



# 22ND ERRA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Progressing Energy Transition via  
Effective Policies and Regulation

5 – 6 May, 2025  
MUSCAT, OMAN

Hosted and sponsored by:

هيئة تنظيم الخدمات العامة  
Authority for Public Services Regulation



OMAN CONVENTION  
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#ERRAConference2025

## Organised by



The **Energy Regulators Regional Association (ERRA)** is an inter-institutional non-profit organisation comprising of 47 members from Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Africa, North and South America unified by the shared goal of its regulatory members to improve energy regulation.

ERRA's focus is to facilitate the exchange of information and experience, regulatory research and capacity building among members and other stakeholders around the world.



<https://erranet.org/>

## Hosted and Sponsored by



The **Authority for Public Services Regulation (APSR) of Oman** oversees the electricity, water and wastewater, solid waste and gas transportation sectors. Its main role includes setting rules, standards, and regulations to govern the behavior of market participants and ensure the provision of essential services.

The Authority aims to balance the interests of the government, consumers and companies by achieving objectives such as affordability, reliability and sustainability.



<https://www.apsr.om/en>



# Venue



 Madinat Al Irfan, Airport Heights  
[OCEC website](#) | [Find on map](#)

# Accommodation

## **Crowne Plaza Muscat OCEC\*\*\*\***

walking distance, OCEC precinct  
[Room reservation >>](#) | Negotiated room rates: OMR 49 (approx. 122 EUR)/ person/ night incl. breakfast and taxes

## **Radisson Collection Muscat, Hormuz Grand\*\*\*\*\***

approx. 11 mins by car from OCEC  
[Room reservation >>](#) | Negotiated room rates: OMR 45 (approx. 113 EUR)/ person/ night incl. breakfast and taxes

## **Mövenpick Hotel and Apartments Ghala Muscat\*\*\*\*\***

approx. 12 mins by car from OCEC  
[Room reservation >>](#) | Negotiated room rates: OMR 52 (approx. 129 EUR)/ person/ night incl. breakfast and taxes

## **Novotel Muscat Airport\*\*\*\***

approx. 11 mins by car from OCEC  
[Room reservation >>](#) | Negotiated room rates: OMR 33 (approx. 83 EUR)/ person/ night incl. breakfast and taxes

For reservation details and updates please visit the [Conference website](#).

# Muscat

Nestled between the azure waters of the Arabian Sea and rugged Hajar Mountains, Muscat, the capital of Oman, is a captivating blend of tradition and modernity.

Muscat's low-rise architecture, warren-like souks and sophisticated arts offerings combine to make it one of the most charming cities in the Gulf region.

Explore the stunning Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, stroll through the vibrant Mutrah Souq, or admire the architectural beauty of the Royal Opera House.

*Marhaba to Muscat!*

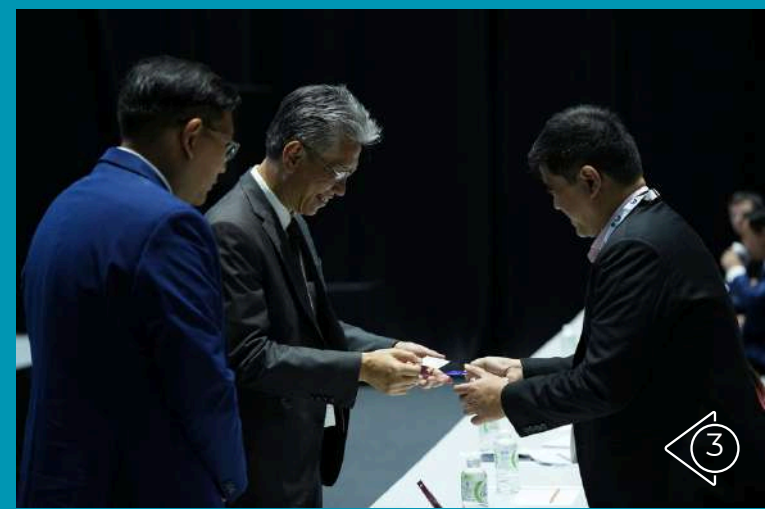


# Progressing Energy Transition via Effective Policies and Regulation

Convening for the first time in the Gulf region, the conference's opening session will devote special attention to the Gulf region's energy sustainability, energy sources' diversification, and reducing carbon emissions. Central to this transition is the concept of interconnectivity, which involves establishing a robust regional power grid among Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries. GCC region policymakers and regulators will compare their experiences on the progression of national energy transitions and discuss strategic interconnectivity prospects.

