MEPSO

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Interview with

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Women in the Energy Sector

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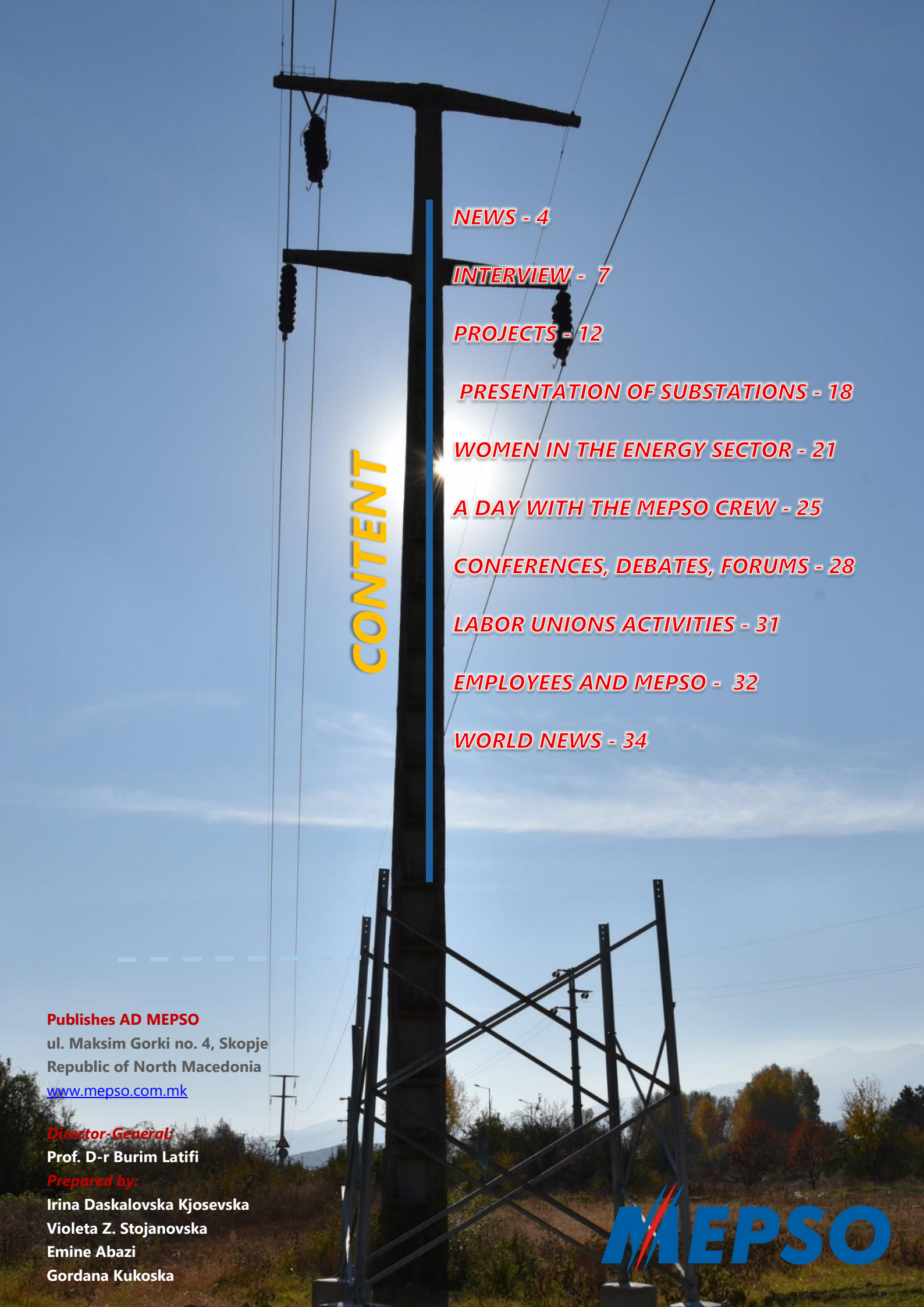

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MEPSO

NEWS

NEW RULES ON THE PROCUREMENT OF ELECTRICITY TO COVER LOSSES IN THE TRANSMISSION SYSTEM ENTER INTO FORCE

On 1 February, the new Rules on the Procurement of Electricity to Cover Losses in the Transmission Network entered into force. These Rules were adopted pursuant to the Energy Law and published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of North Macedonia No. 9/2026. In accordance with the new procedures and criteria set out therein, the first procurement of electricity for the February–March 2026 period has already been successfully carried out achieving tangible economic benefits.

The new Rules introduce greater flexibility and precision in planning electricity procurement needs. One of the key innovations is the possibility to procure electricity across multiple time intervals during the day. This approach enables more accurate planning and management of system losses, improves forecast accuracy, and reduces overall costs, simultaneously providing suppliers with greater flexibility to submit bids for different periods based on their available capacities.

CONTRACT SIGNED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE 400 KV BITOLA-ELBASAN TRANSMISSION LINE

The strategic project for the construction of the 400 kV transmission line from SS Bitola to the Macedonian–Albanian border has been relaunched. With the signing of the construction contract for this interconnection with the new contractor—the consortium led by Dalekovod, Zagreb—the implementation of this project, which is of the highest national interest, has officially resumed. This selection follows the strategic decision by management to terminate the previous contract, which had compromised and delayed the project. The realization of this project will close the only remaining open link in the national transmission system, enabling the completion of the regional energy Corridor VIII and significantly improving voltage conditions in the southwestern part of the country.

INTENSIVE PREPARATIONS FOR INSTALLATION OF THE DISTRIBUTION 400/110 KV TRANSFORMER

Preparations are continuing at SS Dubrovo for the delivery and installation of the distribution 400/110 kV transformer, which will ensure the substation's stable operation. On-site activities, coordination among technical teams, and overall project implementation are progressing steadily, in line with the modernization strategy for the transmission networkIn parallel, work is underway on the new Data Disaster Recovery Center, which will further enhance the transmission system's digital security and operational stability. Through continuous investments and strong technical commitment, AD MEPSO is building an energy system prepared to meet future technological and energy challenges.

SECOND REACCREDITATION CERTIFICATE FOR THE INSULATING MATERIALS LABORATORY OF AD MEPSO

Insulating Materials Laboratory of AD MEPSO has obtained its second reaccreditation with a valid certificate until 5 October 2029. Established in 2000, the AD MEPSO Laboratory serves as a center of excellence for high-quality analyses and technical support to the energy sector. The laboratory is accredited to the MKC EN ISO/IEC 17025:2018 standard and is the only facility of its kind in the country. Through its long-standing commitment and professionalism, the laboratory ensures reliable, accurate results across all testing activities. The new reaccreditation reaffirms the trust in the team's expertise, modern technology, and high level of professional responsibility.

AD MEPSO MARKED 20 YEARS SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT

AD MEPSO celebrated the 20th anniversary of its establishment as a cornerstone institution of the Macedonian power system. The jubilee celebration was held in the presence of members of the Board of Directors and Supervisory Board, ministers, members of parliament, mayors, ambassadors, representatives of the diplomatic corps, stakeholders from the energy sector, domestic and international partners, media representatives, as well as numerous colleagues—both active and retired, including former directors.

"Two decades are not merely the passage of time. They represent a period of institutional maturity, the building of corporate memory, and a testament to responsible work and professionalism," emphasized the General Director of AD MEPSO, Burim Latifii. "Our mission from day one," he added, "has been to ensure secure electricity transmission in accordance with the highest European standards."

The event featured remarks by Minister Sanja Božinovska, who emphasized MEPSO's role as a stable and reliable transmission system operator and a key contributor to European energy integration. The Directors of MEPSO's subsidiaries, TSO – Mr. Saško Lakinski, and TGO Mr. Vase Jovevski, also spoke about the company's history and achievements over the past twenty years. The 20th anniversary celebration affirms AD MEPSO's institutional maturity and its unwavering commitment to security of supply, responsible management of public resources, and continuous development of the national electricity system.

SEMIJAL ZIBERI, HEAD OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENTS DEPARTMENT

FROM STRATEGY TO THE FIELD: INVESTMENT PROJECTS THAT ARE TRANSFORMING THE ELECTRICITY THE ELECTRICUTY TRANSMISSION SYSTEM

Investment projects in the electricity transmission network are not just technical interventions, but decisions with a direct impact on the security of supply, long-term energy stability and the positioning of the country on the regional energy market. In conditions of energy transition, increased regional connectivity and high requirements for system security, investment decisions gain essential importance. At AD MEPSO, the Development and Investment Department is the place where all capital projects in the transmission system begin, from strategic planning and financial construction, to implementation and connection to the network.

