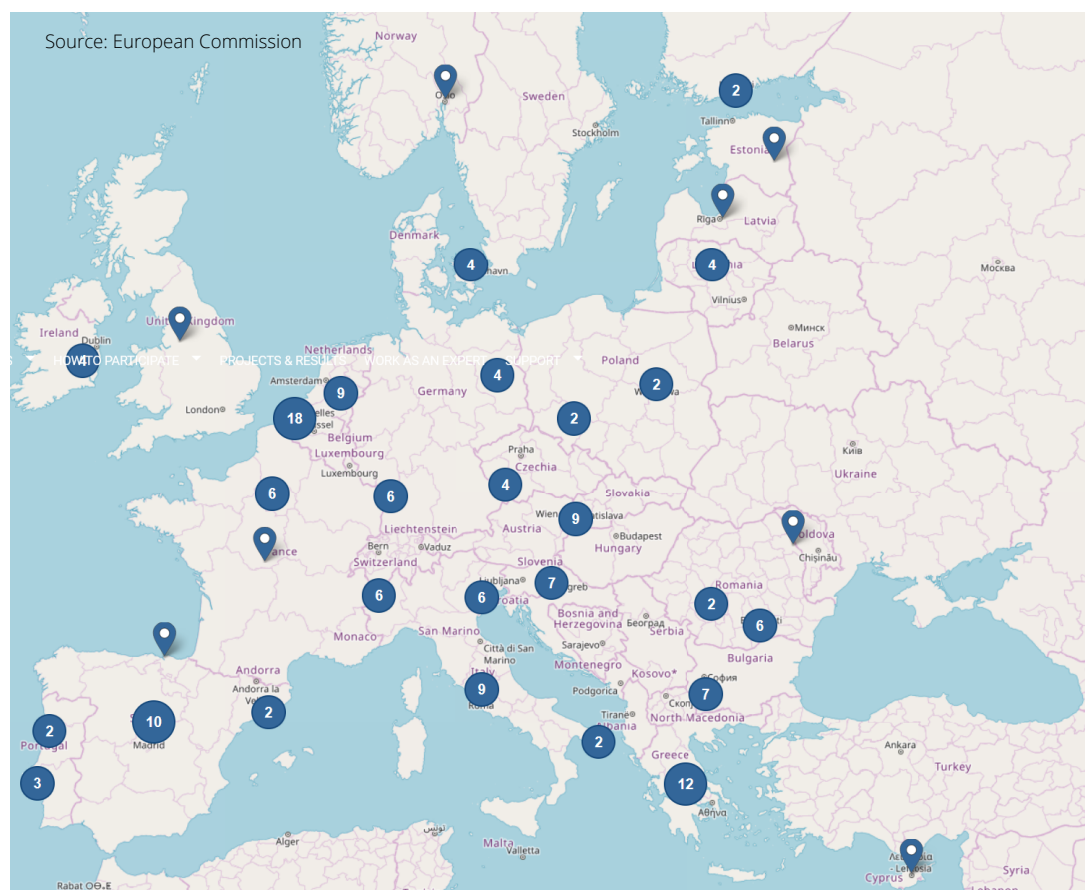


or **partner**:



In addition, IEECP participates in tenders on technical assistance for the European Commission or other national public authorities.

## MAIN COLLABORATION PARTNERS



# TOWARDS 2022

An important lesson from 2021 is that the global perception towards climate change and the urgency for undertaking actions has increased substantially. Next to the second year of COVID-19 and its impacts on energy and climate, the entire society has realized the aggressive impacts of climate change and new dilemmas appear in terms of how to use public funding. In the new financing period for the EU with the Recovery and Resilience fund, the Multiannual Finance Framework and the various funding streams, it is of utmost importance to ensure the balance between a sustainable economic recovery, climate protection and green growth, where energy and climate will be at the core of all decisions. Solutions of the past for investing and subsidizing fossil fuels for energy production and energy needs in buildings do not have a place in the new era. The Fit-for-55 package has provided a real hope for the future and the targets envisaged in both energy efficiency, climate change and renewable energy must not be watered down in the negotiations.

IEECP is glad to be working in projects supporting a just energy transition and providing exciting tools for all to join the action, such as the new projects started in 2021: PROSPECT+ and REGILIENCE, ambitiously supporting cities and regions on building climate pathways.

In 2022, more is coming: (many) new projects, a brand-new website for IEECP easing your navigation through key topic areas and the return of in-presence events! New projects also mean reinforcing our links with existing partners while creating new alliances, and we couldn't be more excited about this.

We are hopeful for the future that all this generated robust scientific knowledge will help policy makers undertake the correct decisions as the climate change time is ticking against humanity. We still strongly believe that Europe should and must be a frontrunner in this attempt, making use of science-based policy and avoiding biases of the previous century towards subsidizing fossil fuels. The enormous amount of work from all scientific and technical experts is available and growing, let us find ways to use them to trigger the correct decisions for the future. As George Bernard Shaw said "Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything." We, at IEECP, will keep on striving, through generating and sharing scientific and policy knowledge from our series of European funded projects, to contribute to this ongoing policy process.

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