The remainder of the program will look into the current key challenges for the advancement of clean energy coupled with reliable electricity supply. Policy and regulatory presentations and dialogue will be held on challenges towards grid integration and management, cross-border cooperation, markets dynamics and required reforms to prevent instability and volatility, role of transition fuels and perspectives for implementation of decarbonized fuels, as well as the future of renewable sources and their support. Each session will comprise introductory presentations or case studies and will be concluded with a panel discussion aiming at summarizing key takeaways and enabling an interactive environment between the speakers and the audience.

Speakers and participants in attendance will include representatives of the following countries: Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Cameroon, ECOWAS, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Oman, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America, Zambia.



# UNITING LEADERS FROM THE GLOBAL ENERGY VALUE CHAIN

Each year, the ERRA Annual Conference welcomes national regulators, investors, utilities, consultants and academics to engage in strategic dialogue and regulatory developments.

The speaker roster and its diverse geographical background will facilitate a blend of top industry insights and practical cases from the Middle Eastern region, Europe, the U.S, Asia and Africa.

## Speakers and Panelists



**Andrijana  
Nelkova-Chuchuk**

ERRA Chair;  
ERC North Macedonia



**Firas  
Al-Abduwani**

Director General of RE and  
Hydrogen, Ministry of Energy  
and Minerals, Oman



**Abdulaziz  
Al Shidhani**

Managing Director,  
Hydrogen Oman Company  
SPC (Hydrom)



**Hisham  
Al Riyamiz**

General Manager Planning,  
OETC, Oman



**Abdulwahhab  
Al Hinai**

General Counsel, Legal,  
OQ, Oman



**Alda  
Ozola**

Chair,  
PUC Latvia



**Tatyana  
Kramskaya**

Senior Energy Specialist,  
Infrastructure Global Unit,  
World Bank



**Ivan  
Faucheux**

Commissioner,  
CRE France

# Speakers and Panelists



**Pál Ságvári**

ERRA Vice-Chair;  
MEKH Hungary



**Agnes Maria de Aragão da Costa**

Director, ANEEL Brazil;  
RELOP



**Kocou Tossou**

Chairman,  
ERERA



**Husam Beides**

Practice Manager, MENA  
Energy, World Bank



**Rolands Irklis**

Chairman of the  
Board, AST, Latvia



**Francisco Salazar**

Coordinator, ICER;  
Former Chairman, CRE  
Mexico



**Marko Bislimoski**

President,  
ERC North Macedonia



**Nadia Horstmann**

Head of International  
Relations, BNetzA,  
Germany; CEER



**Jesse Cohen**

Associate, Carbon-  
Free Electricity,  
RMI, USA



**Volkan Yiğit**

Managing Partner,  
APLUS Enerji, Türkiye



**Luca Lo Schiavo**

Senior Regulatory  
Specialist, ERRA



**Michael Tomadakis**

Strategy &  
Development Chief  
Officer, DESFA, Greece



**Ardian Berisha**

Managing Consultant,  
Optima Energy  
Consulting



**Harald Proidl**

Director, Renewables  
and Energy Efficiency,  
E-Control Austria

# Agenda | Day 1: Monday, May 5, 2025

## Opening Ceremony

### 09:00 **Introductory Remarks**

- Ms. Andrijana Nelkova-Chuchuk, ERRA Chair; Head of Economic Department, Energy, Water Services and Municipal Waste Management Services Regulatory Commission of North Macedonia

### 09:10 **Keynote Address**

- Ministry of Energy and Minerals., Oman – TBC

### 09:25 **Keynote Address**

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Hungary – TBC

## 1 Session I: **Progressing Energy Transition in the Gulf Region**

The Gulf region is at the crossroads of energy transition. This session will explore how Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries are leveraging their unique strengths—including abundant renewable energy resources, cutting-edge technologies, and financial capacity—to advance towards sustainable and diversified energy systems. Discussions will highlight national energy strategies, milestones in clean energy deployment, and the role of public and private sector partnerships. Special focus will be given to the challenges of balancing rapid economic growth with environmental sustainability and how the Gulf's leadership in energy transition can influence global markets.