In this interview with Semial Ziberi, Head of the Development and Investment Department, we discuss the most significant current projects, the challenges in the implementation of capital investments and the vision for the development of the Macedonian electricity transmission system in conditions of accelerated energy transition.

The Development and Investments Department is often described as the "architect" of the future transmission network, or in other words, the "entry point" for all projects in the network. How do you define its role in ensuring the long-term stability and development of the electricity transmission system?

► The Development and Investments Department serves as the central point where all aspects of planning and implementation of the future transmission network converge. Within it, there are several services that together ensure the long-term stability and resilience of the power system. The Strategic Planning and Development Service defines the vision and direction of the network, while the financial operations analytics and controlling ensure rational use of funds and financial discipline. The GIS team enables precise modeling and analysis of the infrastructure, and standardization guarantees compliance with national and european regulations.

In addition to these functions, the Service for Connection of Consumers and Producers also plays a significant role. It is responsible for the process of connecting new users and generators to the transmission network. This service provides technical conditions, coordination, and integration of new capacities, thereby ensuring that the growth in consumption and the development of new generation sources take

place in accordance with the development plan and without compromising the stability of the system. Closely related to this is the Project Management Service, composed of project managers and financial officers, who bear the responsibility for the practical implementation – from the initial idea to the completion of the project, with control over deadlines, budgets, and quality.In this way, the Department is not merely an administrative structure, but a true "brain" that directs the organization's energy: from vision and strategy, through financial and technical analysis, all the way to the concrete realization of projects. With this setup, the Department ensures that each investment is part of a broader strategy, that the system is financially stable, technically precise and risk-resistant, and that projects are implemented on time and with high quality. The role of the department can be defined as a guarantee for the long-term development and security of the power system.

How are investment priorities determined in the context of an accelerated energy transition and how are they aligned with national energy policies?

►In the context of an accelerated energy transition, the starting point for determining investment priorities is the ten-year transmission network development plan, which is updated every two years. This plan is prepared in cooperation with the Ministry of Energy, and its final version is approved by the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC). This ensures that each investment is part of a broader strategy and is aligned with national energy policies and long-term system development goals.

In the new Energy Law, additional attention is devoted to the mutual coordination of all relevant institutions, with the aim of better alignment of investments and planning according to the needs arising from the integration of a greater number of generation sources. This legal framework enables greater transparency and synchronization between the transmission system operator, the regulator, the ministry, and other market participants, so that priorities are no longer viewed merely as technical solutions, but as strategic tools for ensuring the security, stability, and resilience of the electricity system.

In this way, investment priorities are set based on the security of supply, the integration of renewable sources, regional connectivity, and economic justification, but always within a framework that is aligned with national policies and legal requirements.

The interconnection transmission line Bitola–Elbasan is one of the most significant projects of MEPSO. From your perspective, what makes this project strategic for both the country and regional electricity connectivity?

►The Bitola-Elbasan interconnection transmission line is one of the most significant strategic projects of MEPSO in recent decades, as its implementation practically fills a large gap in the electricity traffic on the European energy corridor 8. Until now, there has been a break in the continuity of the transmission infrastructure along this corridor, which limited the possibility of full regional integration and electricity exchange between countries.

In Macedonia, all interconnecting energy connections with neighboring countries have already been built, only the connection with Albania was missing. With the construction of the Bitola-Elbasan interconnection transmission line, this gap is closed and a direct connection between the Macedonian and Albanian transmission systems is provided. This means better security of supply, increased flexibility for the integration of

new production sources and greater stability of the entire regional system.
When it comes to interconnections, it must be emphasized that in the energy sector there are no independent systems. Electricity does not flow in a single closed circuit within the borders of a country, in a separate and isolated system. On the contrary, together with other needs, interstate connections are necessary for the stability of the grid. They enable systems balancing, security of supply, and integration of new energy sources, which makes the Bitola–Elbasan project not only nationally significant, but also strategically important on a regional level.

With its realization, Macedonia becomes fully connected with all its neighbors, and Corridor 8 gains a new dimension of functionality and importance, thereby strengthening the country's position in the european energy flows.

What were the key challenges in preparing for the restart of this complex project?

► The key challenges in preparing for the restart of the Bitola-Elbasan interconnection project were indeed numerous and complex, as technical, property-legal and international aspects had to be crossed. First, the bold decision to terminate the previous contract itself came after a thorough analysis and expertise of the project's history, from which it was observed that there had been many years of delay and negotiation over technical details and price changes. It was high time for such a decision, which opened up obligations that had to be fulfilled after the termination, such as taking over the already purchased equipment and dealing with the fact that only a small percentage of the works had been implemented. This created additional difficulty in the process, as continuity had to be ensured and the already invested funds and resources not to be lost.

Furthermore, the preparation of the documentation for re-publication was an extremely complex task, especially considering that the project is financed by the EBRD and must be implemented in accordance with FIDIC rules. Additional complexity arose from the change in the contractual model – the previous contract was based on the "Yellow Book", and the new one is implemented according to the "Red Book". This required the adaptation of all documentation, processes and obligations to the new legal and technical format, which meant re-alignment of all aspects with international standards and requirements of the lender.
In summary, the restart of the project required simultaneously dealing with property and legal issues, technical and organizational challenges, as well as international coordination with creditors and compliance with FIDIC rules. All of this makes the preparation one of the most complex, but also the most important tasks to ensure the successful implementation of this strategic project.

What impact do interconnections have on Macedonia's position in the regional electricity market and on the stability of the system?

►Such interconnections directly strengthen Macedonia's position on the regional electricity market, as they make the country fully integrated into the regional transmission network and part of european energy flows. With the establishment of all interstate connections, Macedonia gains the opportunity for greater electricity trade, better utilization of domestic capacities and access to additional sources in times of increased demand.
Interconnections also increase the system's ability to absorb shocks and potential instabilities. When a strong interconnection infrastructure is in place, the system can respond to unforeseen situations such as production outages, sudden changes in consumption, or regional crises, by importing or exporting energy and balancing the grid.

In other words, interconnections transform Macedonia into an active participant in the regional market, while simultaneously making the transmission network more resilient, flexible and able to cope with the dynamics of the energy transition.

What other capital investments define the development cycle of AD MEPSO and how do they connect to a broader vision for the transmission network?

► AD MEPSO's capital investments are aimed at fully modernizing and strengthening the transmission network, with a clear vision of creating a stable, flexible and regionally integrated electricity system. The Rehabilitation and Control project supported by the EBRD is currently being finalized, with which several critical transmission lines were renovated, including Prilep-Bitola 1, which has already been put into operation. In the coming period, we will begin the implementation of one of the most significant internal projects - the reconstruction and construction of the Gostivar-Kicevo-Oslomej-Sopotnica-Bitola 1 transmission corridor with our own funds, as well as the project to strengthen the network in the southeast and establish a training center in Ohrid, also supported by the EBRD.

In parallel, we are preparing projects for digitalization, modern monitoring systems and enhanced cybersecurity, which will be implemented during this year, and starting next year, the focus will shift to the reconstruction of the remaining outdated transmission lines and strategic development of the 400 kV network, including a new 400 kV line Skopje-Tetovo-Kosovo and a new interconnection with Kosovo.

The energy transition redefines MEPSO's investment approach, from classic infrastructure projects to building a flexible, intelligent and regionally connected transmission network. The integration of an increasing number of renewable sources plays a key role in prioritizing investments, as it requires new transmission corridors, larger network capacities and advanced digital solutions for managing variable production. The need for modern, automated systems and enhanced interconnectivity shapes the new vision for development – a network that can reliably support the accelerated growth of RE and the stability of the electricity system in the coming decades.

How significant is institutional and international support in the implementation of capital projects of this scale and importance, and where do the "bottlenecks" most commonly appear?

► The support and coordination with the Government, especially with the Ministry of Energy as our founder, as well as with the Energy Regulatory Commission and international partners, is of essential importance for the implementation of capital projects of this scale, as they provide alignment of policies, regulatory stability, financial security, and timely permits and approvals. On the other hand, international partners, in addition to financial support, contribute with standards, good practices, and mechanisms for quality control and transparency.

The most common "bottlenecks" appear in the complex administrative procedures, the dynamics of issuing permits, the alignment of regulatory obligations with the technical needs of the projects, as well as in the coordination with multiple institutions. As with all other public investments, unresolved property-legal issues represent a chronic problem, and in our case they are often the key factor that determines whether a project will progress or face serious delays.

