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Asunto: COGEN Europe Newsletter 2/2026
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eUpdate

Issue 2 | 6 February 2026

Dear Member,

As Europe continues its transition towards a sustainable energy future, this edition of the COGEN Europe newsletter highlights the key developments, opportunities, and insights shaping our sector. From policy updates to technological progress, the move towards a decentralised, carbon-neutral energy system is gaining pace.

In this issue, we provide an overview of the European Parliament's forthcoming vote on the ETS2 Market Stability Reserve and our engagement with the European Commission on

energy labelling for micro-CHP. We also cover draft recommendations on electricity taxes and levies, opportunities for in-kind support for critical infrastructure, and a significant policy signal for high-efficiency cogeneration in Spain.

On the innovation front, we share highlights from the Power and Heat Boost webinar and the latest Fit4Micro Newsletter, illustrating how micro-CCHP is driving the low-carbon built environment. We also draw attention to the Clean Hydrogen Partnership's 2026 call for proposals and introduce our consolidated member resources, making it easier than ever to access the information you need.

Finally, we guide you through upcoming public consultations, EU funding opportunities, and public tenders, ensuring our members are equipped to actively contribute to Europe's energy transition.

Together, we continue to strengthen resilience and advance the shift towards a decentralised, carbon-neutral energy system.

[Hans Korteweg](#)

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Calendar of Events

19 February 2026 | Online

Monthly Policy Exchange

COGEN Europe invites its members to the upcoming edition of the **Policy Exchange Webinar**, providing key policy updates, expert insights, and interactive discussions on the future of energy in Europe.

For more information, contact [Alexandra Tudoroiu](#).

