



# International Finance in Large-Scale Infrastructure Projects Related to Renewable Energy

Klimakonferanse «Energi – Infrastruktur –  
Nykolonialisme – Menneskerettigheter – EUs rolle»

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# STRUCTURE

1. *Notes for the energy transition*
2. *The corporate energy transition (CET)*
3. *Infrastructure of the corporate energy transition (CET)*
4. *Case study: The case of Spain*
5. *Closing remarks*

# STRUCTURE

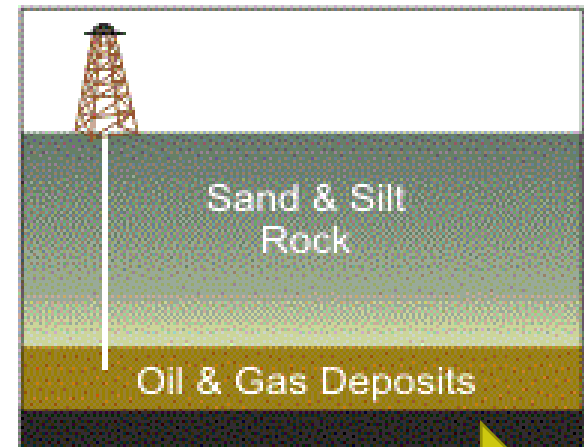
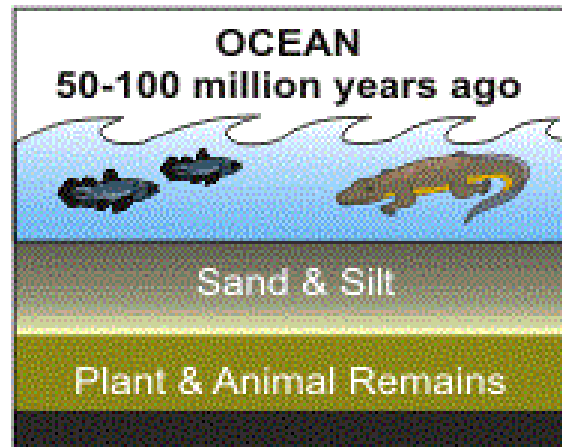
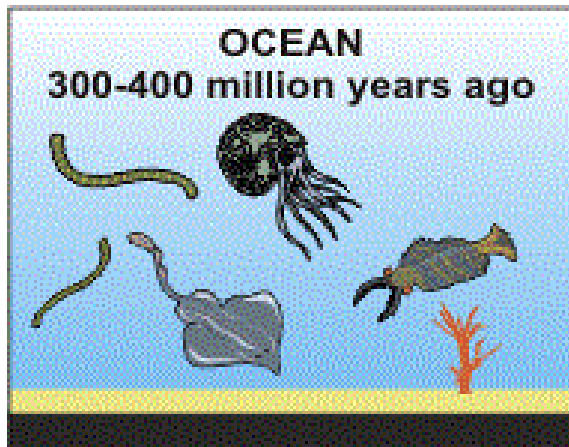
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# 1. NOTES FOR THE ENERGY TRANSITION

## THE FOSSIL PARADIGMA

¿What are fossil fuels?

Solar Energy, highly concentrated in time and space



300-400 millions of years

# 1. NOTES FOR THE ENERGY TRANSITION

## THE CURRENT ENERGY MODEL: Fossil Regime

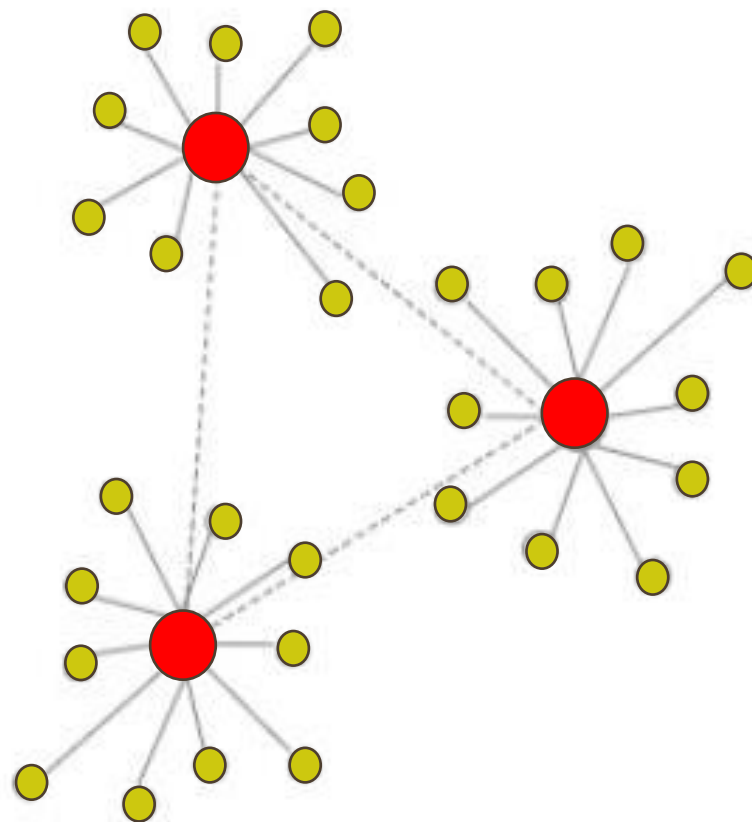
### Based on fossil fuels:

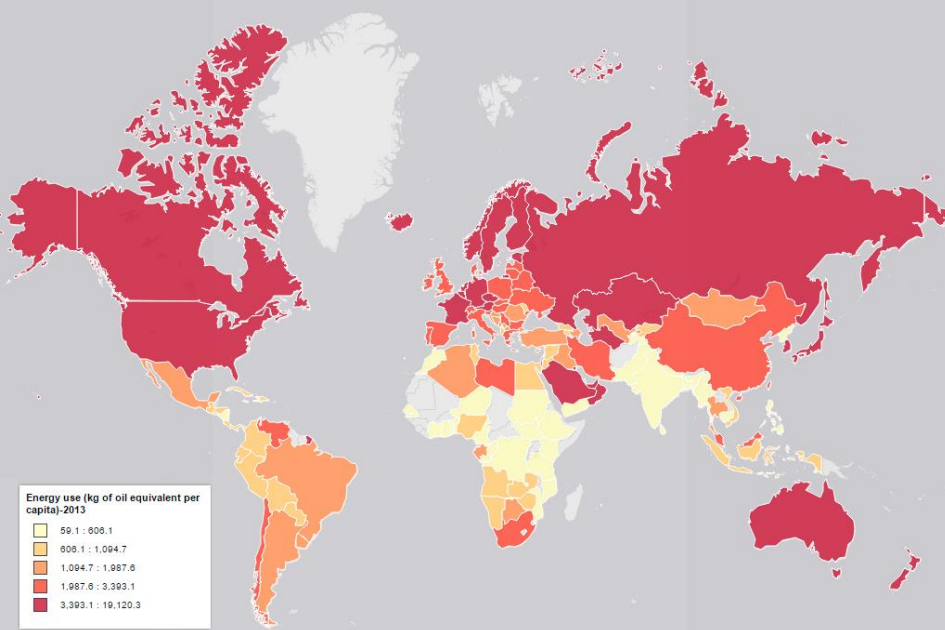
- Highly concentrated
- Dispatchable
- High Energy density
- Need for high power



### Centralized system

- Concentration in territory, power, power and profits
- Unidirections
- Cost-based decisions: energy as a commodity
- Individual and passive consumers