Additionally, with international partners, challenges arise from the complex procedures, review deadlines, and the need for full compliance

with their standards, which requires a high level of preparedness, precision, and discipline. Therefore, strong and continuous coordination with all these actors is crucial to avoid standstills and to ensure timely, predictable, and successful implementation of strategic investments.

What mechanisms do you consider key to ensuring transparency and financial discipline in the implementation of capital projects of this scale?

► Transparency and financial discipline are key for capital projects of this scale, and trust is built through several fundamental mechanisms: regular and public reporting on the progress of the projects, including timelines, financial flows, and achieved results; strong internal controls and independent audits that confirm funds are used strictly in accordance with procedures; fully transparent and competitive public procurement procedures that eliminate suspicions of favoritism; as well as active, open communication and compliance with the procedures and standards of international financial institutions and partners. Through these mechanisms, predictability, integrity, and trust are ensured both in the public and among all concerned stakeholders.

What will be the energy challenges for the transmission network in the next 10-15 years?

► In the next 10–15 years, the transmission network will face three main challenges: wise management of the diversity and growth of renewable sources, their accelerated integration, the need to strengthen regional interconnections, and the massive modernization of outdated infrastructure.

Energy today is moving at tremendous speed. The development of renewable sources, digitalization, and market changes are happening much faster than before, which requires constant focus, a high degree of agility, and strong institutional commitment. Failure to keep up with this dynamic development must not be allowed, as it would mean limited integration of new generation capacities and increased risks to the security and stability of the system.

And to move forward confidently, timely investments are needed in new transmission corridors, flexible and secure digital solutions and enhanced interconnectivity, expansion and modernization of transformer capacities, improvement of voltage regulation and reactive support, as well as development of system services and flexibility solutions (including battery systems and other technologies), which will ensure a grid capable of safely supporting the growth of renewable sources and responding to future energy demands.

PROJECTS

MEPSO MEMBER OF THE JAO

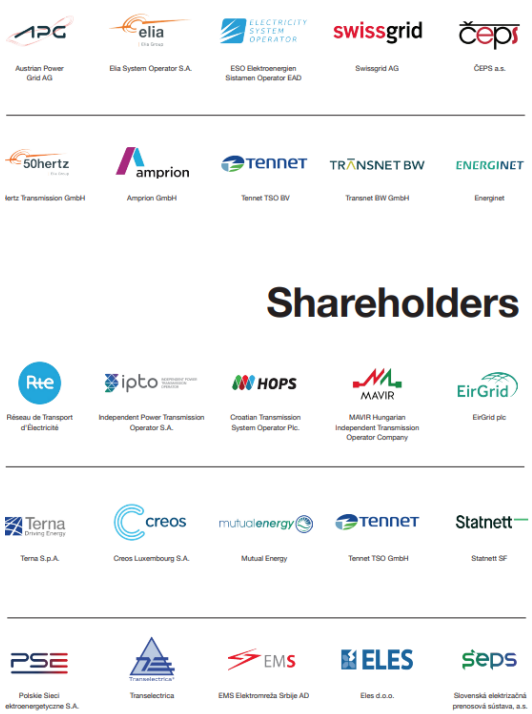
Writen by: Vancho Shahpaski B.Sc Electricalchief Dispetcher in the as TSO

From 1 January 2026, after MEPSO officially became part of the EU Single Allocation Platform – JAO (Joint Allocation Office), the full implementation of the new Rules for long-term (annual and monthly) and short-term (daily) allocation of cross-border transmission capacities began at the MEPSO–ESO (Bulgaria) and MEPSO–EMS (Serbia) borders.

Initial results from implementing this model show that all projected financial expectations from capacity allocations have been met, as well as the anticipated negative financial effects associated with the CBAM mechanism.

The method will bring MEPSO increased financial stability, greater predictability, full compliance with European regulations and practices, and enhanced cybersecurity. This further confirms MEPSO's strategic orientation toward integration into the European electricity market. From the perspective of electricity market participants, the new model offers greater opportunities and flexibility, with fewer limitations on the availability and trading of cross-border capacities.

The accession process to JAO, which MEPSO carried out in several phases and in close coordination with the transmission system operators of Bulgaria and Serbia, lasted less than one year. Following the coordinated withdrawal from the previous bilateral allocation model, based on mutual agreements and software solutions, the process continued with the submission of the Application for Accession to JAO, the formalisation of cooperation, and intensive work by technical teams to align the Allocation Rules and prepare IT systems for data exchange with the JAO platform.



A key prerequisite for MEPSO's accession to JAO was also the adoption of the Harmonised Allocation Rules (HAR), adopted by ACER and approved by the Energy Regulatory Commission. These rules are fully aligned with Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1719 on Forward Capacity Allocation and require that at least 70% of the available transmission capacity be offered in auctions. The auctions commenced on 17 December with the annual cross-border capacity auction, followed by the monthly auctions. Since 31 December, the daily auctions have been conducted regularly.

To further strengthen regional and European integration, MEPSO continues its activities and coordination with the transmission system operator of Greece – IPTO, with the expectation that during the coming year, auctions at the Macedonia–Greece border will also be conducted through JAO.

PROJECTS OF ENERGY COMMUNITY INTEREST (PECI)

MEPSO APPLIES FOR PECI STATUS FOR THE "400 KV EAST-WEST INTERCONNECTION CORRIDOR – WESTERN SECTION'' PROJECT

Prepared by: MSc Branka Vasić, MBA, Responsible Engineer for Strategic Planning

Projects of Energy Community Interest (PECI) are priority infrastructure projects in the electricity and gas sectors that have a significant cross-border impact on more than one Contracting Party of the Energy Community. They are defined to support the development of an integrated regional energy market, enhance the security and reliability of energy supply, and enable the efficient and secure integration of renewable energy sources, in line with decarbonization objectives and the broader energy transition.

PECI projects are identified through a joint regional process coordinated by the Energy Community Secretariat, during which their technical, economic, environmental, and market benefits are assessed. A key selection criterion is cross-border relevance. Namely, the project's capacity to improve interconnectivity between national energy systems, reduce network bottlenecks, and strengthen the overall stability of the regional power system.

The allocation of PECI status constitutes formal recognition of a project's strategic importance. It enables enhanced institutional coordination among participating countries, accelerates project preparation and implementation, and facilitates access to international financial instruments, technical assistance, and support from international financial institutions.

MEPSO's Role and Application for PECI Status

As the national transmission system operator, MEPSO plays a key role in planning, developing, and maintaining a secure and stable transmission system aligned with regional and European energy policies. Within its strategic mandate, MEPSO continuously works to strengthen cross-border interconnections and modernize the transmission network, aiming to better integrate the national electricity market into regional and European markets.

In this context, MEPSO has applied for PECI status for the project "400 kV East–West Interconnection Corridor – Western Section", recognizing its pronounced regional relevance and its direct contribution to achieving the objectives of the Energy Community, as well as national goals related to secure and sustainable electricity supply.

Project Description

The 400 kV East–West Interconnection Corridor – Western Section project envisages the construction of a new 400 kV interconnection transmission line Tetovo–Prizren, which will reinforce the internal transmission network of North Macedonia and establish a new direct connection with the power system of Kosovo. The corridor connects Skopje and Ohrid via Tetovo, with a cross-border interconnection towards Prizren (Kosovo). The total length of the Western Section is estimated at approximately 255 km.

The project is structured as a package of interrelated investments, including the construction of new 400 kV transmission lines,

new 400/110 kV substations, and the expansion and adaptation of existing lines. A key component is the construction of a new 400/110 kV substation in Tetovo, which will serve as a central hub for multiple 400 kV lines and significantly strengthen transmission capacity in the western part of the country.

In addition, the project involves the potential construction of a new 400/110 kV substation in Oslomej, enabling improved integration of existing and planned generation capacities, such as renewable energy sources, and providing increased operational flexibility for the system.

Regional Dimension and Complementarity

The new 400 kV Tetovo–Prizren interconnection is a critical link in the regional East–West corridor and strengthens cross-border connectivity among Macedonia, Kosovo, and Albania. The project is directly complementary to the already approved PECI project to upgrade the Kosovo–Albania transmission corridor (Prizren–Fierza) to 400 kV. Together, these projects form a continuous and robust regional transmission corridor.

This integrated approach enables secure and flexible energy flows across the Western Balkans, improved utilization of existing and future generation capacities, and enhanced resilience of the transmission system under disturbances and extreme operating conditions.