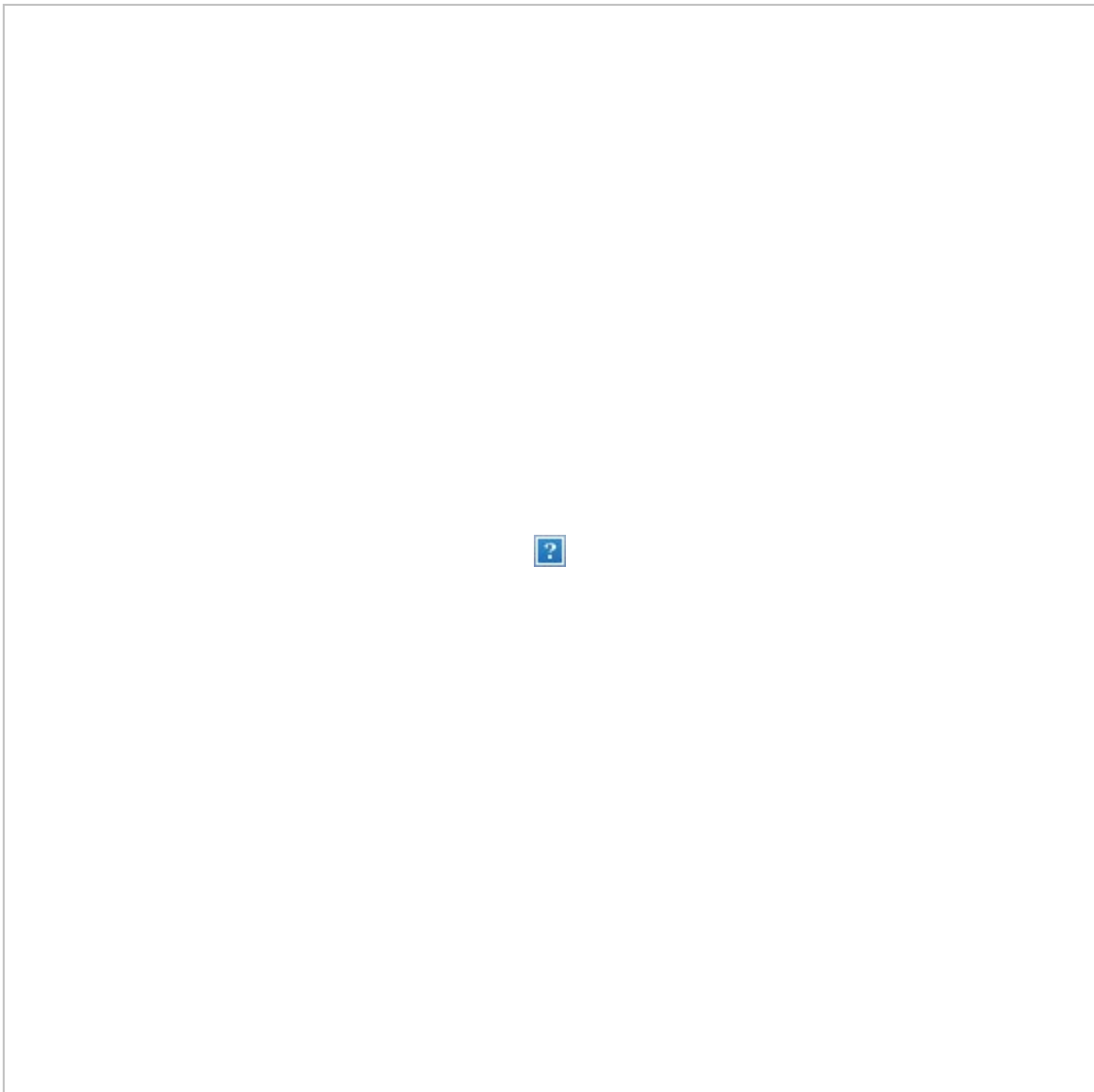


24 February 2026 | Online

Launch of the 4th Global Cogeneration Market Report

The **COGEN World Coalition** is launching its **4th Global Cogeneration Market Report**, taking place on the **24 February 2026, online**. The webinar will present the latest report and examine the role of Combined Heat and Power (CHP) in supporting the future development of the data centre sector.

Register [here](#).



27 February 2026 | Online

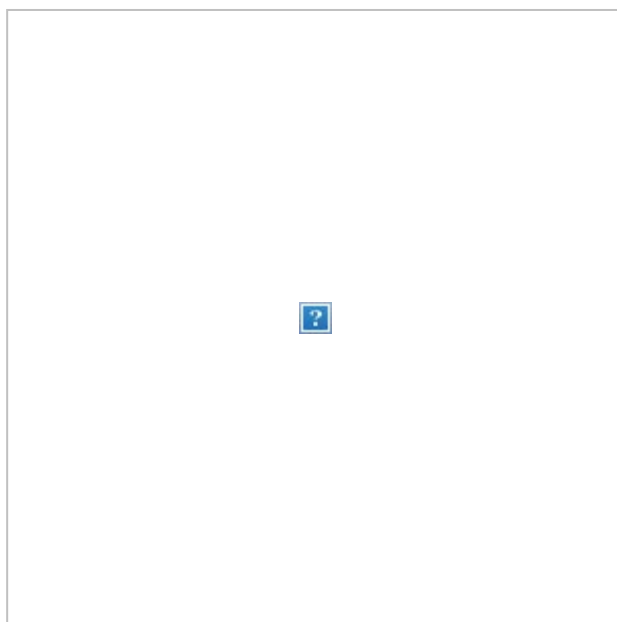
Decarbonising large energy assets | Online

COGEN Europe is pleased to support the promotion of an upcoming **webinar hosted by**

SE Advisory Services, Schneider Electric's global consulting practice. This session will bring together leading experts to explore key developments shaping Europe's evolving energy landscape.

We are delighted to share that [Alexandra Tudoroiu](#), **Head of Policy at COGEN Europe**, will be speaking during the webinar.

Register [here](#).



4-5 March 2026 | Rotterdam

European Industrial Energy Days

Join the **European Industrial Energy Days on 4–5 March 2026 in Rotterdam, The Netherlands.**

COGEN Europe is pleased to confirm that our Head of Policy, [Alexandra Tudoroiu](#), will chair several policy-focused sessions at ENLIT's European Industrial Energy Days, taking place in Rotterdam on 4–5 March.

This two-day event brings together Europe's leading industrial energy users, policymakers and innovators to explore the future of industrial energy, competitiveness, and decarbonisation.

Register [here](#).

More information [here](#).



5-6 March 2026 | Madrid

Biomethane Connect Europe Congress

Join Europe's leading biomethane experts at **Biomethane Connect Europe** to explore the opportunities and challenges shaping the future of sustainable gas. The Congress will bring together policymakers, industry leaders, and innovators to discuss best practices, policy developments, and actionable solutions to accelerate biomethane deployment across Europe. Keynote speakers include Ms. Mechthild Wörtsdörfer, Deputy Director General of DG ENER and Mr. Enrico Letta, former Prime Minister of Italy.