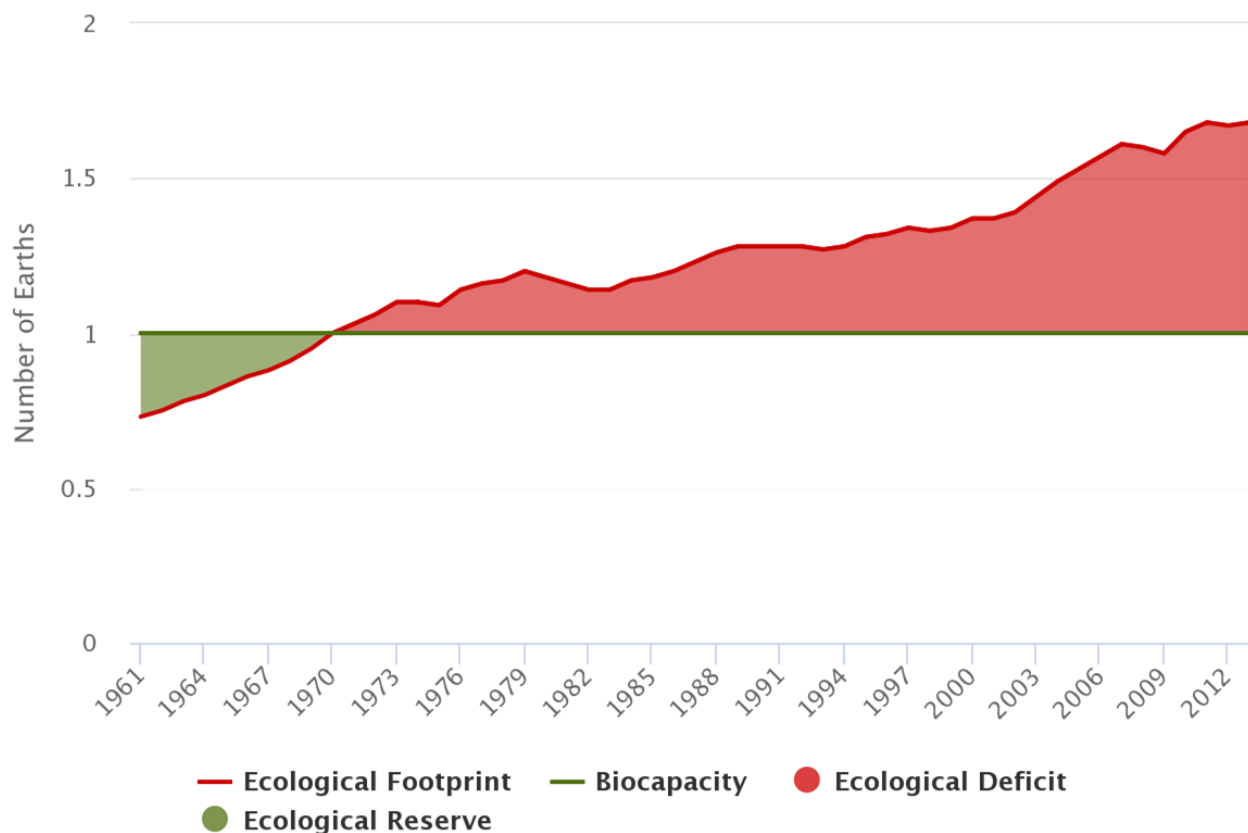
# 1. NOTES FOR THE ENERGY TRANSITION

## LIMITS TO FOSSIL REGIME

IMPACTS EXCEED BIOCAPACITY



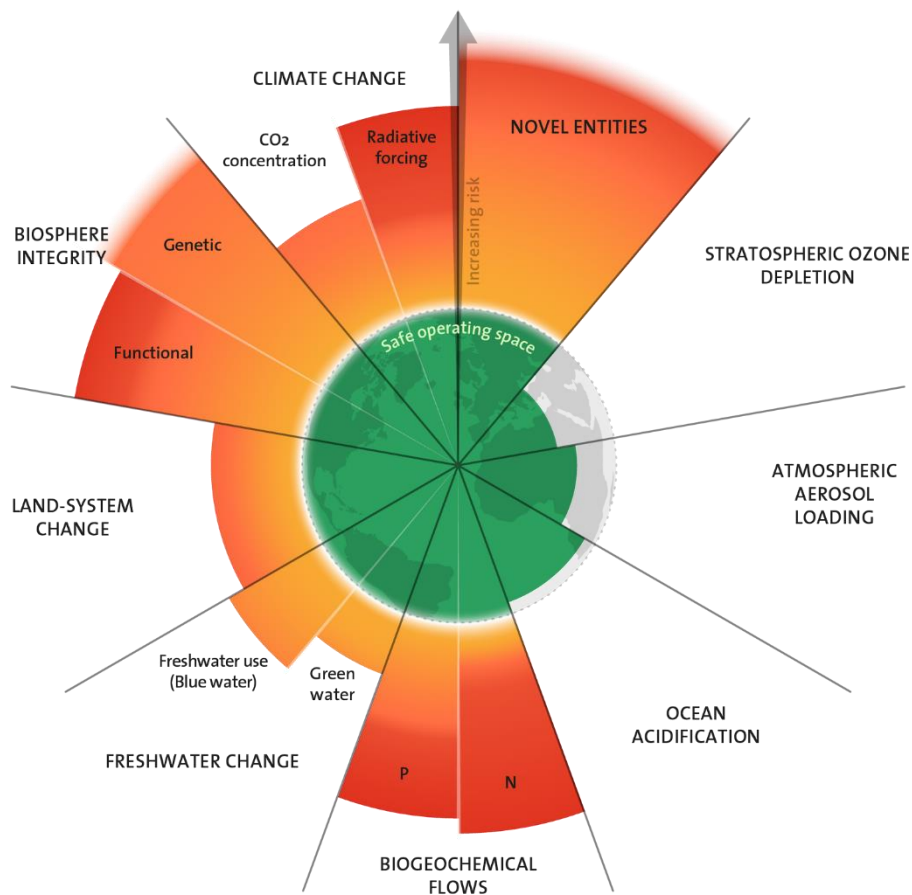
**PROBLEM!**



Global Footprint Network, 2017 National Footprint Accounts

# 1. NOTES FOR THE ENERGY TRANSITION

## LIMITS TO FOSSIL REGIME



### ¿Where are we?

- Since the 1970s we have exceeded the planet's capacity to replenish itself
- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are just a symptom of the problem

**We must change the regime**



# 1. NOTES FOR THE ENERGY TRANSITION

## RENEWABLE ENERGY FLOWS



### Based on fossil fuels:

- Highly concentrated
- Dispatchable
- High Energy density
- Need for high power

**CONCENTRATED TIME**

### Based on renewable flows:

- Intermittent
- Resources geographically distributes
- Low Energy density
- Lower EROEI
- Highly modular

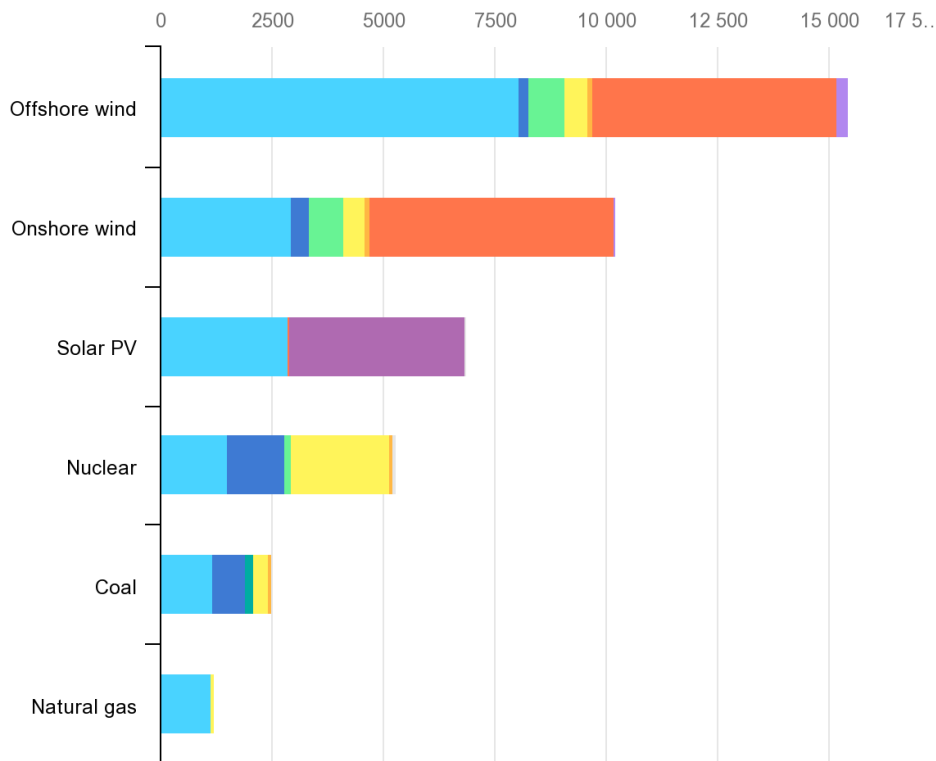
**NATURAL TIME**

# 1. NOTES FOR THE ENERGY TRANSITION

## RENEWABLE FLOWS VS RENEWABLE TECHNOLOGY

### What is technology?

Concentrated ENERGY, MATERIALS and ENERGY



The Guardian view on rare earths: mining them can't cost the Earth

*Editorial*

It will be no good if in transitioning to climate neutrality, large tracts of the planet are left uninhabitable by the mining of key raw materials

Thu 18 Aug 2022 19:25 CEST



465



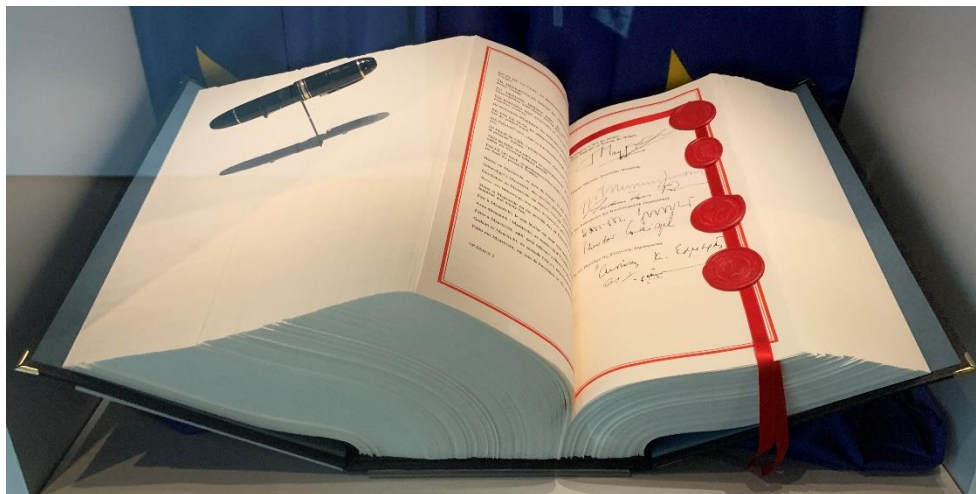
● Copper ● Nickel ● Manganese ● Cobalt ● Chromium ● Molybdenum ● Zinc ● Rare earths ● Silicon ● Others

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# 2. THE CORPORATE ENERGY TRANSITION

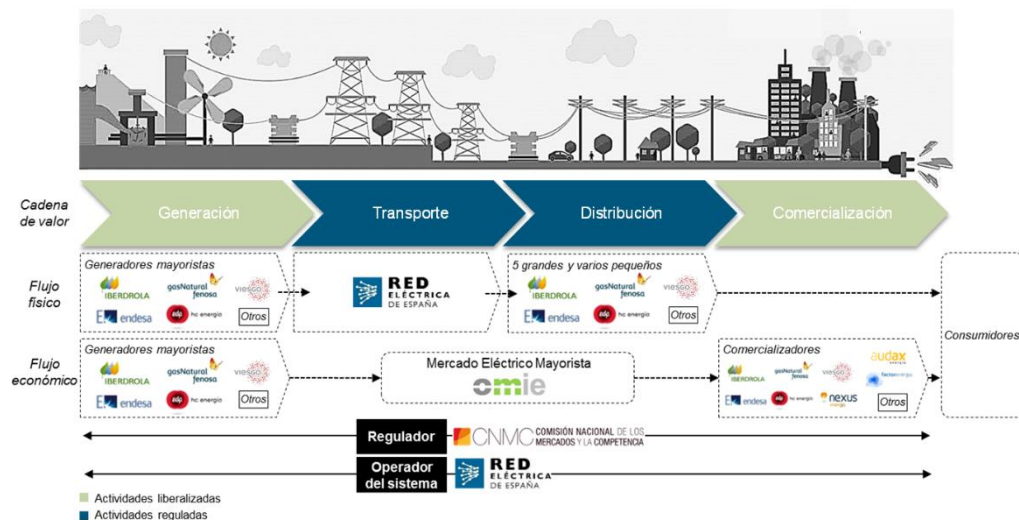
## THE POLITICAL PLAN: THE ENERGY UNION



- The Maastricht Treaty
- Directive 96/92/EC concerning common rules for the internal market in electricity.
- Spain: Law 54/1997 on the Electricity Sector

### PREMISE:

Deregulation of the electricity sector will bring efficiency gains and cost reductions.





