

High-level segment – Dialogue with Countries

Biographies of Speakers



Sir Philip Lowe, Executive Chair of the World Energy Council

Sir Philip Lowe is Senior Advisor in the Public Affairs practice within the firm's Strategic Communications segment. Sir Philip has had a distinguished career in government and business. Following a period in the manufacturing industry in the UK, he joined the European Commission in 1973, and held a range of senior positions as Chef de Cabinet and Director in the fields of regional development, agriculture, transport and administration, before becoming Director-General of Development in 1997. From September 2002 to February 2010, he was Director-General for Competition and after that, until the end of 2013, Director-General for Energy. From 2013 to 2016, he was a non-executive director of the UK Competition and Markets Authority and since 2016, Executive Chair of the World Energy Council's Energy Trilemma Flagship Study Programme. From 2010, he has been Chair of the Florence University Institute Competition Law Workshop. Philip Lowe was knighted KCMG in 2014.



Nataliya Boyko, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Energy and Coal Industry of Ukraine

Natalia Boyko serves as the Deputy Minister for European Integration in the Ministry of Energy and Coal Industry. She graduated from the Ivan Franko National University in Lviv (Ukraine) with honors and received Master's degree in Law, studied law at the Humboldt University (Berlin, Germany) and the Institute of Energy Economics in Tokyo (IEEJ) under the program «Energy Policy B» (Japan). Natalia worked at the Center for Environmental Consulting and Audit, as well as in the international company ERM Central Europe (Frankfurt am Main, Germany), specialising in energy projects. After returning to Ukraine, she worked as the Senior consultant at Chief Department of Reforms Implementation, Administration of the President of Ukraine, later - the Energy Reform Manager of the Project Office and Support Manager of National Council for Reforms, chaired by the President of Ukraine. She was also Advisor at Administration of the President of Ukraine and Advisor to the Minister of Energy and Coal Industry of Ukraine.



Zoran Pačandi, Head of Service for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Croatia

Zoran Pačandi leads energy efficiency and renewable energy topics at the Ministry of Environment and Energy. Zoran extensively contributed to the preparation of Croatia's National Energy and Climate Plan for 2021-30, the development of its internal energy market, and its role in regional energy cooperation, including the Central and South Eastern Europe Energy Connectivity (CESEC) initiative. Croatia is benefiting from the EU's Trans-European Networks for Energy strategy, aimed at improving the energy infrastructure linking EU countries. During Croatia's EU Presidency in the first half of 2020, Zoran and his team will drive EU's energy policy and will continue promoting EU 2030 climate and energy framework. With its 36.4% renewable energy target, set under its National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP), Croatia is one of the most ambitious EU member states. In addition, Zoran's areas of expertise also include development of biogas as well as geothermal power plants in Croatia.



Nurzat Abdyrasylova, Founder & CEO, Unison Group, Kyrgyzstan and Pathways to Sustainable Energy Project Advisory Board Member

Nurzat Abdyrasulova is the founder and chief executive director of Unison Group. She holds a Masters degree in Management of Water and Energy Resources and a Masters in Environmental Management. She has established herself as an eminent public figure and a well-known expert of energy and environmental issues in Kyrgyzstan. She is the author of several analytical reviews, expert reviews, books, pamphlets and articles on environment and energy issues and of the key proponents of the "Energy Efficiency of Buildings" legislation. She is an expert on energy sector management, sustainable energy and the environment. She also has extensive international experience and has contributed to national, regional and local projects in Russia, Kazakhstan, Armenia and Tajikistan. She has also participated in several international conferences, such as the international UN meetings on climate change, where she was part of the official Kyrgyz delegation.



John Roberts, Energy Security Specialist, Methinks, United Kingdom and Pathways to Sustainable Energy Project Advisory Board Member

John M. Roberts is a senior fellow at Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center and Global Energy Center. He is also a senior partner with Methinks Ltd, a consultancy specializing in the interrelationship between energy, economic development, and politics. He has a particular expertise in the development of energy in the Caucasus and Central Asia and in the pipelines connecting or intended to connect the Caspian to China, Russia, India, and Europe. Roberts is one of Europe's leading energy security specialists. He served as managing editor at Platts for twelve years and previously with Financial Times Energy, focusing on the development of energy and on the impact of energy on development. In assessing global energy security issues, he has regularly toured the Gulf and the Caspian, as well as visited the Alaskan North Slope, the Athabasca Tar Sands, China, Norway, and Venezuela. He has also testified to UK parliamentary committees on Turkish, Russian, Caspian, and Mideast energy security issues. He is currently researching shale gas development in China and hydrocarbons development in the Eastern Mediterranean and Northern Iraq.



David Jermain, Associate Director, Boston University Institute for Sustainable Energy, United States

Mr. Jermain has over thirty-five years of experience in US and global energy and resource-related disciplines. He has worked in private and public sector venues. In the private sector, he has been an executive at leading electric utilities; engaged in managing the design and development of competitive energy markets, and he has helped start companies providing microgrid services, hybrid distributed energy solutions, and bio-fuelled power generation. In the public sector, he has helped develop long-term energy plans for the State of Oregon; also, he helped write the Department of Energy Quadrennial Energy Review 1.2, released to the public in early January 2017. His analytical and scholarly interests are wide-ranging including the value interdependences of information and energy, design and deployment barriers to distributed energy resources, end-to-end supply chain transformation, and emerging human-machine integration for multi-scaled grid management and related market operations. He is published in scholarly and trade-related publications and has been a member of the Board of a small investment fund, a proposed RTO for the US Western Interconnect, and for one of the first onsite/microgrid companies in the US. He is currently a Professor at BU's Metropolitan College and a Senior Fellow at BU's Institute for Sustainable Energy.



Fuad Al-Zayer, Global Coordinator, Energy Data Transparency Initiative, International Energy Forum

Fuad leads International Energy Forum's Joint Organisations Data Initiative (JODI) advocating greater energy data transparency. JODI was created to address oil price volatility. This product shows what international cooperation and energy dialogue can achieve. JODI ensures greater visibility, more complete and comprehensive data, enhanced access, improved data availability, and support for capacity building. As a Global Coordinator, Fuad manages policy dialogues between OPEC countries, China, EU and Russia feeding it into JODI's model. Before joining International Energy Forum, Fuad worked for the OPEC where he led organisation's data services and research. In addition, Fuad also worked for the largest National Oil Company, Saudi Aramco where he was responsible for company's strategic planning and