[Register](#) now to secure your place and stay informed about the full agenda.



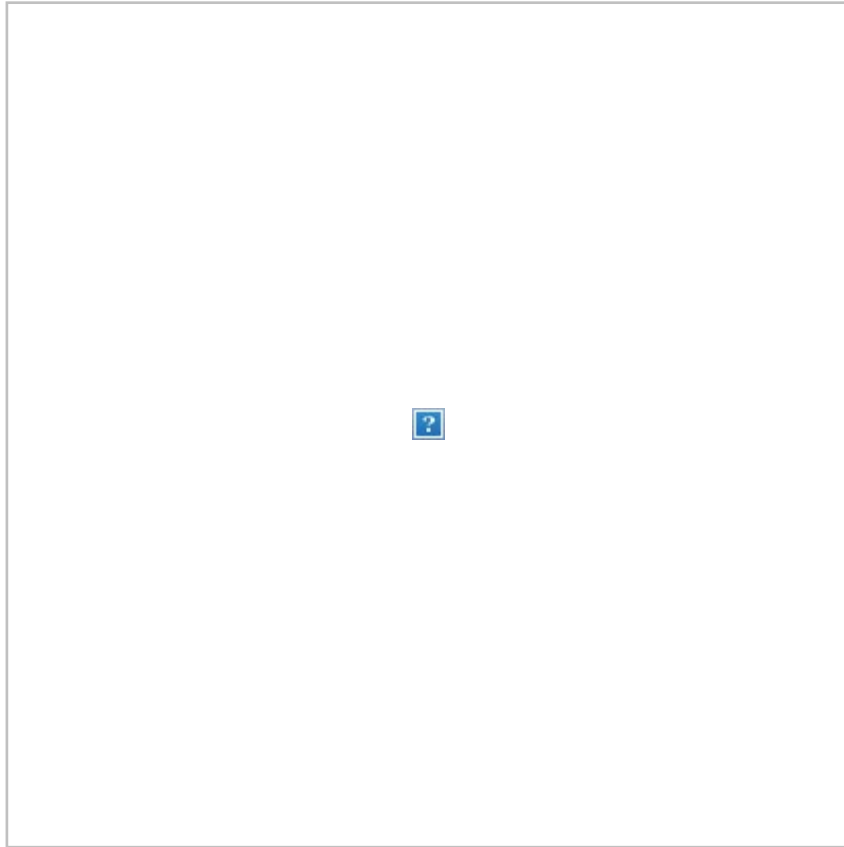
10-12 March 2026 | Hungary

29th Combined Heat and Power Conference

The Hungarian Combined Heat and Power Association (MKET) will host the 29th Combined Heat and Power Conference from 10–12 March 2026 at the Hotel Ózon & Luxury Villas Superior in Mátraháza. The 2026 edition also marks the Association’s 30th anniversary, with the conference built around the guiding theme “Adaptation or Proactivity?”, addressing key challenges and opportunities shaping the future of the energy sector.

Register [here](#).

More Information [here](#).



18-19 March 2026 | Amsterdam

Future of Utilities Energy Transition Summit

We are pleased to announce that [Alexandra Tudoroiu-Lakavice](#), **Head of Policy**, will be speaking at the **Future of Utilities: Energy Transition Summit**. This premier event brings together senior leaders from utilities, investors, innovators and policymakers to discuss and shape the future of Europe's energy transition.

Alexandra will share her insights on the role of energy policy in accelerating the shift towards a resilient and sustainable energy system.

Six complimentary guest tickets available (free of charge) for COGEN Europe members. If interested, please contact Alexandra directly, via alexandra.tudoroiu@cogeneurope.eu

Mark your calendar and stay tuned for the full agenda. For more information, visit futureofutilities.com.

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[Parliament moves toward April vote on ETS2 Market](#)

[Stability Reserve](#)

The European Parliament is aiming to conclude its work on the revision of the ETS market stability reserve (MSR) for ETS2 by the end of April, according to a provisional legislative timetable.

Rapporteur Danuše Nerudová (Czech Republic, EPP) is scheduled to present her draft report to the environment committee (ENVI) on 5 March. The deadline for amendments is set for 9 March, with ENVI expected to vote on the file on 15 April. A plenary vote is provisionally planned for 29 or 30 April.