# 2. THE CORPORATE ENERGY TRANSITION

## THE POLITICAL PLAN: THE ENERGY UNION

TEN-E



3.6.2022

EN

Official Journal of the European Union

L 152/45

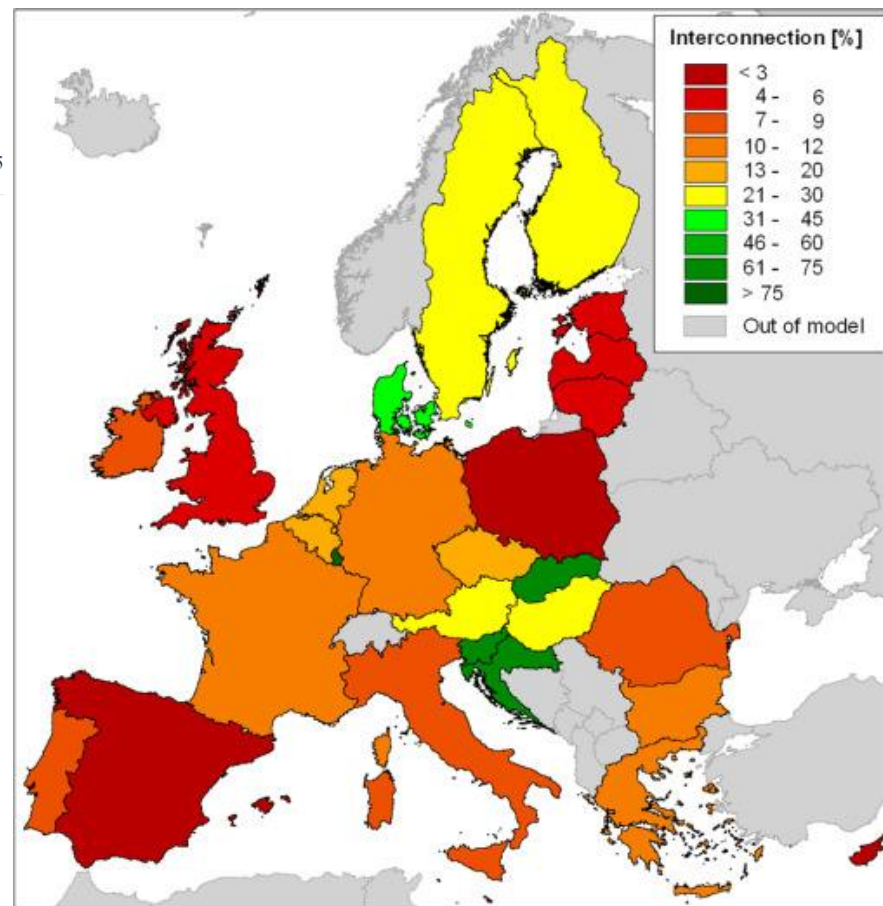
**REGULATION (EU) 2022/869** OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

of 30 May 2022

on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure, amending Regulations (EC) No 715/2009, (EU) 2019/942 and (EU) 2019/943 and Directives 2009/73/EC and (EU) 2019/944, and repealing Regulation (EU) No 347/2013

**Objective:** Encourage interconnections between states:

- Interconnection target of 10% of installed capacity
- Upgrade to 15% (2022)C

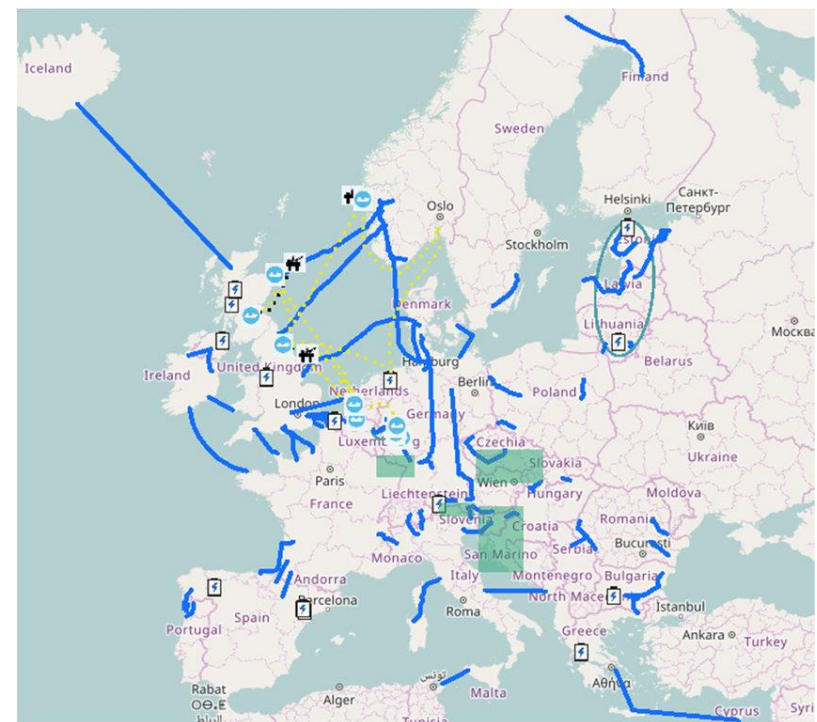


The tool: **Projects of Common Interest (PCI)**

# 2. THE CORPORATE ENERGY TRANSITION

## PROJECTS OF COMMON INTEREST

- **Cross-border energy projects** considered **strategic** on the basis of their ability to increase energy security, competitiveness or contribute to climate goals.
- **Benefits:** simple procedures, reduced deadlines, increased publicity and media.
- In addition, some PCIs may be eligible for **additional funding** through the European Investment Bank's Connecting Europe Facilities programme.



**In 2016 the European  
Commission approves the  
Juncker Plan**



**European Commission  
Commission européenne**



# 2. THE CORPORATE ENERGY TRANSITION

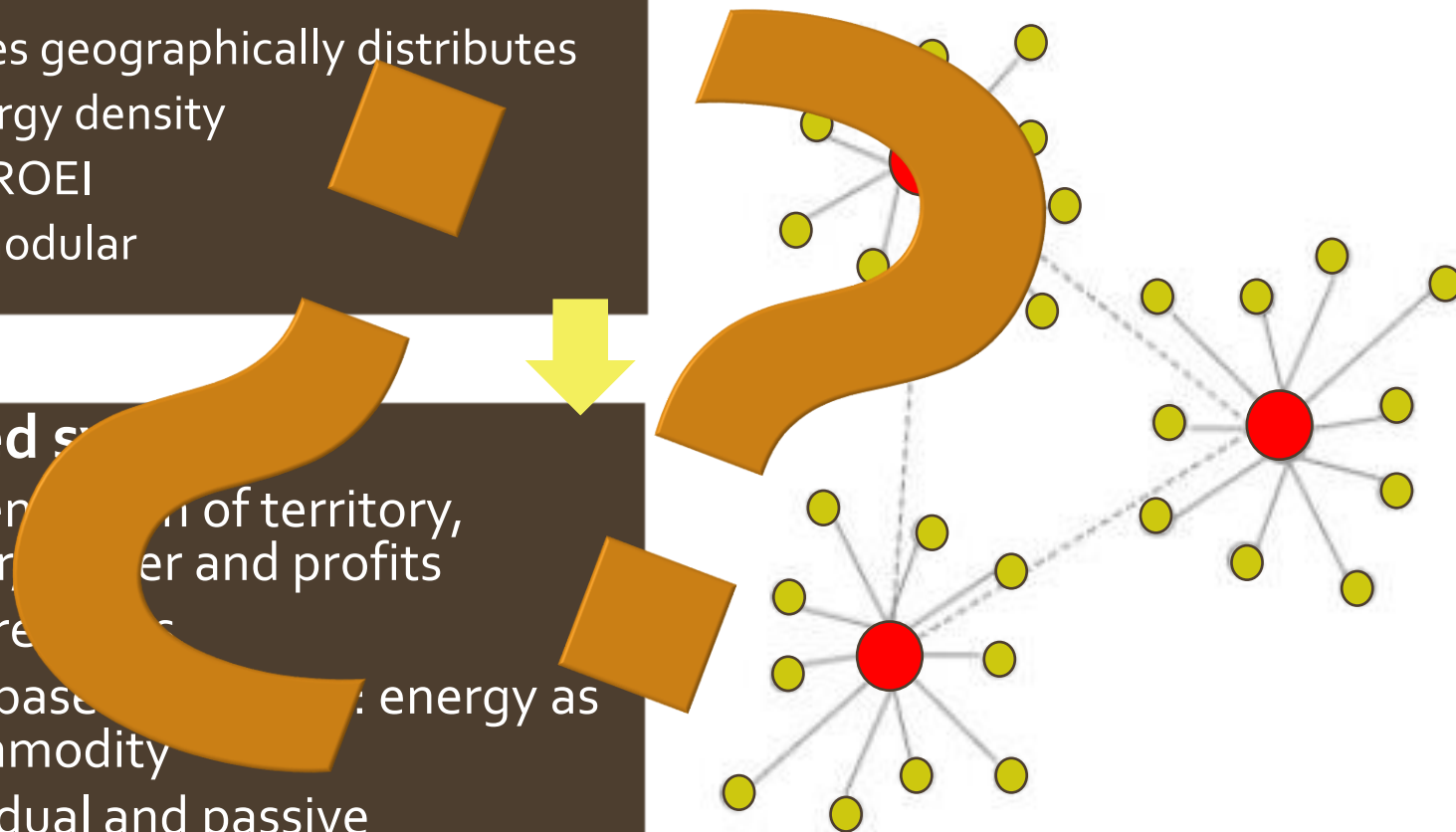
## THE RESULTING TRANSITION

### Based on renewable flows:

- Intermittent
- Resources geographically distributes
- Low Energy density
- Lower EROEI
- Highly modular