**Session Moderator:** TBD

### 09:40 **Keynote Address**

- Mr. Francesco La Camera, Director General, International Renewable Energy Agency – Invited

### 10:00 **MODERATED PANEL DISCUSSION**

- Representative of IRENA – TBC
- Representative of the Authority for Public Services Regulation (APSR), Oman – TBC
- Representative of the Saudi Electricity Regulatory Authority (SERA) – TBC
- Representative of United Arab Emirates – TBC
- Q&A

### 10:30 **Morning break**

# Agenda | Day 1: Monday, May 5, 2025

## 2 Session II: **Grid Integration and Management**

As renewable energy becomes a larger part of the energy mix, grid stability and resilience emerge as critical challenges. This session will delve into the complexities of integrating high levels of intermittent renewable energy into the grid while ensuring reliability and security of supply. Experts will share insights on advanced grid management solutions, and the importance of cross-sector collaboration to meet future demand.

**Session Moderator:** TBD

### 11:00 **ROUND OF PRESENTATIONS**

11:00 Presentation: theme TBD

- Mr. Luca Lo Schiavo, Senior Regulatory Specialist, ERRA

11:20 Presentation: theme TBD

- Mr. Ben Skinner, Specialist, Wholesale Market Reform, Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) – TBC

11:40 **Challenges of grid integration and management in the U.S.**

- Ms. Ann E. Rendahl, Commissioner, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission; First Vice President, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), United States of America – TBC

12:00 **Joint Q&A Session**

12:15 **MODERATED PANEL DISCUSSION**

- Eng. Hisham Al Riyami, General Manager Planning, Oman Electricity Transmission Company (OETC)
- Ms. Ann E. Rendahl, Commissioner, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission; First Vice President, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), United States of America – TBC
- Ms. Agnes Maria de Aragão da Costa, Director, Energy Regulatory Agency (ANEEL), Brazil; Association of the Portuguese-Speaking Energy Regulators (RELOP)
- Speaker TBD
- Q&A

13:00 **Lunch break**



# Agenda | Day 1: Monday, May 5, 2025

## 3 Session III: Cross-Border Cooperation; Market Integration

With globalization shaping energy markets, cross-border cooperation has become essential for ensuring energy security, efficiency, and affordability. This session will focus on regional energy trade and market integration initiatives, showcasing the benefits of interconnected systems in enhancing competition and resource optimization. Discussions will explore the regulatory and technical frameworks required to harmonize markets and the lessons learned from successful international projects.

**Session Moderator:** Ms. Alda Ozola, Chair, Public Utilities Commission, Latvia; ERRA Presidium Member

### 14:00 ROUND OF PRESENTATIONS

#### 14:00 **Guidelines on Transmission Pricing and Cost Allocation for Regional Power Trade – report by MARCOT program of the World Bank**

- Ms. Tatyana Kramskaya, Senior Energy Specialist, Infrastructure Global Unit, World Bank
- Q&A

#### 14:20 Presentation: theme TBD

- Mr. Luis Boscan, Senior Consultant, Ea Energy Analyses, Denmark – TBC
- Q&A

### 14:40 MODERATED PANEL DISCUSSION

- Mr. Rolands Irklis, Chairman of the Board, AS Augstsprieguma tikls (AST), Latvia
- Mr. Laurent Kocou Rodrigue Tossou, Chairman, ECOWAS Regional Electricity Regulatory Authority (ERERA)
- Mr. Marko Bislimoski, President, Energy, Water Services and Municipal Waste Management Services Regulatory Commission (ERC), North Macedonia
- Ms. Souad Nassir, Director, National Office of Electricity and Drinking Water (ONEE), Morocco - TBC
- Representative of GCCIA – TBC
- Q&A

### 15:20 Afternoon break

# Agenda | Day 1: Monday, May 5, 2025

## 4 Session IV: Market Reform to Facilitate Energy Transition

Transforming electricity markets is a key enabler of the global energy transition. This session will examine the role of market reforms in creating an environment conducive to renewable energy deployment, technological innovation, and customer-centric solutions. Topics will include modernizing tariff structures, incentivizing investment in clean energy, and redesigning market mechanisms to enhance flexibility and competition.