The file concerns the European Commission's November proposal to amend the functioning of the market stability reserve, the mechanism that manages allowance supply and price volatility within the EU emissions trading system. The proposed revision would introduce an additional trigger allowing the release of free emission allowances once a predefined carbon price threshold is reached.

The measure is a key element of the Commission's broader effort to contain price volatility in ETS2, the new emissions trading system for road transport and buildings, due to enter into force in 2028. By strengthening the MSR's price-containment function, the Commission aims to mitigate the risk of sharp cost increases being passed through to consumers, while maintaining the environmental integrity of the system.

[Dominika Lange](#)

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[COGEN Europe meets with European Commission on Energy Labelling of Micro-CHP](#)

On 30 January, COGEN Europe met with European Commission officials in the context of the public consultation on Lot1 Energy Labelling and Ecodesign revisions. The COGEN Europe delegation, including experts from our membership, met with Mr. Robert Nuij, Head of Unit, Mr. Niels Ladefoged, Deputy Head of Unit, and Mr. Philippe Rivierre, Policy Officer, all representing the unit responsible for products and buildings in DG ENER.

During the meeting, COGEN Europe shared its [position](#) with the European Commission officials, explaining that the benefits of micro-CHP solutions are not adequately captured within the framework of Lot1 energy labelling. COGEN Europe pleaded for an improvement of the methodology or the possibility for manufacturers to opt out of the labelling.

The European Commission proposals will be discussed with national experts withing the Ecodesign Consultation Forum, before Member State experts can vote for their adoption. COGEN Europe with follow-up with both the European Commission and national experts, with a view to reach a favourable solution.

[Alexandra Tudoroiu](#)

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[European Comission Draft Recommendations on Electricity Taxes and Levies](#)

The European Commission is preparing a recommendation for Member States on lowering electricity taxes and levies to address concerns around competitiveness and affordability among both European industries and citizens.

[The draft](#) recommendation acknowledges that taxes and levies account for 14%-22% of retail electricity prices. To ensure immediate relief on electricity consumers, the European Commission recommends applying low and uniform taxes and levies across electricity prices rather than targeted, time limited reductions for specific consumers. Proposed measures include: 1) setting excise duty rates on electricity to a minimum, making full use of flexibilities; 2) Full or partial reductions for electricity used in transport of heating & cooling; 3) Lowering VAT, which can be set as low as 5%; 4) Remove levies for renewables, nuclear and CHP from retail prices and transfer them to the general budget or applied to fossil fuels use 5) Avoid double taxation on electricity storage. To allow for a level playing field tax reductions must be the same for both electricity used in heat pumps and for DHC based heat.

The Commission further suggests that electricity taxation rates should be significantly lower than taxation of fossil fuels, alluding to further corrective measures when the electricity to fuel price ratio is above 2.5.

[Alexandra Tudoroiu](#)

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[The European Commission Calls for Donations of Gas Cogeneration systems to support Ukraine](#)

Members are being invited to consider contributing to an urgent call for cogeneration systems by [DG ECHO](#), the European Commission's department for Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid, aimed at supporting Ukraine during the current winter crisis.

Ongoing damage to critical infrastructure, coupled with severe winter conditions and funding gaps, has left water utilities and district heating systems under intense strain, with hundreds of thousands of people without access to reliable services. In response, DG ECHO is seeking in-kind donations of materials and equipment that could make a tangible difference on the ground.