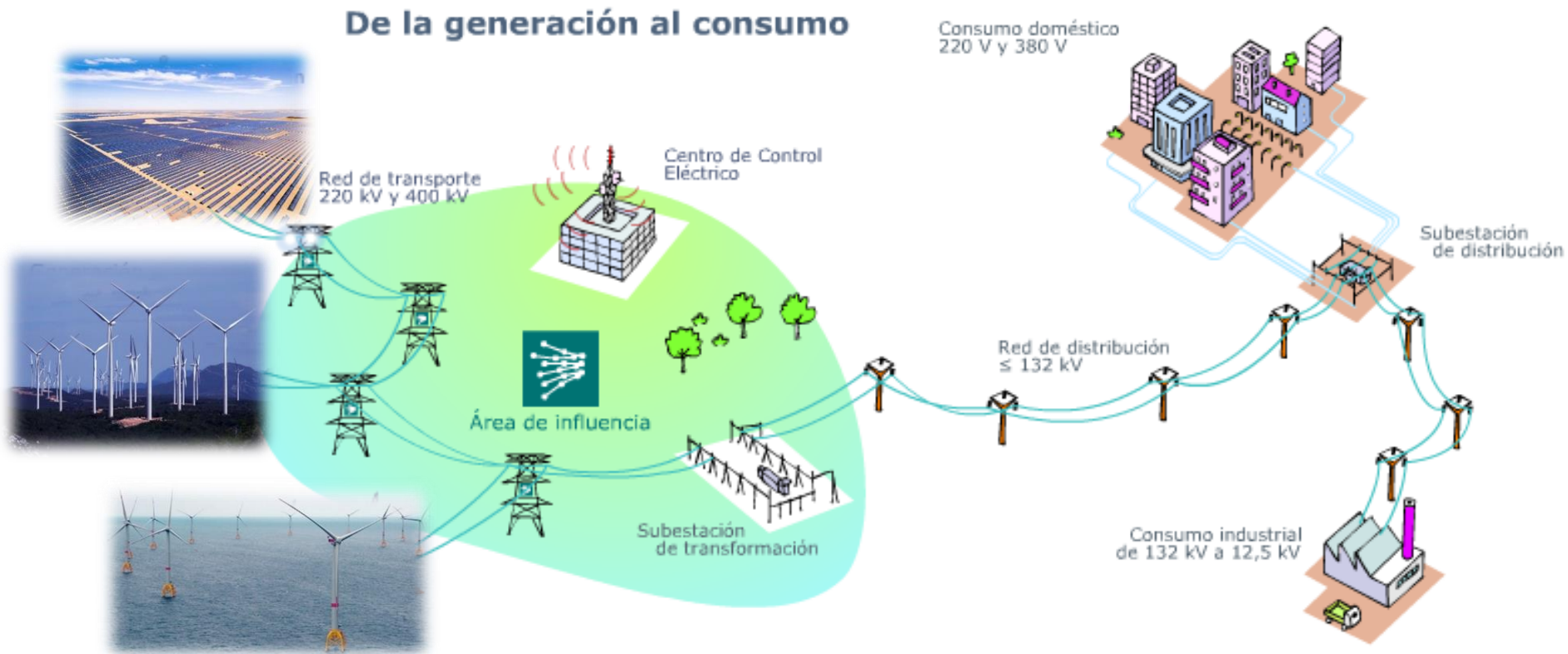
### Centralized system:

- concentration of territory, power and profits
- Unidirectional flows
- Cost-based pricing: energy as a commodity
- Individual and passive consumers



# 2. THE CORPORATE ENERGY TRANSITION

## THE RESULTING TRANSITION



**AND ALL THE ADAPTATIONS TO MAKE THIS POSSIBLE**

## 2. THE CORPORATE ENERGY TRANSITION

### PREMISE:

- Decarbonisation is compatible with economic growth.

### DISCOURSE:

- Transition is an opportunity for development

### CHARACTERISTICS:

- Continuation of the fossil regime
- Technological substitution
- The bigger the better
- It does not question demand
- Intensification of extractivism and inequalities

### CONSEQUENCE:

- ENERGY COLONIALISM

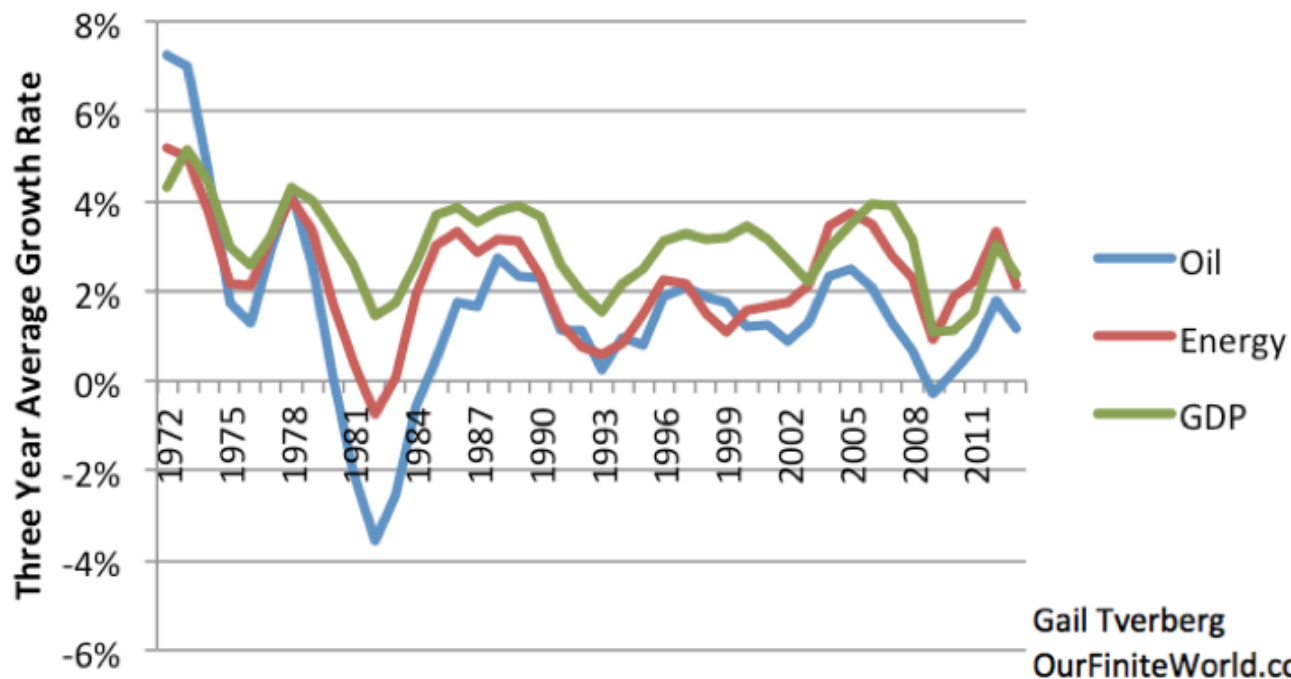


## 2. THE CORPORATE ENERGY TRANSITION

### PREMISE:

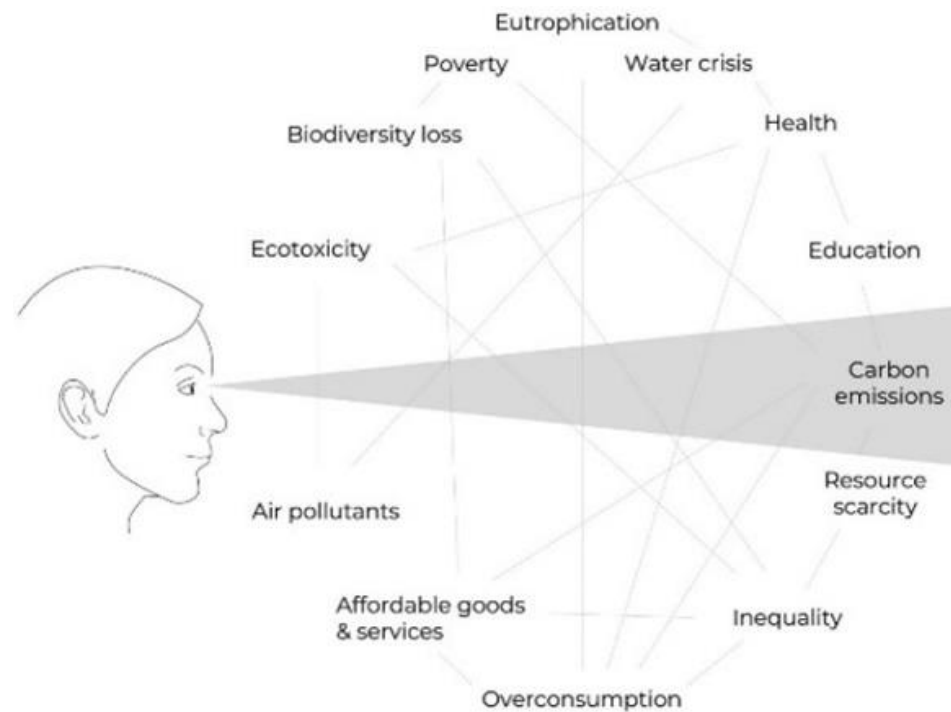
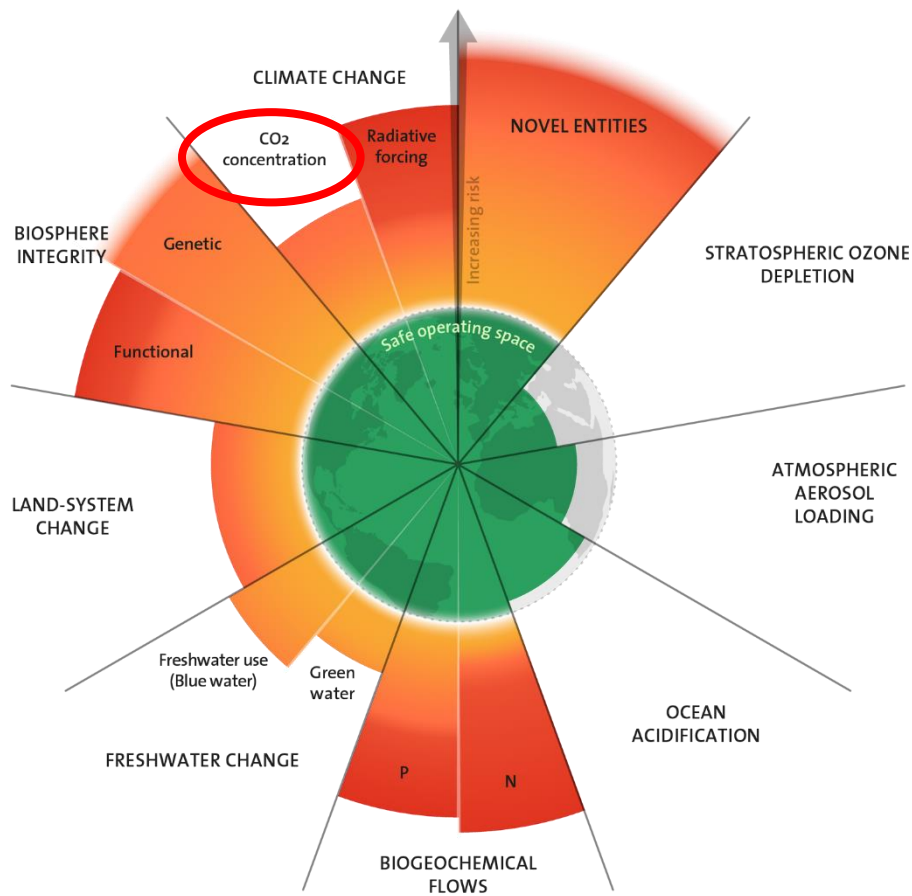
- Decarbonisation is compatible with economic growth.