Expected Benefits

The implementation of the project is expected to deliver multiple benefits at both national and regional levels, including:

- significant improvement in the security and stability of the transmission system;
- increased cross-border electricity trade and enhanced market integration;
- reduction of network constraints and improved operational flexibility;
- creation of the necessary conditions for integrating large-scale renewable energy capacities;
- support for long-term decarbonization objectives and the sustainable development of the energy sector

PROJECTS

MEPSO IS PART OF THE SOUTH EAST EUROPE CAPACITY CALCULATION REGION (SEE CCR) AND A USER OF SELENE SERVICES AS A REGIONAL COORDINATION CENTRE (RCC)

Written by: Igor Stojanovski, M.Sc. in Electrical Engineering, Head of the Network Analysis, Operational Security, and Legislation Unit.

In parallel with the preparation of secondary legislation under the Electricity Integration Package, MEPSO also undertook operational steps and joined SEleNe CC (Southeast Electricity Network Coordination Center). Since 1 November, MEPSO has been actively cooperating with SEleNe CC daily, exchanging information on the network model, performing operational calculations, and, in accordance with the agreed cooperation plan, participating in training sessions delivered by SEleNe CC for the TSO's engineers.

In recent months, a data exchange channel has been established in line with ENTSO-E recommendations. A network model is created daily, reflecting timetable changes and the current state of the transmission network, and submitted to SEleNe CC. After integrating all individual network models from the system operators under SEleNe CC's coordination, the centre develops a common network model. Based on this common model, coordinated security analyses are performed, and cross-border capacity is calculated. The results of these calculations and analyses are made available to all system operators coordinated by SEleNe CC; therefore, the security of the transmission system is assessed.

Most importantly, MEPSO's accession to SEleNe CC is another step toward coupling our electricity market with the European Union market, a goal we are steadily advancing toward.

SEleNe CC
SOUTHEAST ELECTRICITY NETWORK COORDINATION CENTER

SEleNe CC is a Regional Coordination Centre (RCC) for Southeast Europe, located in Thessaloniki, Greece. The centre was established by the transmission system operators of Greece (IPTO), Bulgaria (ESO EAD), Italy (Terna), and Romania (Transelectrica) to improve the security, coordination, and integration of the regional power system.

The main tasks of SEleNe include:

- Coordinated network security analysis
- Planning and coordination of outages of interconnection transmission capacities
- Coordinated transmission capacity calculation

- Short-term adequacy forecasting
- Modelling of common and individual network models

SEleNe CC is the latest RCC established in Europe (after Coreso, TSCNET, SCC, Nordic, and Baltic), created to ensure full alignment with the European regulatory framework and to support the integration of renewable energy sources and cross-border power flows.

Following ACER's (Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators) final decision on 16.12.2025 regarding the definition of Capacity Calculation Regions (CCR), the Southeast Europe Capacity Calculation Region (SEE CCR) was expanded to include the Energy Community's system operators, namely North Macedonia, Albania, and Kosovo. Wherefore, MEPSO has formally and legally commenced the implementation of the CACM regulation as a foundation for market coupling (SDAC and IDAC).

PROJECTS

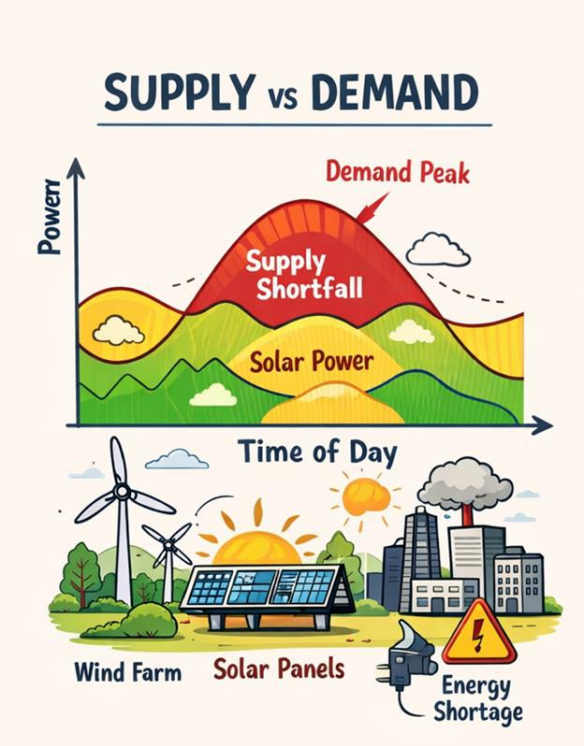
MEPSO DELIVERS THE FIRST NATIONAL RESOURCE ADEKUACY ALIGNED WITH EUROPEAN STANDARDS

For the first time, the power system of Macedonia has been equipped with a comprehensive and methodologically advanced Resource Adequacy Assessment, fully aligned with the European methodology of ENTSO-E for the European Resource Adequacy Assessment (ERAA). The study was prepared by the Strategic Planning and Development Analyses Unit of MEPSO, authored by Sime Kuzarevski and Branka Vasić. It represents a major step forward in strategic planning and in strengthening the security of electricity supply in Macedonia.

Unlike traditional deterministic approaches, the study applies a probabilistic methodology based on market modelling using Antares and Monte Carlo simulations, analyzing more than 37 million possible future system conditions. The assessment incorporates climatic conditions, the variability of renewable energy sources, forced outages of generation units, and cross-border exchange possibilities within the pan-European power system.

A particular strength of the study lies in its full regional integration. The Macedonian power system is modelled in detail within a pan-European framework alongside 34 other countries, enabling a realistic assessment of supply adequacy risks. This approach highlights the critical role of interconnections and flexible resources, such as gas-fired power plants, pumped-storage hydropower plants, electricity storage systems, and other sources of system flexibility, especially under conditions of increasing renewable energy penetration and an accelerated energy transition.

The study was developed in close cooperation with RTE International, the international subsidiary



of the French transmission system operator RTE, within a project financed by the French Development Agency. This partnership enabled effective knowledge transfer and the implementation of advanced tools and practices applied by leading European transmission system operators.

With this study, MEPSO not only fulfils its statutory obligation, but also establishes a robust analytical foundation for future decisions related to generation capacity development, renewable energy integration, and the strengthening of supply thereby reaffirming its pivotal role in the stable and sustainable development of the country's power system.

SS BITOLA 2 – A CRITICAL NODE IN THE MACEDONIAN POWER TRANSMISSION GRID

Prepared by: Irina Daskalovska Kjosevska

For more than four decades, SS Bitola 2 has been one of the key pillars of the Macedonian power system. It plays a vital role in the transmission of electricity generated by REK Bitola—the largest electricity producer in the country—to consumers in North Macedonia and to neighboring power systems.

The substation was commissioned on 4 November 1982, simultaneously with the commissioning of the first unit of REK Bitola, thereby establishing a sound foundation for the development of the national electricity infrastructure.

"*SS Bitola 2 has had a strategic role from the very beginning. It represents the link between electricity generation and transmission, and without it the system would not be able to operate at this level*," emphasizes the Head of the substation, Vasil Madjevski, who has been working in the company for 35 years

Technical Characteristics and Voltage Levels

SS Bitola 2 is a specific and unique substation model in Macedonia, as it connects TE Bitola at 400 kV via Blok 2 and Blok 3, and at 110 kV via Blok 1, creating a bridge between electricity generation and transmission.

Two 400/110 kV transformers carry out the transformation with an installed capacity of 300 MVA, which can operate simultaneously on demand.

This substation is the starting point for one of the main high-voltage interconnections, i.e., the 400 kV transmission line SS Bitola 2 – SS Meliti, connecting the power systems of Macedonia and Greece. Moreover, in the following period, it will serve as the starting point for another 400 kV interconnection with Albania as part of the wider regional interconnection corridor.

New Transformer – Significant Step Toward Greater Stability

On 7 January this year, the new 400/110 kV transformer was officially activated, representing one of the most significant technical upgrades undertaken in recent years.

"*With this transformer, we have significantly enhanced operational reliability and renewed critical infrastructure within the substation. This is an investment that directly impacts the stability of the entire power system*," emphasizes Vasil Madjevski.

The new equipment provides increased capacity, improved operational reliability, and greater system resilience under high-load conditions and emergencies

Regional Interconnection and European Perspective

The project to construct the 400 kV transmission line connecting to Albania is one of the most significant infrastructure investments in recent years.

- *The project enables:*
  - *Strengthening of regional interconnectivity.*
  - *Enhancement of the resilience of the transmission network.*
  - *Facilitation of integration of renewable energy sources.*
  - *Improved integration into the European electricity market*

Electricity Supply to Bitola, Pelagonija and Wider Area

The 110 kV, SS Bitola 2 provides electricity for:

- The city of Bitola and the vicinity,
- The vicinity of Prilep,
- Parts of Prespa,
- Industry, mines, agricultural and economic facilities located in Pelagonija.