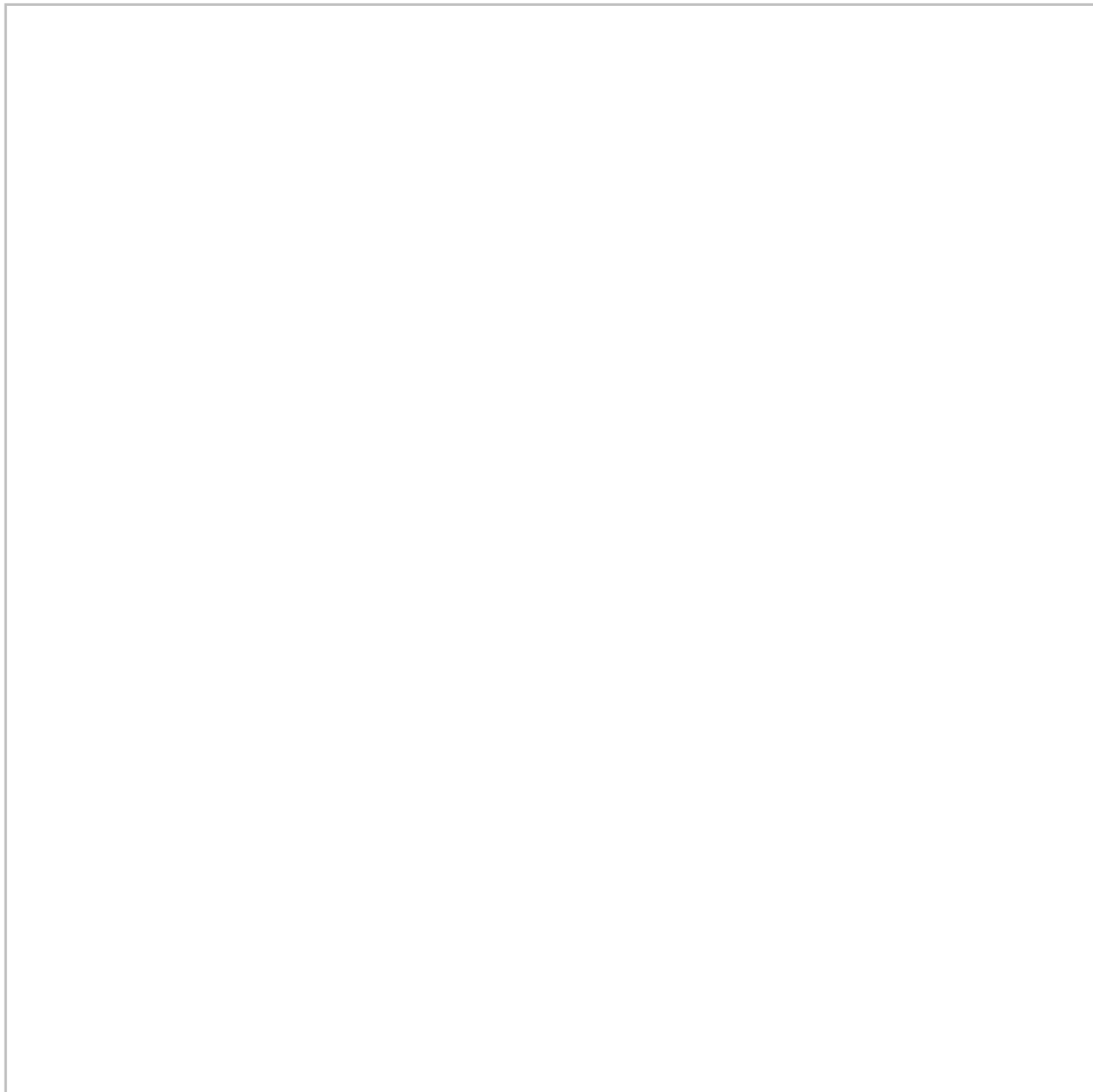
Ukrainian authorities have highlighted an immediate need for items including water pumps, mobile boilers, water bladders, water treatment units, gas cogeneration units, chemicals for water treatment, specialised vehicles, high-capacity generators, and other equipment essential to maintaining critical infrastructure.

Given COGEN Europe’s extensive links with industry leaders and operators, the network is well placed to share this information and identify potential donors. Organisations offering support can benefit from a [European Commission programme within the EU Civil Protection Mechanism](#), which assists throughout the entire process, including transportation to Ukraine. Interested members can contact ECHO-Donations@ec.europa.eu for more details.

In addition to in-kind contributions, cash donations—earmarked or general—can be channelled through the Ukraine Support Fund, managed by the Energy Community Secretariat. The Fund supports urgent needs of Ukrainian energy companies, covering equipment, spare parts, fuels, and services required to repair infrastructure and maintain energy and heat supply. Further information is available at UkraineSupportFund@energy-community.org or via the [Ukraine Energy Support Fund – Energy Community Homepage](#)

[Kyara De Barros](#)

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[A Strong Policy Signal for High-Efficiency Cogeneration in Spain](#)

[The European Commission's approval of Spain's €3.1 billion State aid scheme represents a significant development for high-efficiency cogeneration and for the future of industrial energy in Spain.](#) **The scheme, authorised for a period of ten years, will support new and substantially refurbished combined heat and power (CHP) installations that comply with the EU definition of high-efficiency cogeneration.**

The framework provides enhanced long-term investment certainty for the sector and encompasses a range of eligible technologies, including natural gas, biogas, bioliquids and solid biomass. In line with Europe's decarbonisation objectives, gas-based installations will be required to be hydrogen-ready, thereby supporting the transition to low-carbon energy systems and avoiding long-term fossil fuel lock-in.