World Growth in Oil, Energy and GDP



# 2. THE CORPORATE ENERGY TRANSITION

## CARBON TUNNEL VISSION



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### 3. INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE CET

What is infrastructure nowadays?

A road, IS IT INFRASTRUCTURE?



WHO SETS THE AGENDA?





# The Energy Megaproject





# El megaproyecto energético

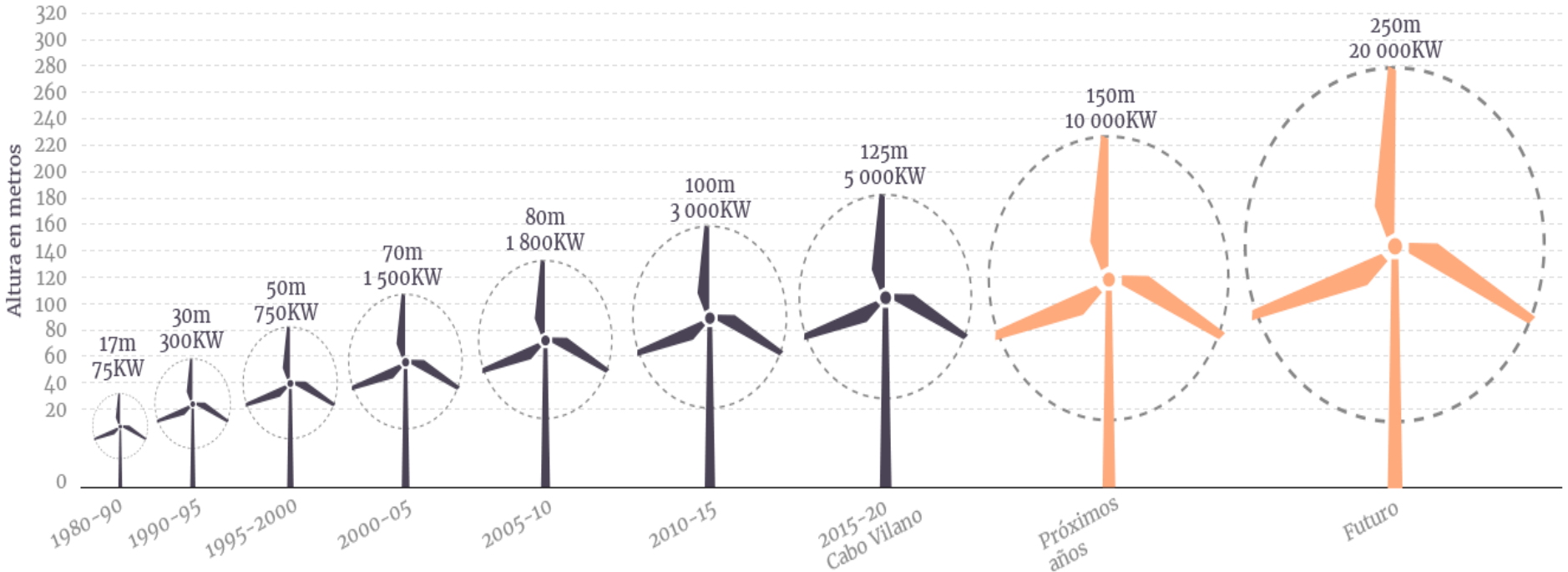


# 3. INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE CET

## THE ENERGY MEGAPROJECT

Energy ¿for what?

Maximize the return on investment

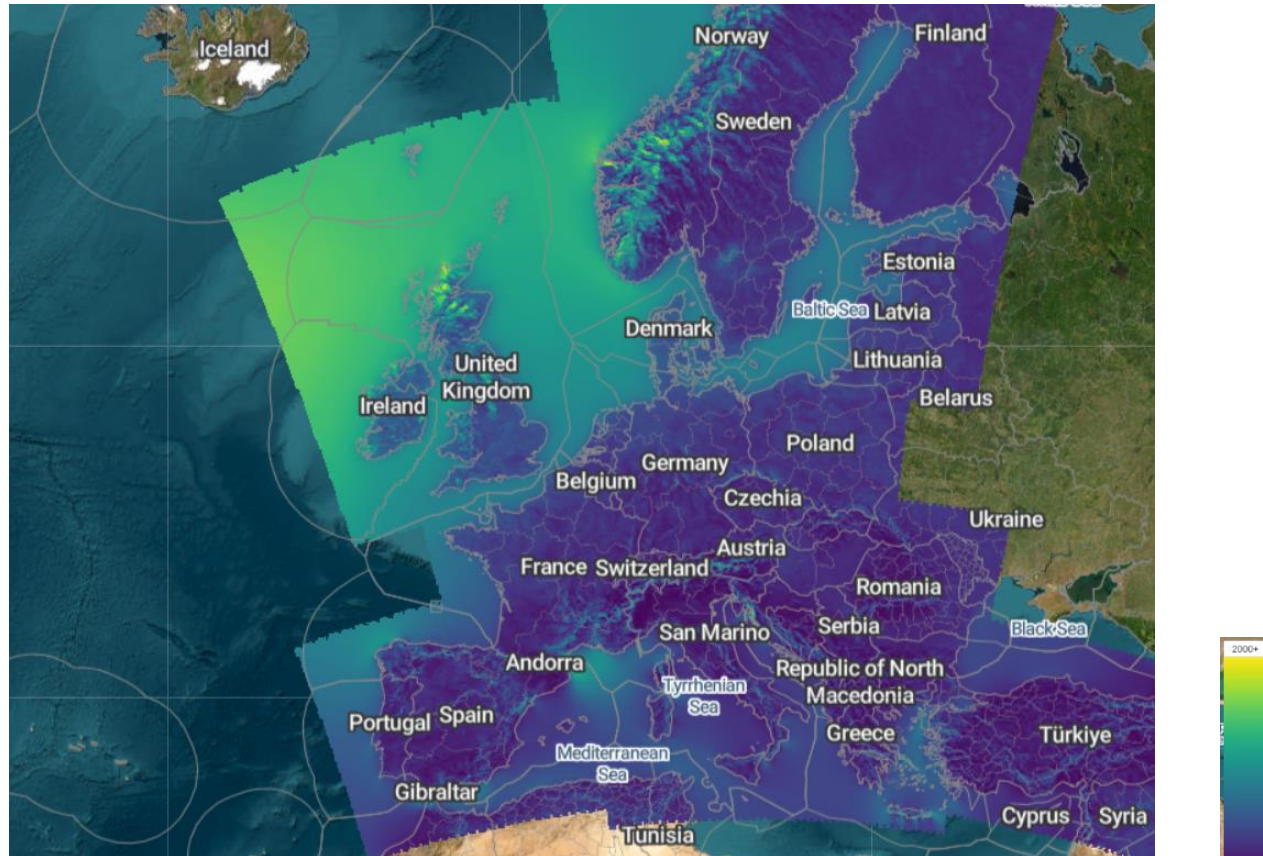


# 3. INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE CET

## THE ENERGY MEGAPROJECT

Energy ¿for what?

Maximize the return on investment





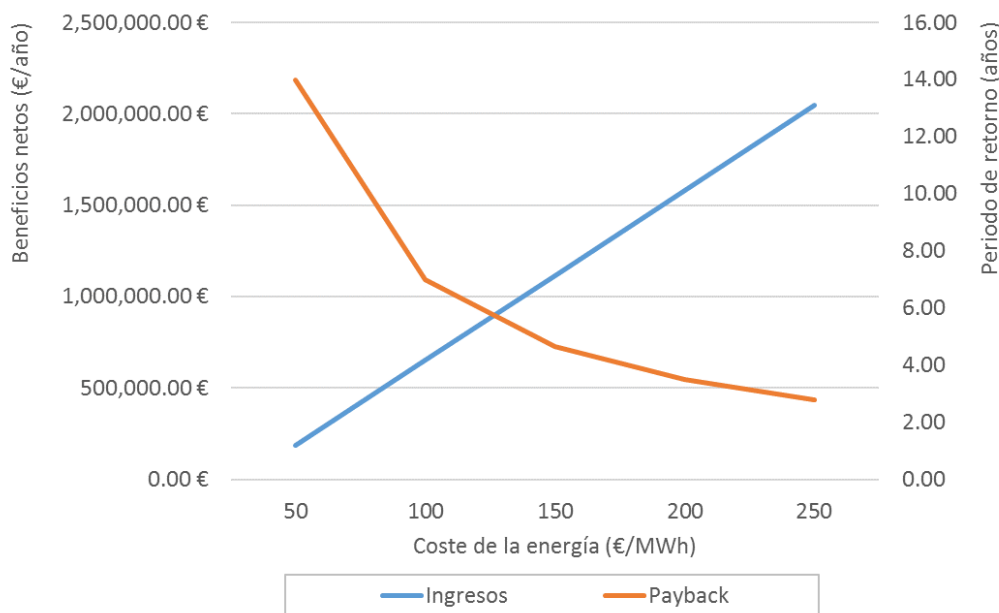
# 3. INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE CET

## THE ENERGY MEGAPROJECT

### The business

One example in Spain (a 6MW wind mill)

- Estimated production: 6.500.000 € /mill
- Estimated production: 9.500 MWh/year·mill



- Incomes to the municipality: 5.000-10.000 €/wind ??