From this substation, electricity is transmitted to other substations, where it is transformed to 35, 10, and 0.4 kV, and subsequently distributed to end users.

Organization, Supervision and Safety

Continuous and reliable supply is ensured through a combination of operational and organizational measures. As an exceptionally strategic facility, SS Bitola 2 is under constant 24/7 supervision by the operating staff—employees responsible for the proper and uninterrupted operation of the substation. The crew is formed of experienced, well-trained, and dedicated professionals who are on duty day and night and are always ready to respond promptly and appropriately. This capability is particularly important in facilities of this nature, as it helps prevent damage and mitigate potential consequences not only for AD MEPSO but also for the entire power system.

"*The system requires constant attention. Parameters are monitored daily, and timely action is taken to prevent any interruptions*," explains Vasil Madjevski

Role in Emergency Situations and the Importance of Safety

Occupational safety is an absolute priority at SS Bitola 2. Strict procedures, clear protocols, and continuous staff training are applied to ensure safe operations.

In emergencies, the substation plays a critical role in:

- protecting the transmission network,
- stabilizing voltage and frequency,
- ensuring system redundancy, and
- enabling rapid and efficient system recovery.

A Message to Young Engineers

With decades of experience behind him, Vasil Madjevski has a clear message for young people considering a career in the energy sector:

"*If you are looking for a profession where you learn something new every day, where your work has a real impact, and where you want to be part of the 'hidden pillar' of society, then working in a substation is an excellent choice.*"

WORKING WITH HIGH VOLTAGE AND EVEN GREATER RESPOMSIBILITY: STORY OF A ENGINEER SEAFEGUARDING SYSTEM STABILITY

Interview with Stanislava Sokolovska, electrical engineer

In the electricity transmission system, there is no room for improvisation. Every decision, every drawing, and every on-site intervention forms part of a complex mosaic with a single objective: the safe and reliable transmission of electricity. This reliability is ensured by highly skilled, committed professionals who work daily with high-voltage systems and assume an exceptional level of responsibility.

In this interview, part of the "Women in Energy" series, we speak with our colleague Stanislava Sokolovska, an electrical engineer and Head of the Design Unit within the Transmission Line and High-Voltage Equipment Revitalizations Department at AD MEPSO. She shares her perspective on the engineering work that underpins system reliability, explains the importance of design in revitalization and modernization, and reflects on female leadership at the very heart of the transmission network.

What has your professional journey to and within AD MEPSO looked like, and which experiences prepared you for a managerial position in the field of design?

As a child, I dreamed of becoming a professor and passing knowledge on to younger generations. The chapter of my life that ultimately led me to take on the role of an electrical engineer is a story for another occasion. I gained my first professional experience at AD EMO – Ohrid, where I worked as a transmission line design engineer. There, I acquired knowledge of actual on-site work and learned the importance of teamwork, accountability, and professional approaches that proved crucial to my future career development.

I later continued my professional growth at AD MEPSO, the Transmission System Operator (TSO), where I worked in the Department for Technical Control, Maintenance, and Testing of Substations, more specifically within the Testing Unit. This role allowed me to acquire significant hands-on experience and deepen my technical expertise in high-voltage installations and power systems. Today, I work in the Revitalization Department – Design

Documentation Unit, where we prepare detailed design documentation for high-voltage equipment, particularly circuit breakers and disconnectors in power facilities. Within the Revitalization Department, the Electrical Unit, the Design Documentation Unit, and the Civil Works Preparation Unit for substations operate in close coordination. Our department is responsible for the reconstruction and modernization of the TSO's energy facilities to ensure their safe, reliable, and long-term operation.

What does working for a transmission system operator mean to you, considering the responsibility regarding the security and stability of the power system?

Working for a Transmission System Operator is a great honor, a constant challenge, and a significant responsibility. From my very first day, I faced demanding, often unconventional challenges while continuously acquiring new knowledge and experience. Through dedication, perseverance, and sustained effort, I gradually worked my way to my current position.

In parallel, it is important to emphasize that we, as employees of the TSO, carry the responsibility of preserving and further developing what our more experienced colleagues have built over many years. As some of my colleagues often say, there is no room for improvisation here. We work with high voltage, which requires persistent responsibility, strict adherence to high technical and safety standards, continuous exchange of knowledge and experience, and close monitoring of global trends in modernizing the power system.

Ensuring the security and stability of the power system is the company's top priority, and it remains at the center of our daily activities—both planned and unplanned. All our efforts focus on ensuring the reliable transmission of electricity throughout the country and across interconnections with neighboring transmission networks

What role does design play in the revitalization of transmission lines and high-voltage equipment, particularly from the perspective of long-term operational reliability?

Design represents the final, yet critically important, phase in the revitalization of high-voltage equipment. At this stage, all on-site activities, along with the necessary technical alignments, are systematically consolidated and transferred into comprehensive design documentation. AD MEPSO's substations operate high-voltage equipment supplied by various manufacturers, including Siemens, Rade Končar, ABB, Alstom, and others. While circuit breakers and disconnectors perform the same fundamental functions, they differ significantly in terms of secondary circuits or transmission of control and signaling information. This so-called "contact interplay," as my colleagues often refer to it, is a highly complex process that requires a high level of expertise to ensure uninterrupted operation of the entire system and to leave the substation in a fully safe and reliable condition.

The process begins with input from the Department for Technical Control, Maintenance, and Testing of Substations, which assesses the condition of individual components. In close coordination with this department, we identify priority replacement items, such as circuit breakers and disconnectors. Depending on the risk of an outage and the system's current operating state, we proceed with dismantling old equipment and installing new units.

A typical working day usually starts with a brief coordination meeting at the office, where the revitalization Department team reviews the daily agenda and the progress of ongoing projects. We examine execution plans for high-voltage equipment—such as circuit breakers and disconnectors—and set field activity priorities. This is followed by a site visit to the substation, during which we conduct a visual

inspection and record the existing equipment scheduled for replacement. After the field inspection, we prepare draft versions of the design documentation, and once all work is complete, we produce the as-built design documentation.

Each execution design is carefully reviewed and formally documented. We also regularly hold coordination meetings with other departments, including the Electrical Unit and the Civil Works Preparation Unit, to align activities and plan subsequent steps, ensuring a coherent and reliable revitalization process.

What are the most common technical challenges you face when revitalizing and modernizing existing transmission infrastructure with a long operational lifespan? How do you balance the need for transmission continuity with the requirement for network modernizations and interventions?

The most common technical challenges in the revitalization of long-serving transmission infrastructure include outdated technologies, increased technical losses, and limited capacity to integrate renewable energy sources.
We balance transmission continuity with modernization by implementing projects in carefully planned phases, utilizing available reserve capacities and interconnections with neighboring systems, and introducing advanced digital equipment for monitoring and control. This approach allows us to carry out necessary interventions while maintaining system stability and a high level of supply security.

To what extent do international standards, regional coordination, and ENTSO-E recommendations influence MEPSO's design solutions?

International standards, regional coordination, and ENTSO-E recommendations have a fundamental impact on AD MEPSO's design solutions, as they define the framework for the secure integration of the Macedonian transmission system into the European energy network. MEPSO is required to comply with EU-aligned directives related to energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, and decarbonization.

Projects involving new transmission lines and substations are planned in close coordination with neighboring transmission system operators in order to avoid bottlenecks and increase cross-border transmission capacity. In parallel, MEPSO actively participates in joint regional planning initiatives aimed at integrating renewable energy sources and enhancing security of supply.

In this context, AD MEPSO cannot plan or implement projects in isolation. Every technical solution must align with European standards and regional system needs, thereby ensuring the long-term integration of the Macedonian transmission system into the wider European energy community.

What role does the revitalization of transmission lines play in the context of increased integration of renewable energy sources and cross-border transmission, and

how do digital tools, advanced software solutions, and asset condition analyses change the design approach?

The revitalization of transmission lines is a prerequisite for the large-scale integration of renewable energy sources and the expansion of cross-border electricity trading. At AD MEPSO, the digital tools and analytical methods we apply are transforming the engineering approach, moving from a traditional, experience-based model to a modern, data-driven, predictive one.

Transmission line revitalization is a strategic process with a direct impact on renewable energy integration, cross-border power flows, and the overall security and flexibility of the transmission system. AD MEPSO is steadily reshaping its design practices through continuous digitalization, which has already been fully initiated across all sectors of the company.