The scheme integrates competitive investment support with a market-responsive operating remuneration, ensuring proportionality while incentivising efficient, reliable and low-carbon

electricity generation. This balanced approach is designed to maintain exposure to market signals while strengthening the business case for high-efficiency CHP investments.

The Commission's decision constitutes a key enabling step for the implementation of Spain's National Energy and Climate Plan and sends a clear political signal that cogeneration is aligned with Europe's energy efficiency objectives, industrial competitiveness and the Clean Industrial Deal.

Attention now turns to the timely implementation of the scheme and the forthcoming CHP auctions, which will be critical to unlocking investment and enabling the deployment of efficient, resilient and sustainable industrial energy solutions across Spain.

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[Powering Resilience: Highlights from the Power and Heat](#)

[Boost Webinar](#)

On 28 January, COGEN Europe hosted a session of its Power and Heat Boost Series focused on how Europe can maintain security of heat and power supply amid the energy transition.

The webinar centred on a new study by the Renewable Energy Association of North Rhine-Westphalia (LEE NRW), developed with Frontier Economics and presented by Milan Nitzschke. The study questions Germany's plan to deploy 20 GW of large gas-fired power plants by 2030, suggesting that a reliance on centralised gas capacity may be costly and insufficiently resilient. Instead, it highlights the value of a diversified approach based on decentralised combined heat and power (CHP), battery storage and demand-side flexibility to manage periods of low renewable generation, including Dunkelflauten.

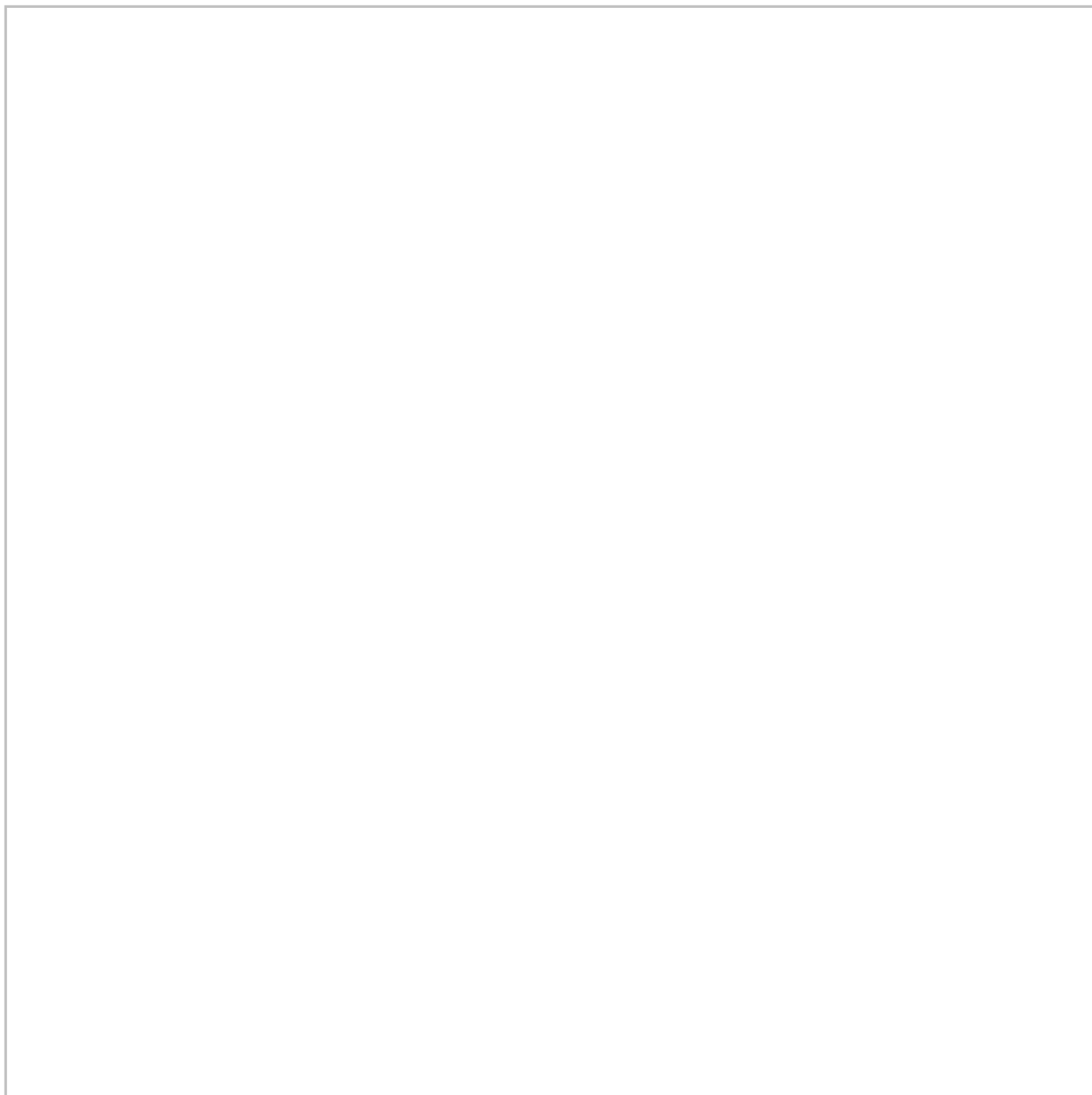
A panel discussion moderated by Alexandra Tudoroiu, Head of Policy at COGEN Europe, explored the wider European context. Panellists Lucia Verardi (SmartEn), Martin Kaspar (Thüga) and Ruud Kempener (European Commission) discussed the need for technology-neutral policies that recognise the contribution of flexible, decentralised and efficient solutions to security of supply.