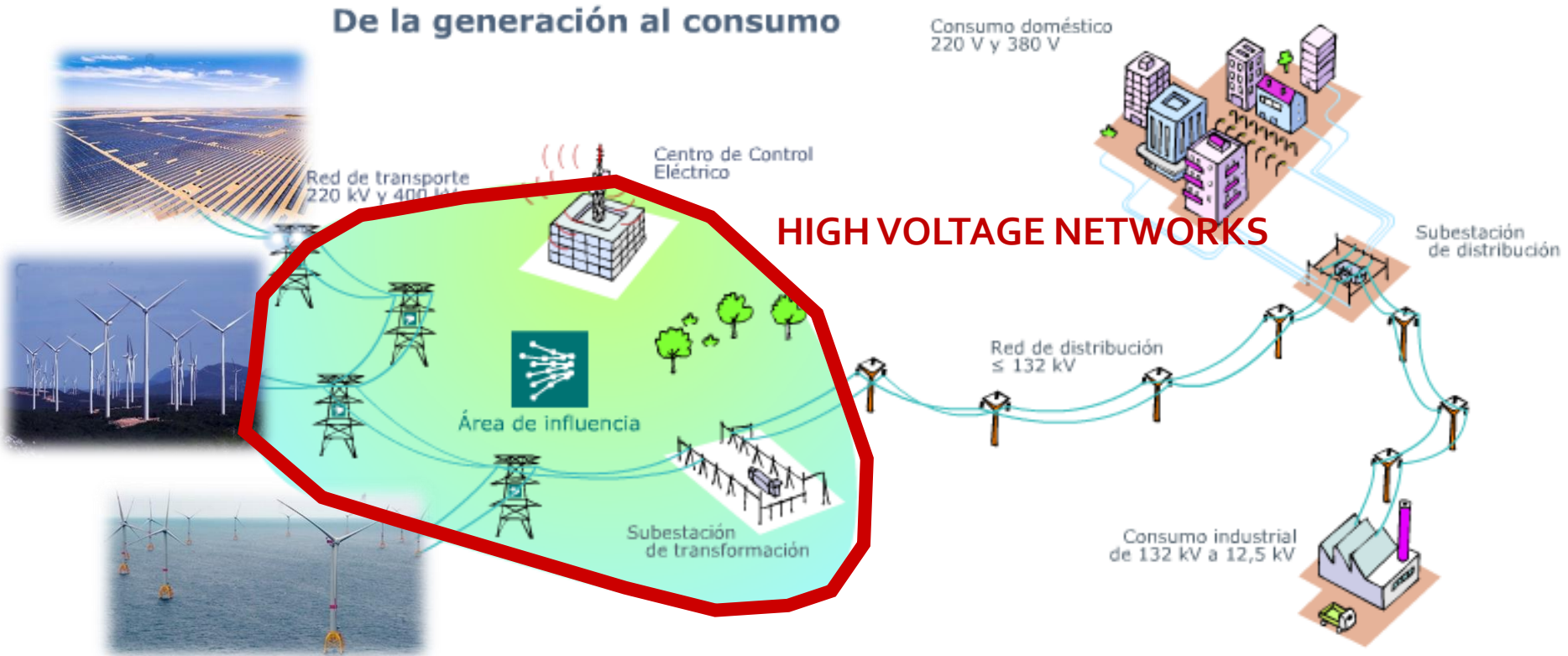
# 3. INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE CET

## THE ENERGY MEGAPROJECT

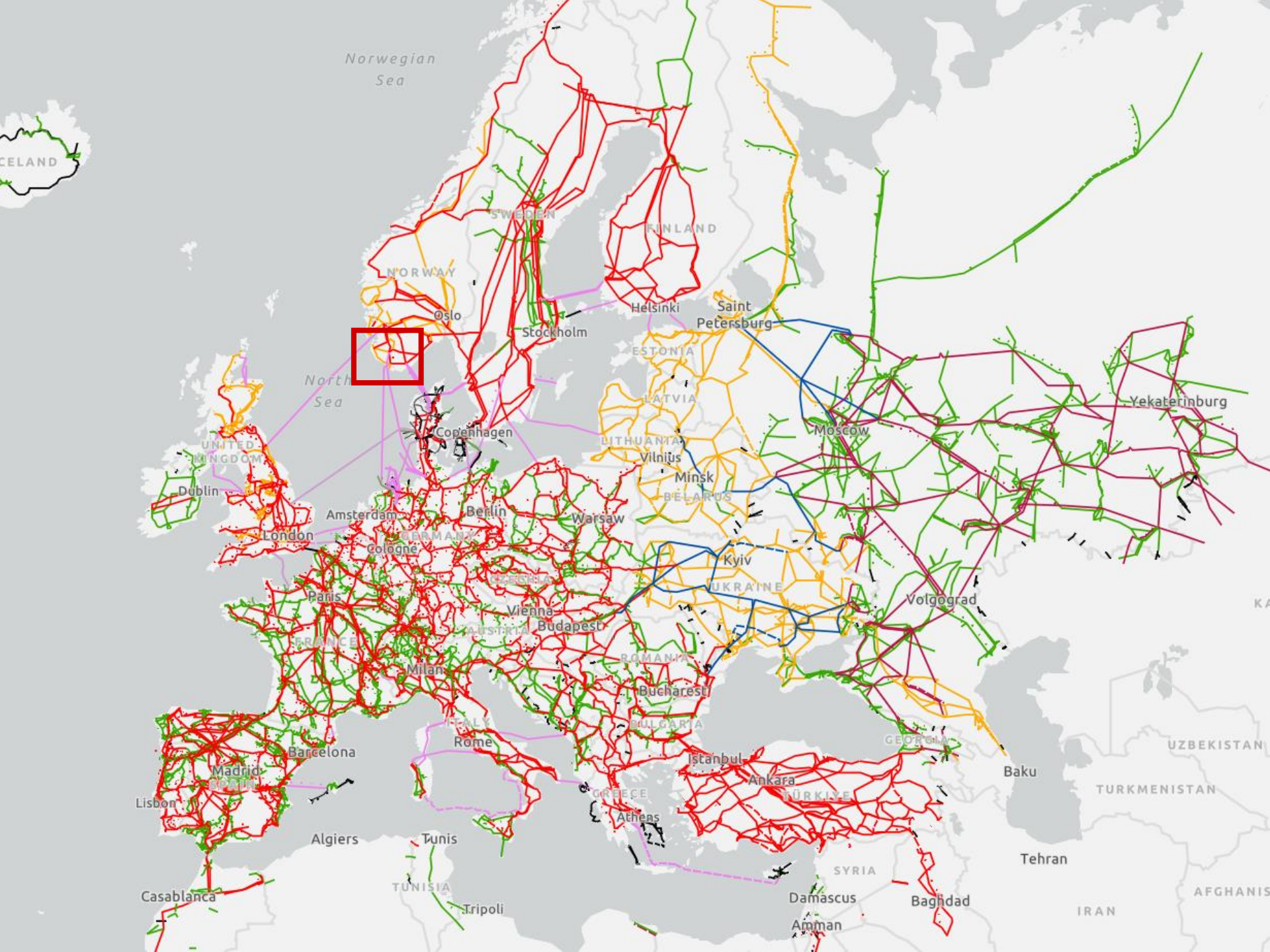
### The impacts



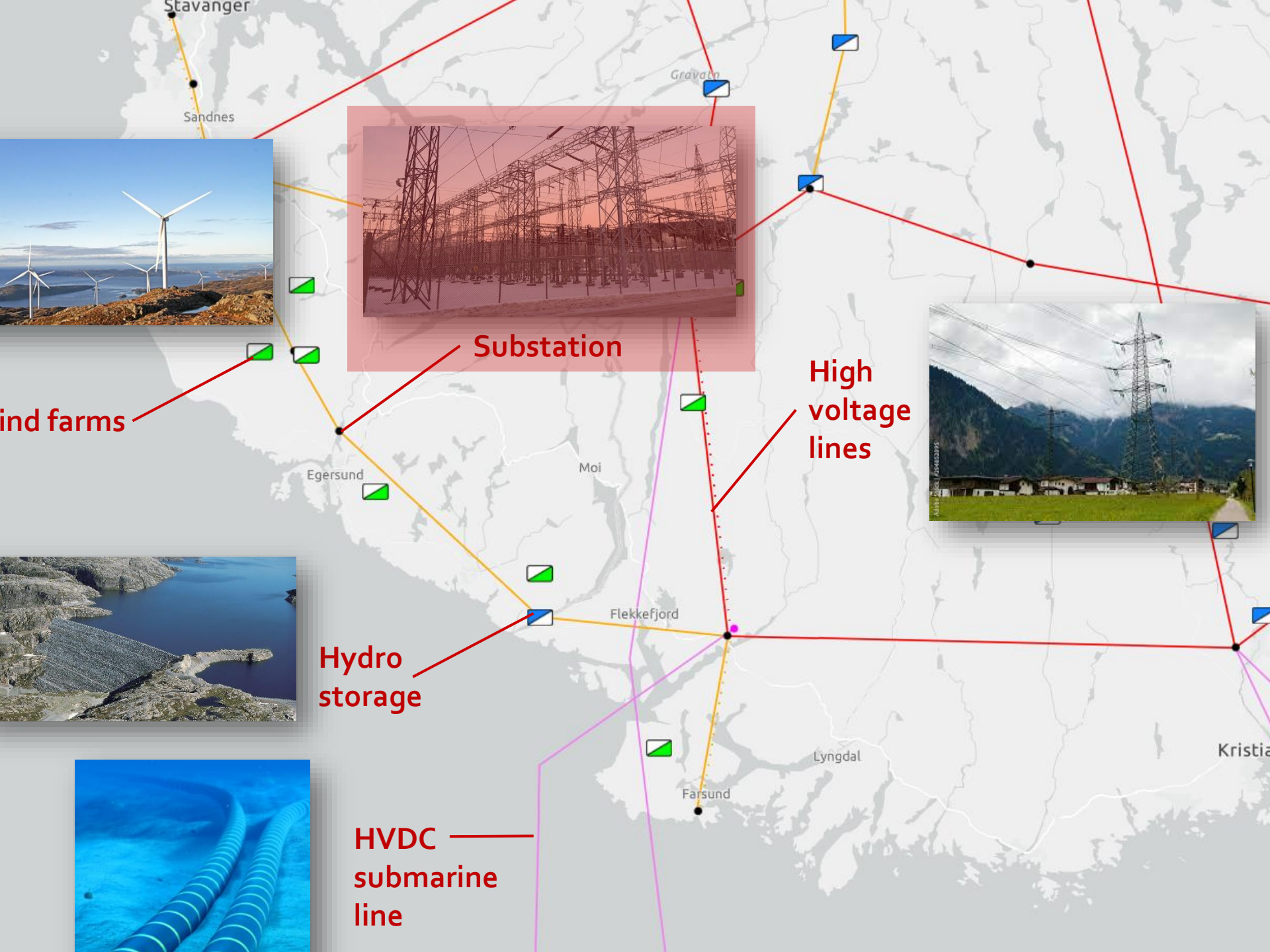
# 3. INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE CET THE TRANSPORT SYSTEM