**Session Moderator:** TBD

### 15:40 ROUND OF PRESENTATIONS

15:40 Presentation: theme TBD

- Dr Firas Al-Abduwani, Director General of Renewable Energy and Hydrogen, Ministry of Energy and Minerals, Oman

15:55 Presentation: theme TBD

- Mr. Stephen Woodhouse, Director, AFRY Management Consulting – TBC

### 16:10 Market reforms supporting energy transition: mechanisms to integrate V-RES and Electricity Storages

- Mr. Guido Bortoni, Chairman of the Board of Directors, CESI SpA, Italy – TBC

### 16:25 MODERATED PANEL DISCUSSION

- Dr Husam Beides, Practice Manager, MENA Energy, World Bank
- Mr. Jesse Cohen, Associate, Carbon-Free Electricity, RMI, United States of America
- Mr. Volkan Yiğit, Managing Partner, APLUS Enerji, Türkiye
- Mr. Francisco Salazar, Coordinator, International Confederation of Energy Regulators (ICER); Former Chairman, Energy Regulatory Commission (CRE), Mexico
- Q&A

17:00 Day 1 Adjourn

20:00 Conference Gala Dinner (on invitation basis)

# Agenda | Day 2: Tuesday, May 6, 2025

## Welcome

### 09:00 **Welcome and announcement of 2026 ERRA Annual Conference location**

- Mr. Pál Ságvári, ERRA Vice-Chair, Vice President for Strategic and International Affairs, Hungarian Energy and Public Utility Regulatory Authority (MEKH)

## 5 Session V: **The Role of Transition Fuels in Transforming the Sector**

Transition fuels such as natural gas, biofuels and low-carbon hydrogen play a critical role in bridging the gap between traditional fossil-fuel driven economies and the zero-emission system of tomorrow. This session will explore the current and future role of transition fuels in reducing carbon emissions, enhancing energy security, and enabling sustainable development. Special attention will be given to natural gas as an important fuel driving the GCC economies. Discussions will focus on the benefits, challenges, and technologies surrounding transition fuels, and how they fit into long-term strategies for a net-zero future.

**Session Moderator:** Mr. Abdulwahhab Al Hinai, ERRA Strategic Advisory Board Member; General Counsel, Legal, OQ, Oman

### 09:10 **ROUND OF PRESENTATIONS**

#### 09:10 Presentation: theme TBD

- Mr. Paul James Pickering, Regional Manager, EPRI International Inc. – TBC

#### 09:30 Presentation: theme TBD

- Dr Michael Thomadakis, Director of Strategy and Development Division, Hellenic Gas TSO (DESFA), Greece – TBC

### 09:50 **Development of the Green Hydrogen Sector in Oman**

- Eng. Abdulaziz Al Shidhani, Managing Director, Hydrom Oman

### 10:10 **MODERATED PANEL DISCUSSION**

- Mr. Paul James Pickering, Regional Manager, EPRI International Inc. – TBC
- Dr Michael Thomadakis, Director of Strategy and Development Division, Hellenic Gas TSO (DESFA), Greece - TBC
- Ms. Wassila Atimene, President, Electricity and Gas Regulatory Commission (CREG), Algeria - TBC
- OQAE Oman – TBD
- Q&A

### 10:50 **Morning break**

# Agenda | Day 2: Tuesday, May 6, 2025

## 6 Session VI: **Capture Rates for Solar and Re-thinking Support Schemes**

Support schemes are instrumental in accelerating the adoption and integration of renewable energy sources. This session will provide insights into the diverse range of financial incentives, policy frameworks, and market mechanisms that support renewable energy deployment worldwide. Special attention will be given to competitive instruments that provide reasonable levels of support while safeguarding market confidence such as Contracts for Difference (CfDs). Experts will discuss lessons learnt from early days of support for RES, and highlight the current challenges in fostering investment, enhancing grid stability, and encouraging technological advancements.

