

References to public participation / consultations in the Commission reports

Austria :

“There had been a public consultation on the climate and energy strategy underlying the NECP, and a preliminary version of the draft plan was available for commenting by the members of the National Climate Protection Committee (Nationales Klimaschutzkomitee). The committee consists of members from the federal government, the national parliament, provinces (Bundesländer), cities, business, unions, science and environmental NGOs. However, it is unclear what kind of comments were provided and how they were taken into account when finalising the draft plan. A public consultation specifically on the draft plan notified to the Commission did not take place.”

Belgium :

Some elements of the draft NECP have been subject to consultations with stakeholders in previous processes (for example on the Inter-federal Energy Pact). Belgium foresees mainly to use existing regional platforms in order to discuss and align its climate strategy with its neighbouring countries, notably in the Pentalateral Energy Forum⁴ and the North Seas Energy Cooperation⁵. The consultation of the draft NECP itself with stakeholders is planned for 2019.

Bulgaria :

Consultations of the national parliament, stakeholders and local and regional authorities are foreseen to take place after the submission. The same is foreseen for regional cooperation, while the draft plan does not yet provide information on the process leading to the results of these consultations being reflected in the final plan.

Croatia :

It is indicated that there were workshops within the framework of preparation of the draft plan, but full public consultation on the draft plan nor specific regional cooperation has not yet taken place.

Cyprus :

A number of relevant stakeholders has already been consulted and involved in the working groups during the preparation process but the Cypriot draft plan does not yet include the outcomes of the public consultation and regional cooperation processes. A first discussion also took place in the national parliament, and an additional consultation is foreseen for the final plan.

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The National Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan of 2017 and update in December 2018 are mentioned, and coordination, responsibilities and stakeholder consultation are described.

Czechia :

The draft NECP was prepared by the Ministry of Industry and Trade and was discussed with other ministries and key stakeholders in the period from 21 December 2018 to 10 January 2019. As a result, 220 key comments and 100 recommendations were obtained. Additionally, approximately 500 comments were received during a short public consultation. Not all comments received during the consultation process were addressed, therefore Czechia foresees to take them into account, together with the results of the public consultation, before the submission of the final NECP.

Denmark :

There has been a close cooperation between Denmark and the other Nordic countries via the Nordic Council of Ministers during the preparation of the draft NECP. The draft NECP itself has not been subject to a public consultation at this stage.

Estonia :

Relevant stakeholders were involved in the development of the policy documents and were also given the opportunity to participate in the development of the draft NECP.

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The Estonian government presented the draft NECP to the national parliament and local governments, and an initial stakeholder consultation has taken place. Further inter-ministerial and stakeholder consultations are foreseen in connection with the finalisation of the plan.

Finland :

The National Energy and Climate Strategy and the Medium-term Climate Change Plan were both subject to public consultations and discussions in the national Parliament. In addition to the public consultation, the draft national plan notes that stakeholders have been involved in several expert events, seminars and workshops. Citizens participated in online surveys relating to different elements of the National Energy and Climate Strategy for 2030 and the Medium-term Climate Change Plan for 2030.

Finland foresees a public consultation of the NECP foreseen when preparing the final plan.

France :

The French draft NECP is based on two strategic documents. Both have been subject to a large consultation with national stakeholders such as the general public, members of parliament, representatives of industry, social partners, local and regional authorities, and committees of experts. During the preparation of the Multiannual Energy Planning, 86 meetings were organised with a total of 8,000 participants. Dedicated websites and online questionnaires have also collected opinions from the public.

Germany :

The public consultation on the draft plan has recently started. Further consultations are planned in the course of 2019.

Greece :

It also underwent public consultation, albeit within a relatively short timeframe and without clarifying the key conclusions from this engagement and how these have been considered in the final form of the draft plan.

Hungary :

The draft NECP has not been made available for public consultation.

Ireland :

An initial public consultation has also taken place. Ahead of the finalisation of the plan, further stakeholder and public consultations will take place, including through the National Dialogue on Climate Action.

Italy :

The draft plan does not yet include the outcomes of the public consultation and regional cooperation processes, which is in line with the provision of the Governance Regulation. The draft plan specifies that both process will start in 2019. For the public consultation, the establishment of a dedicated website is announced. Description and results of the consultation are expected in the final NECP.

Latvia :

The draft plan has been publicly available on the website of the Ministry of Economic since September 2018, and there have been several meetings with stakeholders in preparation of the draft plan.

Lithuania :

The public consultation on the draft plan is ongoing. An online public consultation, where the stakeholders can access the draft NECP and express their views, was open from 13 December 2018 until 15 March 2019.

Luxembourg :

Several rounds of consultations with representatives of civil society, business, academia and public administrations took place in the context of the previous documents contributing to this draft NECP (such as the National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency). Further national consultations are planned in the framework of finalising the NECP.

Malta:

In line with the provision of the Governance Regulation, the Maltese draft NECP does not yet include the outcome of the public consultation and regional cooperation processes. The public consultation process was in the meanwhile officially launched in March 2019.

Netherlands :

Main observations : Some good practices are a) the broad stakeholder engagement as part of the preparation of the National Climate Agreement, using round tables/consultation platforms for different sectors

Poland:

There was no public consultation on the draft National Energy and Climate Plan but a webbased consultation took place after the draft NECP was published,6 with a deadline after the public consultation on the draft Energy Policy for Poland to 2040.

Portugal:

The public consultation on the draft plan will be held in the course of 2019. The government is holding a roadshow to present across the country both the Draft National Energy and Climate Plan (PNEC 2030) and the Roadmap for Carbon Neutrality (RNC 2050). Stakeholders have already been involved in the preparation of the draft, in particular for the definition of scenarios and underlying assumptions. Several technical workshops with experts and public workshops were held in order to discuss the targets of the 2050 roadmap and 2030 draft plan. The autonomous regions of Madeira and the Azores were consulted as well as the association of local authorities. The public consultation on the 2030 targets ended in February 2019.

Romania:

A short public consultation on the draft plan was run ahead of its submission to the Commission. The inputs received have not been addressed yet but are described in the document.

Slovakia:

A full public consultation on the draft plan was not carried out.

Slovenia:

Although a public consultation was conducted on the underpinning draft Energy Concept, the specific consultation on the draft NECP as well as the regional cooperation processes were postponed to 2019; consequently, the draft plan does not yet take into full consideration the views of the stakeholders and of the neighbouring Member States.

Spain:

Public consultation on the draft plan has taken place from 22 February to 1 April 2019. In parallel, a Strategic Environmental Assessment has been launched.

Sweden:

The Swedish government presented the draft to stakeholders, including local authorities, in early 2018, and they were given the opportunity to comment. An early version of the Swedish draft has been discussed in the Nordic Council of Ministers, reflecting the cross-border relevance of many energy and climate issues. Further consultations are planned in time for the finalisation of the NECP.

UK:

The draft NECP refers to the consultation process in the context of developing energy and climate policy in general and the EU-wide NECP preparation process. It does not provide details on how national and EU entities and the public were consulted in the draft NECP preparation process, and what the outcome of a potential consultation was.