The discussion and Q&A reinforced a clear message: Europe's decarbonised energy system will depend on technology diversity, flexibility and innovation to deliver reliable and affordable heat and power when it is needed most.

The full webinar recording is available on the [COGEN Europe YouTube channel](#).

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[Fit4Micro Newsletter Issue 5: Advancing Micro-CCHP for a Low-Carbon Built Environment](#)

The latest edition of the Fit4Micro newsletter is now available. Issue 5 provides an overview of recent progress and key developments within the Fit4Micro project, covering activities up to January 2026.

Fit4Micro is focused on the development of highly efficient micro combined heating, cooling and power (micro-CCHP) hybrid systems, based on microturbine technology and renewable liquid biofuels. The project aims to support the decarbonisation of buildings by delivering flexible, low-carbon solutions for the simultaneous provision of heat, cooling and electricity.

This new issue highlights recent technical advances, project milestones, dissemination activities and upcoming events, offering insight into how the Fit4Micro consortium is contributing to innovation in sustainable, high-efficiency cogeneration at the micro scale.

Members are invited to read the full newsletter to stay informed about the project's

progress and its relevance to the future of cogeneration and decentralised energy systems in Europe.

Read the full Newsletter, [here](#).

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[The Clean Hydrogen Partnership has Opened its 2026 Call for Proposals](#)

On 20 January, the Clean Hydrogen Partnership launched its 2026 Call for Proposals, providing €105 million to support research and innovation projects aimed at advancing cutting-edge hydrogen technologies. The call covers 21 topics across renewable hydrogen production, hydrogen storage and distribution, transport, heat and power, cross-cutting activities, and Hydrogen Valleys. Funding will be awarded through lump-sum grants.

Deadlines:

- **Opening Date : 10 February 2026**
- **Submission Deadline : 15 April 2026 at 17:00 CEST**

More detailed information can be found [here](#).

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[All Your Member Resources, Now in One Place](#)

COGEN Europe is excited to unveil the brand-new **Members Area**, an exclusive online hub bringing all member resources together in one place. From the latest updates on events and activities to our full library of publications and member-only meeting details, everything you need is now just a few clicks away.