**Session Moderator:** Mr. Ardian Berisha, ERRA Training Expert, Managing Consultant, Optima Energy Consulting

### 11:20 **ROUND OF PRESENTATIONS**

#### 11:20 **Rise of solar, falling capture rates and policy considerations for RES Support Schemes**

- Mr. Ardian Berisha, ERRA Training Expert, Managing Consultant, Optima Energy Consulting

#### 11:30 **Analysis of negative price occurrences and recommendations to adapt French renewable support schemes**

- Mr. Ivan Faucheux, Commissioner, Energy Regulatory Commission (CRE), France

#### 11:45 **Impact of high market prices on renewables; unsupported renewable energy sources**

- Dr Nadia Horstmann, Head of Section, International Relations, Bundesnetzagentur (BNetzA), Germany; Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER)

#### 12:00 **Energy sharing - new possibilities for PV**

- Dr Harald Proidl, Director Renewables and Energy Efficiency, E-Control, Austria

### 12:15 **MODERATED PANEL DISCUSSION**

- Mr. Ivan Faucheux, Commissioner, Energy Regulatory Commission (CRE), France
- Dr Nadia Horstmann, Head of Section, International Relations, Bundesnetzagentur (BNetzA), Germany; CEER
- Dr Harald Proidl, Director Renewables and Energy Efficiency, E-Control, Austria
- Q&A

12:45 **Conference concludes; Lunch**

# Secure Your Delegate Pass



## Secure your complimentary delegate pass



Complimentary registration is available to energy regulators and other representatives of the energy sector.

Registration is subject to review and approval. Your participation is not confirmed until approval is received from the organisers.

<https://erranet.org/erra-annual-conference-2025-registration/>

# Join delegates from

- African Forum for Utility Regulators (**AFUR**)
- Electricity and Gas Regulatory Commission (CREG), **Algeria**
- Regulatory Institute for Electricity and Water Supply and Wastewater Sanitation Services (IRSEA), **Angola**
- Public Services Regulatory Commission (PSRC), **Armenia**
- **Bangladesh** Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC)
- Electricity Regulatory Authority (ERA), **Bhutan**
- State Electricity Regulatory Commission (SERC), **Bosnia and Herzegovina**
- Regulatory Commission for Energy in Federation of **Bosnia and Herzegovina**
- **Brazilian** Electricity Regulatory Agency (ANEEL)
- Electricity Regulatory Agency (ARSEL), **Cameroon**
- **Ceylon** Electricity Board (CEB)
- ECOWAS Regional Electricity Regulatory Authority (**ERERA**)
- Regulatory Commission (CRE), **France**
- Bundesnetzagentur (BNetzA), **Germany**
- Hellenic Gas Transmission System Operator DESFA SA, **Greece**
- Regulatory Authority for Energy, Waste and Water (RAAEY), **Greece**
- **Hungarian** Energy and Public Utility Regulatory Authority (MEKH)
- International Confederation of Energy Regulators (**ICER**)
- Energy Regulatory Office (ERO), **Kosovo**
- Augstsprieguma Tikls (AST), **Latvia**
- Public Utilities Commission (PUC), **Latvia**
- National Energy Regulatory Council (NERC), **Lithuania**
- National Office of Electricity and Drinking Water (ONEE), **Morocco**
- Electricity Regulatory Commission (ERC), **Nepal**
- Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Associations (REEEA) Alliance, **Nigeria**
- Energy, Water Services and Municipal Waste Management Services Regulatory Commission (ERC), **North Macedonia**
- Authority for Public Services Regulation (APSR), **Oman**
- Hydrogen **Oman** Company SPC (Hydrom)
- Ministry of Energy and Minerals, **Oman**
- Muscat Lights Trading LLC, **Oman**
- **Oman** Electricity Transmission Company (OETC)
- OQ (**Oman** Oil Company)
- Khan Advisory, **Pakistan**
- **Romanian** Energy Regulatory Authority (ANRE)
- KAPSARC, **Saudi Arabia**
- Regional Development Agency, Slovakia
- Regulatory Office for Network Industries (ÚRSO), **Slovakia**
- Regulatory and Supervisory Bureau for Electricity and Water of Dubai (RSB), **UAE**
- MCC Economics Ltd, **UK**
- Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI), **USA**
- **World Bank**
- Energy Regulation Board (ERB), **Zambia**

## Any question?

Our team is here to help. Reach out to us:

- [secretariat@erranet.org](mailto:secretariat@erranet.org)
- **+36 70 392 5986** (WhatsApp available)



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