How important are teamwork, knowledge transfer, corporate culture, and institutional support in maintaining high professional standards in electrical engineering, and what message would you share with young engineers—especially women who see their future in the energy sector?

In the energy sector, technical expertise alone is not sufficient. Power systems are complex and require continuous coordination among engineers, operators, the regulator, and other relevant institutions. This is why teamwork plays a decisive role: it enables faster problem-solving, reduces risks, and facilitates efficient knowledge transfer.

Experienced engineers can serve as mentors and sources of inspiration, but they must actively pass on their practical knowledge to younger generations. This transfer is essential for operational continuity and to avoid repeating past shortcomings or mistakes.

My message to young engineers, especially to young women, is not to withdraw from challenges. Technical knowledge is a universal language; it knows no gender or age. Value the team around you, because collective knowledge always exceeds individual expertise. Only through collaboration can complex challenges be addressed effectively. Above all, do not be afraid to make mistakes, be afraid of failing to learn from them.

A DAY WITH SURVEILLANCE AND MENAGMENT SYSTEMS

SCADA: THE PLACE WHERE TECHNOLOGY AND ACCOUNTABILITY WORK 24/7

Prepared by: Irina Daskalovska Kjosevska

When SCADA is mentioned, for many it is just another technical acronym. But in AD MEPSO, SCADA is the "living system" that monitors the state of the electricity transmission network 24 hours a day and enables it to function stably and safely. This is exactly where our day begins with Mia Buralieva, Head of the Department for Technical Informatics.

"*SCADA stands for Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition. Through it, we perform supervision of currents, voltages, frequency, active and reactive power, other alarms and statuses of high-voltage equipment, as well as control of primary equipment*," she explains.

However, SCADA is only part of the complex supervisory and control systems in the National Dispatch Center (NDC) and the facilities of the electricity network. In the National Dispatch Center, MEPSO operates a SCADA/EMS system – SCADA and Energy Management System, specialized software tailored to the needs of transmission system operators. This system includes network applications, AGC (Automatic Generation Control), dispatcher training simulators, as well as continuous exchange of operational data with power facilities, with the ENTSO-E data exchange systems, and with other transmission system operators.In parallel, in a large number of substations, local supervisory and control systems are in operation, based on RTU (Remote Terminal Unit) devices or SCADA/BCU (Bay Control Unit) systems. These provide and send data to the SCADA/EMS system in the NDC in real time."Everything must function in real time, 24/7, because that is a prerequisite for the security and reliability of the transmission network. The systems we use are modern and fully aligned with global trends," adds Buralieva.

How does a working day look like in a SCADA center

The working day at the SCADA center usually begins with a review of the systems, the functionality of the servers, the communications, the interconnections. Measurements, statuses, alarms and data from the substations are checked, followed by coordination of field activities. Although there are no critical hours during the day, there are critical conditions. Extremely high summer temperatures and low winter temperatures pose a serious challenge for the equipment and systems that must operate without interruption. "*A quiet day? Very rare*," Buralieva smiles. "*Even when there are no interventions, there are always other activities, and often just before holidays or weekends, when we want peace and quiet, an unexpected challenge arises*."

Small team, big responsibility

The Department for Technical Informatics is organized into three departments: SCADA/EMS Department, Department for Supervision and

Management Systems of Power Facilities, and Department for Teleinformatics Systems. The primary task is to ensure that all systems in the dispatch center, system hall, and substations in which we have management are functional 24/7, 365 days a year.
In parallel, upgrades, expansions, procurements, and installations of new modules or systems are carried out, trends for new technical solutions and technologies in the field, and modern methods in exploitation and maintenance. However, the number of employees is significantly smaller compared to other system operators.

"*We only have two engineers for teleinformatics systems and three in the SCADA/EMS department. We often do things that formally do not belong to us, and that is why I am extremely grateful to my colleagues,*" says Buralieva.

Something that is unforgettable

A particularly vivid memory is the procurement and implementation of the first SCADA/EMS system in 2001.

"We started from a completely empty base, entering data about the substations, transmission lines, and generation capacities. The first substation took us weeks to input, but later, as we gained experience, we were able to bring several online in just a few days. The moment when we drew the map of the entire country and received the first real-time data from the substations and hydroelectric power plants was priceless."

When alarms must not be ignored

Supervisory and control systems play a crucial role in maintaining the stability of the electricity system. Thanks to real-time monitoring, early detection of anomalies, and decision-making support, problems are often identified before they escalate into serious faults. When the system issues an alarm, the operators in the NDC respond to alarms from the facilities, while Buralieva's team focuses on system alarms. "Every case is different. Sometimes the solution is found in five minutes, sometimes it takes several hours. As technical staff, we always want to have a logical explanation for the cause that triggered the problem, but with the software, it's

not always like that. That makes our work complex, but also challenging."

Among the more recent challenges was the UPS system failure, when on Easter at midnight the Directorate and the SCADA/EMS system were left without power. Thanks to the experience gained and the measures taken to restore key functionalities after that incident, the response to the incident on May 18, 2025, was significantly faster.

Technology works because people collaborate

Although the work requires immense concentration, teamwork is a key factor.

"Among the colleagues in the Power System Operator Department there is an unwritten rule: while some are working, the others stay silent. Without teamwork, there is neither fault resolution nor implementation of a new system," says Buralieva.

The future of SCADA systems is inseparably linked to modernization, digitalization, and automation – as a response to decentralization, the integration of renewable energy sources, cybersecurity, the increased dynamics of production/consumption, regulatory requirements, and more. New technologies make the work easier and enable faster and more precise decision-making.

Regarding the new generations of engineers who are joining, Buralieva has a clear message: "A diploma is only the beginning. Real learning starts with employment and lasts throughout the entire career, because knowledge is built through work, through asking questions, and through experience."

CONFERENCES, DEBATES, FORUMS

MEPSO AT A DIGITALIZATION CONFERENCE ORGANIZED BY *AmCham*

At the AmCham Annual Digitalization Conference, a panel on digitalization and cybersecurity in the energy sector brought together experts from the Energy Regulatory Commission, EVN, Cisco, and Tessa Group. They discussed modernizing power grids, implementing smart-grid technologies, advanced digital monitoring, and navigating regulatory challenges. The panel emphasized protecting critical energy infrastructure as key to a secure and sustainable energy system. MEPSO continues to actively participate in digital transformation processes, contributing to enhanced digital maturity, security, and efficiency across the energy sector.

INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP ON THE LATEST CHALLENGES AND INNOVATIONS IN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

In November 2025, Financial Affairs Sector employees attended a practical training in Gevgelija focused on improving public procurement procedures following the upgrade of the Electronic System for Public Procurement (EPPS) effective from 1 April 2025. Participants addressed current challenges and exchanged solutions related to tender documentation, contract management, legislative amendments, and risk mitigation in procurement.

The training was led by a subject-matter expert. This expert is a certified public procurement trainer and practitioner, with extensive experience in planning and conducting procurement award procedures and in concluding framework agreements.

IT AND TK SECTOR - PILLAR OF SECURITY AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AT MEPSO

The accelerated digitalization and increased security risks put the IT and Telecommunications Sector at AD MEPSO in a position to ensure the stable and secure operation of the country's power system. As part of the critical infrastructure, MEPSO continuously invests in modern technological solutions, with the IT/Telecommunications Sector serving as a key driver of digital transformation.

Knowledge and Experience, core resource for digital stability

Over the past period, the focus has been on enhancing information systems, network infrastructure, and telecommunications capacities—investments that contribute to greater reliability, availability, and service efficiency.

Of particular importance in these processes is human capital: highly skilled IT and cybersecurity professionals who work daily to maintain, monitor, and protect systems from potential threats..

Disaster Recovery – Project for Enhancing System Resilience

One of the most significant ongoing projects is the establishment and finalization of the Disaster Recovery (DR) site. Key milestones include site selection and infrastructure setup by late 2024, implementation of backup systems by mid-2025, and comprehensive testing and finalization by mid-2026. Through these stages, MEPSO is substantially increasing its preparedness to respond to unforeseen events, technical failures, or cyber incidents. This project will represent an important step toward alignment with the highest international standards for risk management and business continuity.

The IT and Telecommunications Sector strengthen its position as a strategic partner in the company's development by continuously conducting training, obtaining professional certifications, and investing in human resources. This approach provides a stable technological foundation for the secure and efficient management of the electricity transmission system.