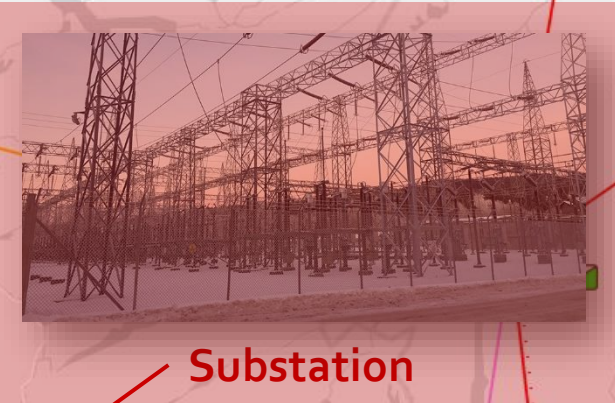








Wind farms



Substation



High voltage lines

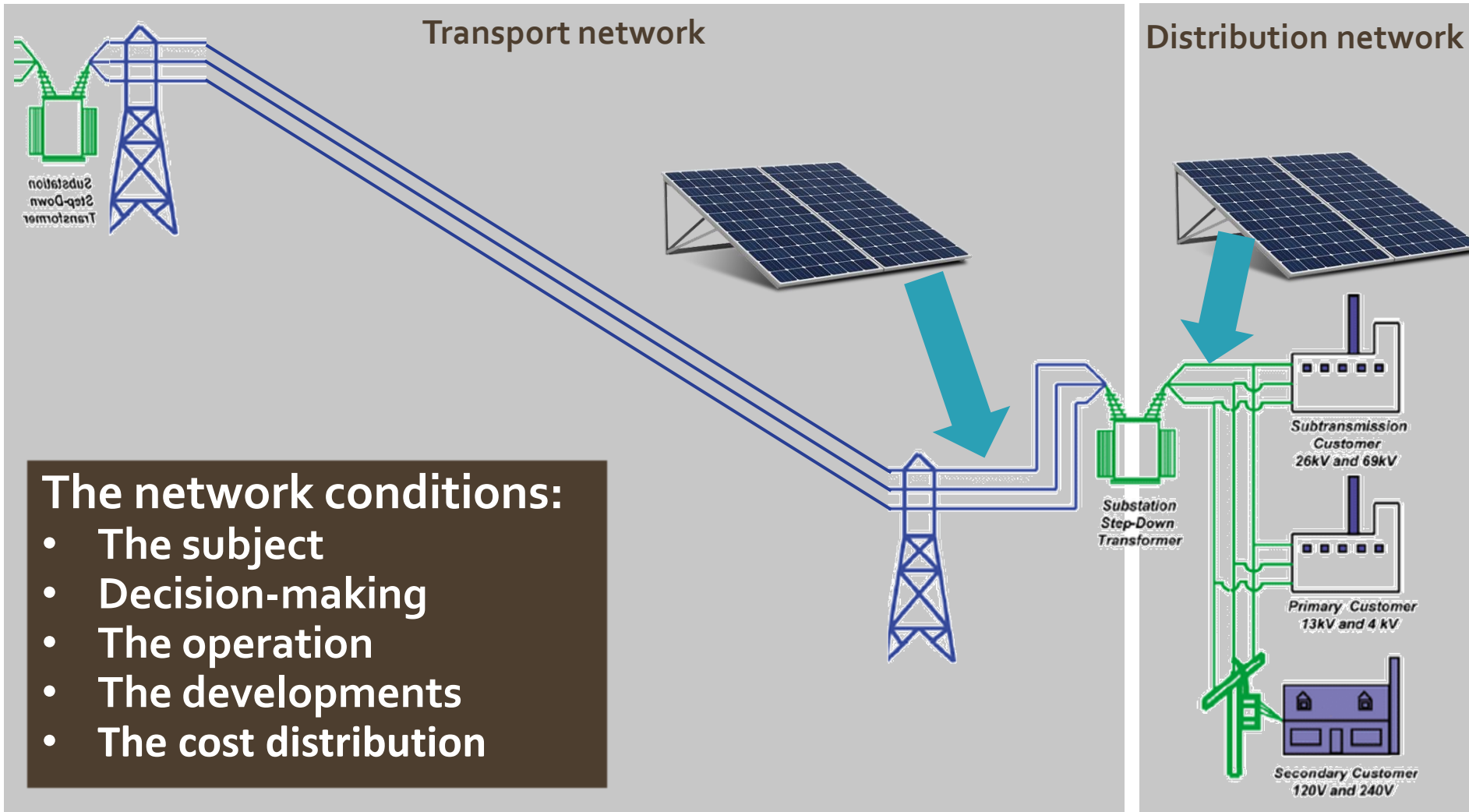


Hydro storage



HVDC submarine line

# 3. INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE CET NETWORKS AND ENERGY SOVEREIGNTY



# STRUCTURE

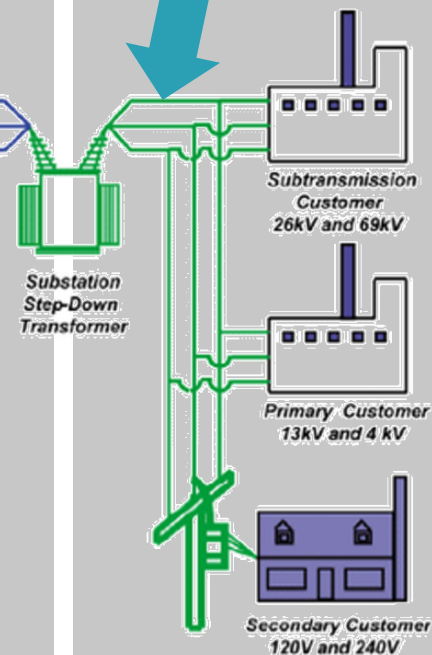
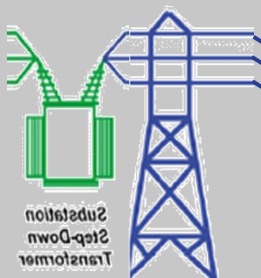
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# 4. CASE STUDY: SPAIN

## THE CURRENT SITUATION



Transport network





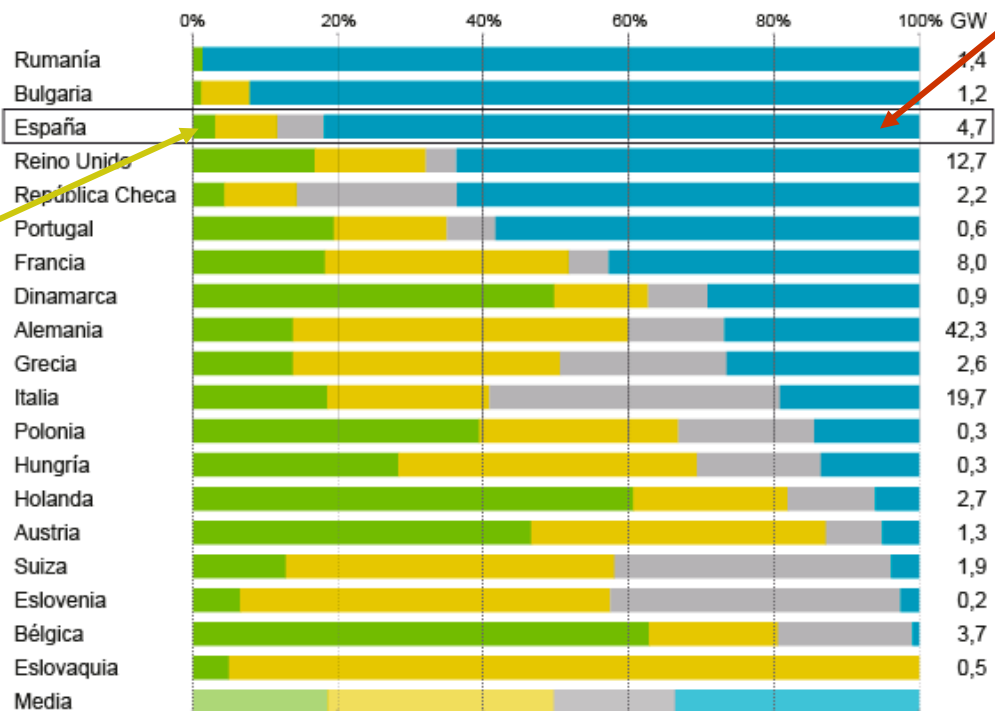
# 4. CASE STUDY: SPAIN

## THE CURRENT SITUATION

### EL REPARTO DEL MERCADO FOTOVOLTAICO EN EUROPA

Potencia instalada

■ Residencial (inferior a 10KWp)
 ■ Comercial (10 - 250KWp)
 ■ Industrial (250 - 1.000KWp)
 ■ Gran escala (superior a MWp)



LA INFORMACIÓN - Fuente: SolarPower Europe, IRENA y elaboración propia. Datos a 31/12/2017

# 4. CASE STUDY: SPAIN

## THE EUROPEAN TRANSITION PLAN → NECPs

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journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/energy-conversion-and-management-x

Comparative analysis of national energy strategies of 19 European countries in light of the green deal's objectives

Artila Arzúdi<sup>a</sup>, Bence Biró, László Adorján, Ádám Csaba Dobos, Gergely Illés, Norbert Kristián Tóth, Dávid Zsagy, Zoltán Tas Zsiborcs

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ARTICLE INFO

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Energy strategy  
Energy demand  
Security of energy supply  
Renewable renewable energy sources  
Coal phase-out  
Nuclear energy

**ABSTRACT**

The European Green Deal is setting clear objectives for the transformation of the economy into a cleaner and at the same time competitive working model. The energy sector and especially the electricity sector face serious challenges in order to comply with the objectives set by the policy. Aging power plants and grid infrastructure, phasing out fossil-based energy production, the nuclear phase-out in some countries, increasing weather dependent intermittent power sources, the requirements of the security of electricity supply are also individually emerging issues, but all together are even more challenging.

In line with the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) the energy strategy is the competence of the individual countries, based on the fact that the different countries have very different geological, socio-economic and ecological conditions, and their access to natural resources can be diverse. Therefore the national governments and national parliaments are setting the national strategies which has to be in line with the European framework. An important question arises evidently, namely, whether the national plans of the big European states will result in a picture that has been set by the European Green Deal published on 14th July 2021?

In the research presented in this paper, we tried to answer the aforementioned questions by investigating the energy strategy of 19 countries situated in continental Europe. We set ourselves to the year 2030 and find out, all over Europe with locally realistic assumptions, to investigate if the energy plan portfolio of the individual countries could cover the electricity needs (even in their national energy strategies, nuclear conditions and covered demand of the 19 countries in question were retained and that conclusions were drawn based on the simulation results.

**Introduction**

The focus of the European Union's policy is on the environmental protection, including climate protection and the climate-neutral transition. The European Green Deal aims to transform the European economy, which according to expectations, to make the most efficient use of resources and to develop and deploy technologies that can serve as a model not only for the rest of the world but also for the world itself [1].

The goals include the elimination of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, making Europe the first climate-neutral continent by then, and ensuring that the transition takes into account the interests of individuals and regions to maximize the opportunities offered by new technologies.

On 14 July 2021, the European Commission announced a new implementation programme, "Fit for 55" [2], which aims to achieve a 55% reduction in net greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 (compared to 1990 levels). The legal framework for implementing the programme has also been established [3].