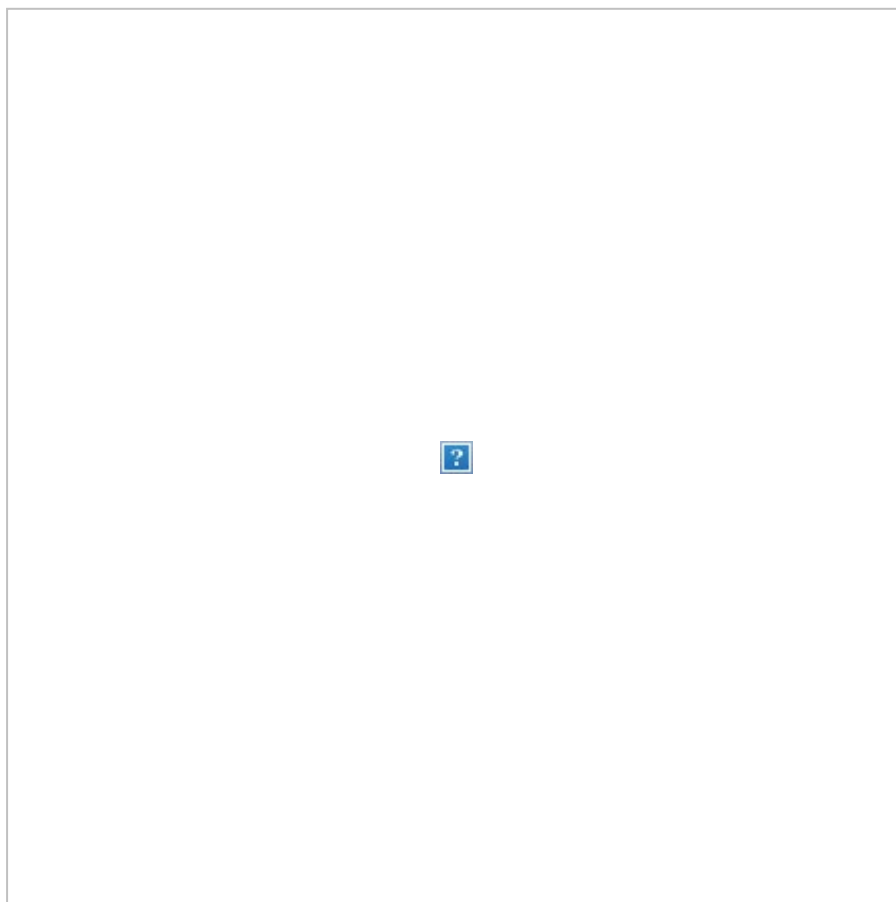
Designed to keep you connected and informed with ease, the platform will continue to grow with additional content and regular updates in the coming weeks. Your login details will be sent shortly, and if you haven't received them, please contact communications@cogeneurope.eu to gain access without delay.

We look forward to welcoming you to your new Members Area – your gateway to everything COGEN Europe.

Explore the Members Area, [here!](#)

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[Be Part of the Global Move Toward a Decentralised and Carbon- Neutral Energy System](#)

Do you want to promote a resilient, decentralised and carbon neutral global energy system? [Join the COGEN World Coalition!](#)

[*Hans Korteweg*](#)

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[Upcoming Public Consultations on EU Energy and Climate Policy](#)

COGEN Europe encourages its members to **actively engage in public consultations published by the European Commission**. These consultations offer a valuable opportunity to contribute to EU policymaking on issues that directly impact our sector, including energy efficiency, climate action and system integration.

Public consultations & surveys on Energy and Climate

- **To consult all existing and upcoming initiatives, please visit the Commission's [Have Your Say portal](#).**

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[EU Funds and Public Tenders](#)

COGEN Europe encourages its members to **actively engage in public tenders published by the European Commission**.

LIFE Clean Energy Transition sub-programme	Aims to facilitate the transition towards an energy-efficient, renewable energy-based, climate-neutral and -resilient economy by funding coordination and support actions.	CET
ONE-STOP-SHOPS	Integrated services for clean energy transition in buildings and businesses	LIFE PROJECT
Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)	Electricity, Gas, Smart Grids, Hydrogen and CO ₂ networks - Works	CEF
STEEL PILOT – Research Fund for Coal and Steel	Includes funding for techniques for increasing the energy efficiency of steel production by recovery of waste heat, prevention of energy losses, hybrid heating techniques and energy management solutions;	RFCS
JUST TRANSITION MECHANISM – Public Sector Loan Call	Includes funding for efficient district heating networks and sustainable energy, energy efficiency and integration measures.	JTM

To consult all existing and upcoming initiatives, please visit the Commission's [Have Your Say portal](#).

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