Cibersecurity tabletop exercise- " BalkanSecure: Advancing Cybersecurity in the Western Balkans"

Security Operations Center (SOC)

Beyond technical stability, cybersecurity is one of the strategic priorities of the IT and Telecommunications Sector at MEPSO. In the context of a growing number of cyber threats

worldwide, the need for a proactive approach, continuous monitoring, and timely response has become imperative. In this regard, the company relies on dedicated cybersecurity professionals who implement security policies, deploy detection and prevention systems, and raise employees' cybersecurity awareness.

This year, activities to establish a Security Operations Center (SOC) are planned. The SOC will enable centralized, real-time monitoring, analysis, and management of security events. It will represent a significant advancement in protecting critical IT and operational infrastructure and will further enhance MEPSO's preparedness to address complex cyber incidents.

Регионална конференција одржана во Приштина

Defence Academy of the United Kingdom co проф. Rebecca McEwan

Safety and Social Responsibility

In addition to digital security, MEPSO also invests in the physical protection of employees and facilities. In this regard, an early fire detection system is planned to enable timely alerting and preventive action, thereby significantly reducing the risk of damage and operational disruptions.

With a clear vision, a strategic approach, and a dedicated team, the IT and Telecommunications Sector enables secure, modern, and sustainable management of electricity transmission infrastructure, directly supporting reliable power delivery to citizens and bolstering the national economy.

COMMITMENT TO A HIGHER STANDARD AND SAFE WORKING CONDITIONS

The Trade Union Organization of AD MEPSO continues in 2026 with determined, responsible, and transparent trade union activity, guided by an unequivocal goal: improving the economic and social status, occupational safety, and the overall standard of living of employees.

The activities planned for 2026 represent a logical and necessary continuation of the processes initiated in 2025, a period marked by a significant increase in living costs, strong inflation, and growing existential challenges for workers. Under such circumstances, the Union played an active and responsible role in wage alignment, consistently emphasizing the need for regular, fair adjustments in line with economic trends and statutory obligations.

In 2026, the number one priority remains improving wages and protecting employees' purchasing power. This will be achieved through the consistent and full implementation of the Collective Agreement, adjustment of the lowest wage within the Company, a fair, transparent, and equitable distribution of income, and appropriate compensation for overtime, night, and field work.
Special focus continues to be placed on occupational safety and health, bearing in mind that AD MEPSO employees perform their duties daily under conditions of increased risk and high responsibility. The Trade Union Organization will continue to insist uncompromisingly on the application of the highest safety standards, regular and high-quality training in working with electricity and high voltage, the timely provision of complete personal protective equipment, and the organization of preventive medical examinations and rehabilitation programs.
Planned 2026 activities aim to enhance employee well-being and trade union solidarity through organized vacations, sports, and cultural initiatives, and ongoing regional and international cooperation.

The Trade Union of AD MEPSO clearly and unequivocally emphasizes that the worker is not a cost, but the most important pillar of a stable, secure, and sustainable energy system. Without their labor, knowledge, expertise, and dedication, an uninterrupted, reliable electricity supply cannot be ensured.

In 2026 as well, the Trade Union of AD MEPSO remains firmly and unwaveringly committed to the fight for dignified wages, safe working conditions, and a secure future for all employees of AD MEPSO.

EMPLOYEES AND MEPSO

Angelina Petreska is a graduate economist and Head of the Planning and Analysis Unit within the Cabinet of the General Director of AD MEPSO. She graduated from the Faculty of Economics at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, specializing in finance, accounting, and banking. She began her professional career in the Finance Department of the former JP Elektrostopanstvo na Makedonija. In 2002, with the onset of electricity market liberalization, she joined the Electricity Market Unit. Following the establishment of AD MEPSO in 2005, she was appointed Head of the Planning, Analysis, and Insurance Unit. Since 2019, the Planning and Analysis Unit has operated within the Cabinet of the General Director. She has been actively involved in the preparation of financial plans and reports, as well as in monitoring and analyzing electricity transmission tariffs. She has extensive experience in the analysis of financial and energy-technical data used as a basis for strategic and operational decision-making. Throughout her career, she has cooperated with numerous institutions, organizations, commissions, and bodies, including the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Economy, the Energy Regulatory Commission, ASO, and other relevant stakeholders.

Goran Taneski – Shumar is a Bachelor in forest engineering with more than 20 years of experience, employed at AD MEPSO since the company's establishment. He began his career as an engineer in the Corridor Maintenance Unit under the TGO, and since 2019, he has served as its Head. The core activity of this unit is to maintain the corridors of the 110 kV and 400 kV transmission lines, including the control and removal of overgrown vegetation, following periodical site visits by the transmission line crew. After each visit, the priority locations for intervention are determined to prevent potential disruption to the transmission lines' operation, which are crucial to the state's power system. The terrain activities are carried out by specialized teams from Skopje, Shtip, Bitola, and Ohrid. Taneski is responsible for organizing, coordinating, and controlling the teams, providing proper tools and equipment, and providing continuous training for employees. His regular obligation is to timely inform the owners and people whose ownership is in the forests where interventions are planned. Efficient team organization leads to a secure, stable power system without vegetation-related outages.

Gordana Andonovska is a graduate economist with 28 years of professional experience in the energy sector. She began her career in 1998 in the Finance Department as an independent officer for planning and analysis at Elektro Skopje, under the former Elektrostopanstvo na Makedonija. In 2003, she moved to the Development and Investments Department, where she worked as an officer in the commercial and financial affairs section. In this role, she actively participated in the implementation of projects financed by international financial institutions. She participated in numerous working groups for tender preparation, bid evaluation, and contract implementation. She worked on projects funded by the World Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Throughout her career, she has consistently attended specialized training courses and workshops in project financial management. She has established and maintained close cooperation with the World Bank and the EBRD, as well as with domestic commercial banks and the National Bank of the Republic of North Macedonia. From 2019 to 2025, she was Head of the International Cooperation Unit at AD MEPSO.

Romeo Josifoski is a graduate electrical engineer with extensive professional experience in the power engineering sector. He began his career at the private company "OM" DOOEL, Skopje, specializing in the execution of electrical installations, where he worked as a construction supervision engineer. Since 2006, he has been employed at AD MEPSO, where he has held a number of expert and managerial positions, including Operational Supervisor of the Power System within the TSO, Head of the Control Center, Head of the Operational Planning Unit, and Head of the Market Operations Department—a position he continues to hold today. From 2010 to 2014, he had been a member of the Supervisory Board of AD MEPSO. He has extensive experience with SCADA/EMS and MMS systems. He actively participated in drafting the initial primary and secondary legislation during the liberalization of the electricity market, and his contributions in this field continue to be highly valued and widely recognized.

Jasmina Angeleska graduated from the Faculty of Law "Iustinianus Primus" at Ss Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje. She began her professional career as an attorney-at-law, gaining substantial expertise over the years in labor law and corporate governance. Since 2019, she has served as Head of the Human Resources Department at AD MEPSO, where she is actively involved in developing and enhancing human resources policies. She places particular emphasis on employee development and strengthening organizational culture, thereby contributing to more effective, strategic human capital management. In the course of her work, she cooperates closely with several institutions, organizations, commissions, and bodies, including the Ministries of Finance, Labor and Social Policy, Education, and Energy. She is also actively involved in a working group on reskilling and training initiatives within the framework of the Just Transition process. Her expertise and professional experience make her a valuable member of the AD MEPSO team, contributing to the timely, efficient, and effective execution of responsibilities within the Human Resources Department's scope.

Mafis Rushiti is a graduate engineer in Computer Science and Head of the Infrastructure Information Services Unit within the IT-Telecommunications Sector at AD MEPSO. He has many years of professional experience in information technology, including 6 years at AD MEPSO, where he plays a significant role in planning, developing, and enhancing the company's IT infrastructure. His work is directly related to digitalization processes, system modernization, and ensuring a stable, secure, and highly available IT infrastructure. In his managerial role, he oversees server and network infrastructure, data centers, and business continuity. He actively participates in the implementation and optimization of IT solutions aligned with modern standards and the company's needs, and he works successfully with other sectors to ensure the stable and efficient operation of AD MEPSO's IT infrastructure.

WORLD NEWS

ALBANIA BUILDS ITS FIRST WIND PARK

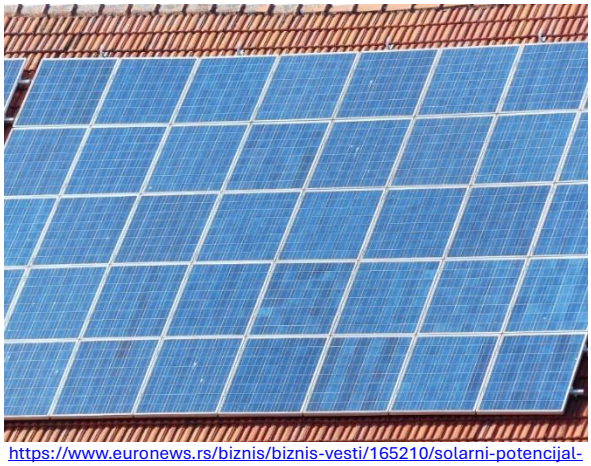
Albania has promoted the construction project of the "Tropoja" wind power plant, with a planned installed capacity of 600 MW. The implementation of the project has been entrusted to the American company CWP, one of the leading investors in renewable energy sources in Southeast Europe. The construction of this wind power plant represents a significant step toward strengthening the country's energy stability and reducing its dependence on electricity imports. According to official announcements, provided the project is implemented on schedule and without delays, the power plant is expected to be connected to the electricity grid within one year.

The project forms part of the broader strategic program "Albania 2030", which envisages that by the end of this decade, electricity generated from solar and wind power plants will account for approximately 30% of the country's total electricity production.

https://www.porta3.mk/vo-albanija-e-pretstaven-proektot-ve-tropoja-so-instalirana-mokjnost-od-600mw/

EU ROOFTOPS HOLD ENORMOUS UNUSED SOLAR ENERGY POTENTIAL

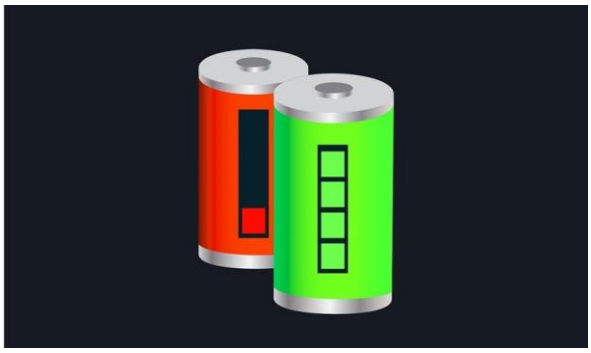
Solar panels installed on rooftops across the EU could supply more than half of the required electricity in almost all Member States, according to a European Commission study. However, currently, solar systems are installed on only around 10% of rooftops. The research, based on an analysis of 271 million buildings using satellite imagery, estimates that approximately 10 000 square kilometers of rooftop area are suitable for solar energy deployment, with a potential capacity of 2.3 terawatts and an annual electricity generation of 2,750 terawatt-hours. The greatest potential lies in France and Germany, where solar energy could meet up to 80% of current electricity demand. Total installed solar capacity in the EU amounted to 406 gigawatts last year, with the target set at reaching at least 700 gigawatts by 2030. According to Eurostat, in June 2025, solar energy accounted for 22% of total electricity generation in the EU.



https://www.euronews.rs/biznis/biznis-vesti/165210/solarni-potencijal-krovova-ogroman-neiskoriscen-izvor/vest

ENERGY STORAGE: BASE FOR THE BULGARIAN ENERGY STRATEGY

The American company ContourGlobal has commissioned a battery energy storage system with a capacity of 500 MWh near Stara Zagora, increasing Bulgaria's total energy storage capacity by approximately 25%. The system, which is already actively participating in the day-ahead and intraday electricity markets, contributes to greater flexibility and stability of the power system, particularly in the context of an increasing share of renewable energy sources. The project is co-financed with funds from the European Union and makes use of existing grid infrastructure, enabling a record-fast implementation. Moreover, ContourGlobal announced the construction of a second energy storage system at the same location, which is expected to raise Bulgaria's total energy storage capacity to approximately 15 000 MWh, significantly strengthening the country and the region's energy security.



(Skladištenje energije kao oslonac nove energetske strategije Bugarske - Energija Balkana)

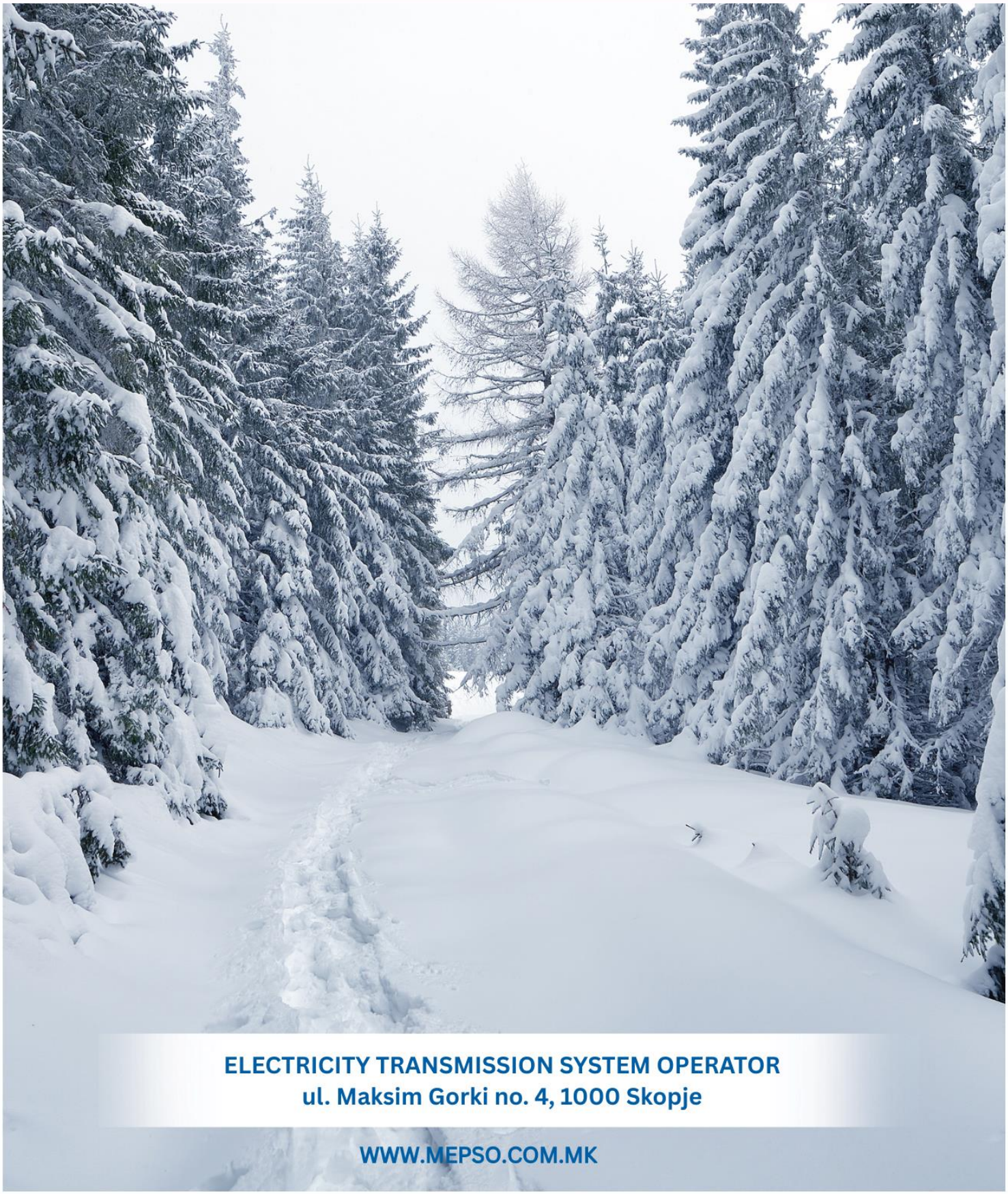
CBAM COMMES INTO EFFECT WITH UNCLEAR APPLICATION RULES

As of 1 January, the European Union's new rules on green trade have entered into force. The Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) requires companies selling goods with a high carbon dioxide content to demonstrate compliance with low-CO_2 emission standards or face penalties. Experts have warned of initial uncertainties in implementing the mechanism and potential cost increases. In its first phase, CBAM covers electricity, iron and steel, aluminium, cement, hydrogen, and fertilizers. Imports of these products will be subject to carbon costs comparable to those already borne by producers within the EU Emissions Trading System.

While industries within the European Union largely support CBAM as a mechanism that imposes carbon rules on imports equivalent to those applied within the Union, some companies caution that costs may rise as free emission allowances are gradually phased out and must be purchased on the market. In the meantime, the European Commission has published standardized values for calculating the carbon levy on imported goods to be applied when specific emissions data are unavailable. These values are based on the average emissions intensity of the same products produced within the EU

CBAM počeo da važi uz nejasna pravila primene - Energija Balkana

MEPSO



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