Energy transformation and energy use are responsible for the vast majority of greenhouse gas emissions. Whilst this, the production of electricity, which is the most important source of energy, is responsible for most of the carbon-intensive emissions. At the same time, the replacement of today's still largely fossil-based electricity generation by solar and wind power, which is the preferred choice of the public and politicians, raises technological issues, as the need for continuous supply and the security of supply requirements is not in question.

This paper examines the extent to which the countries of the present state of the continental European electricity system, as currently

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E-mail address: artila@ind.tud.bme.hu (A. Arzúdi).

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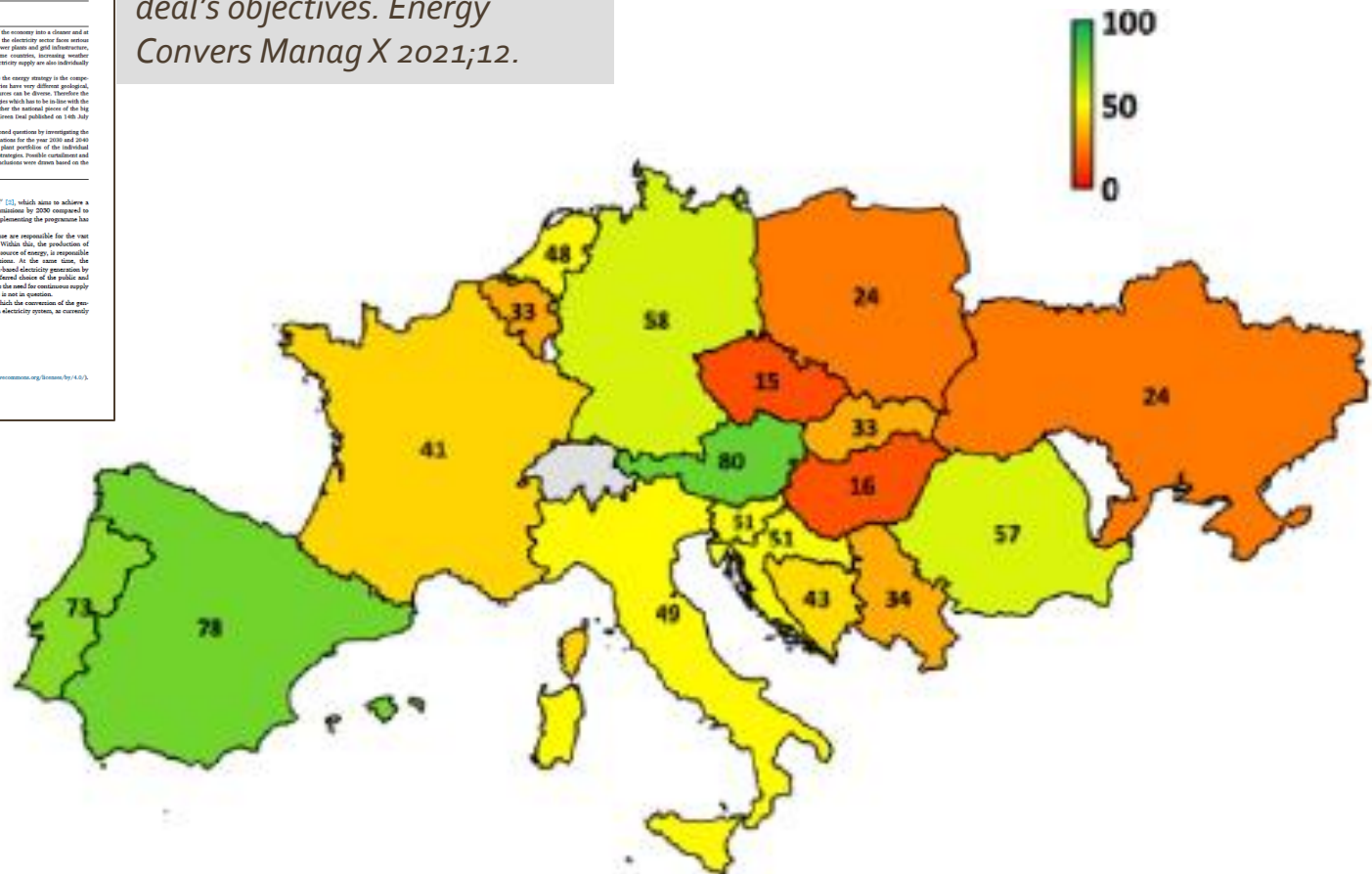
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Aszodi et al. Comparative analysis of national energy strategies of 19 European countries in light of the green deal's objectives. Energy Convers Manag X 2021;12.

RES production by 2030 (%)





# 4. CASE STUDY: SPAIN

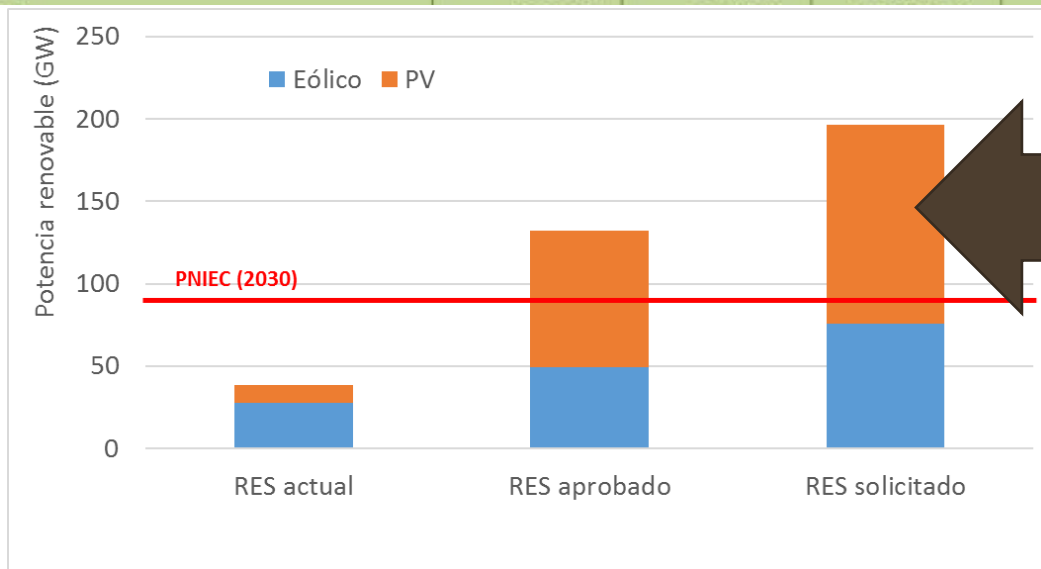
## THE RENEWABLE ENERGY GOALS

### Spanish National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP)

- Roadmap with renewable production targets

Parque de generación del Escenario Objetivo (MW)				
Año	2015	2020	2025	2030
Eólica	22.925	27.968	40.258	50.258
Solar fotovoltaica	4.854	8.409	23.404	36.882

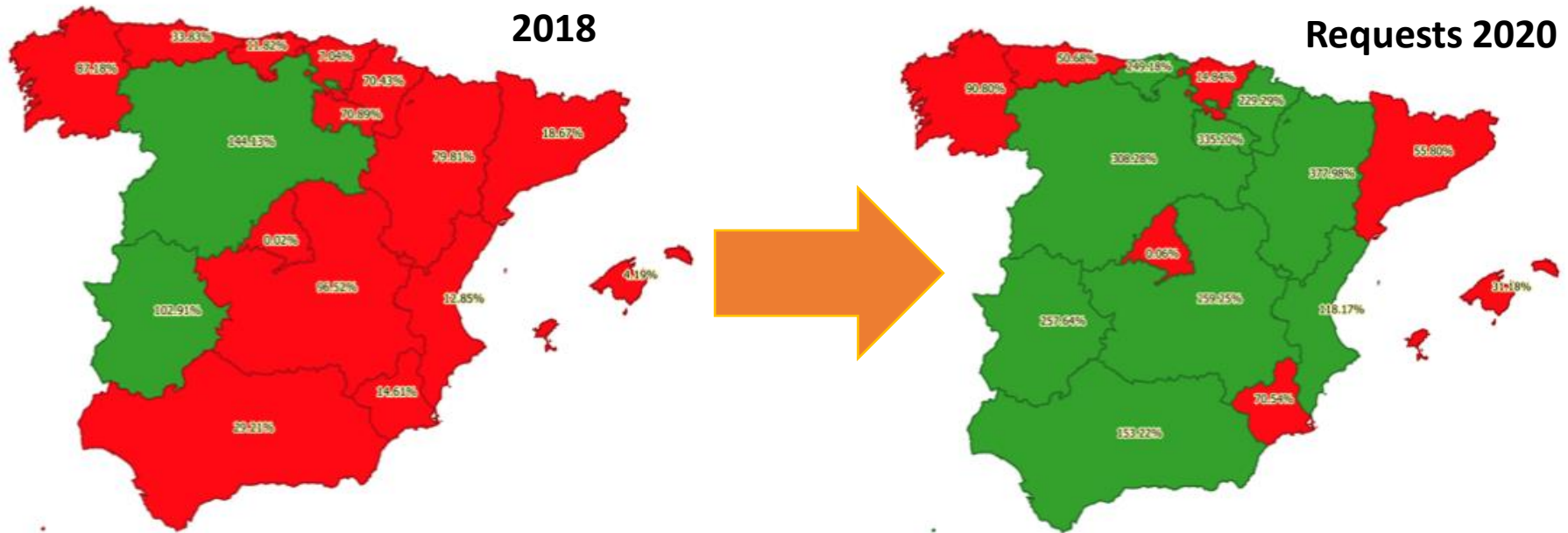
87.2 GW



Connection requests

# 4. CASE STUDY: SPAIN

## THE CONNECTION REQUESTS



With the current transport network

# 4. CASE STUDY: SPAIN

## THE TRANSPORT NETWORK GROWS



### THE PLANNING OF THE ELECTRICITY TRANSPORT NETWORK

- Roadmap for transport network reinforcement (a new one every 5 years)
- investment is covered by the electricity bill

**Plan de desarrollo de la Red de Transporte de Energía Eléctrica**  
Período 2021-2026

GOBIERNO DE ESPAÑA  
MINISTERIO DE TRANSICIÓN ECOLÓGICA Y RETO DEMOCRÁTICO  
RED ELÉCTRICA DE ESPAÑA

Planificación eléctrica 2021-26

En detalle Proyectos Accede a la Planificación

Inicio / Proyectos

Planificación eléctrica 2021-2026

Clica una categoría para mostrarla en el mapa

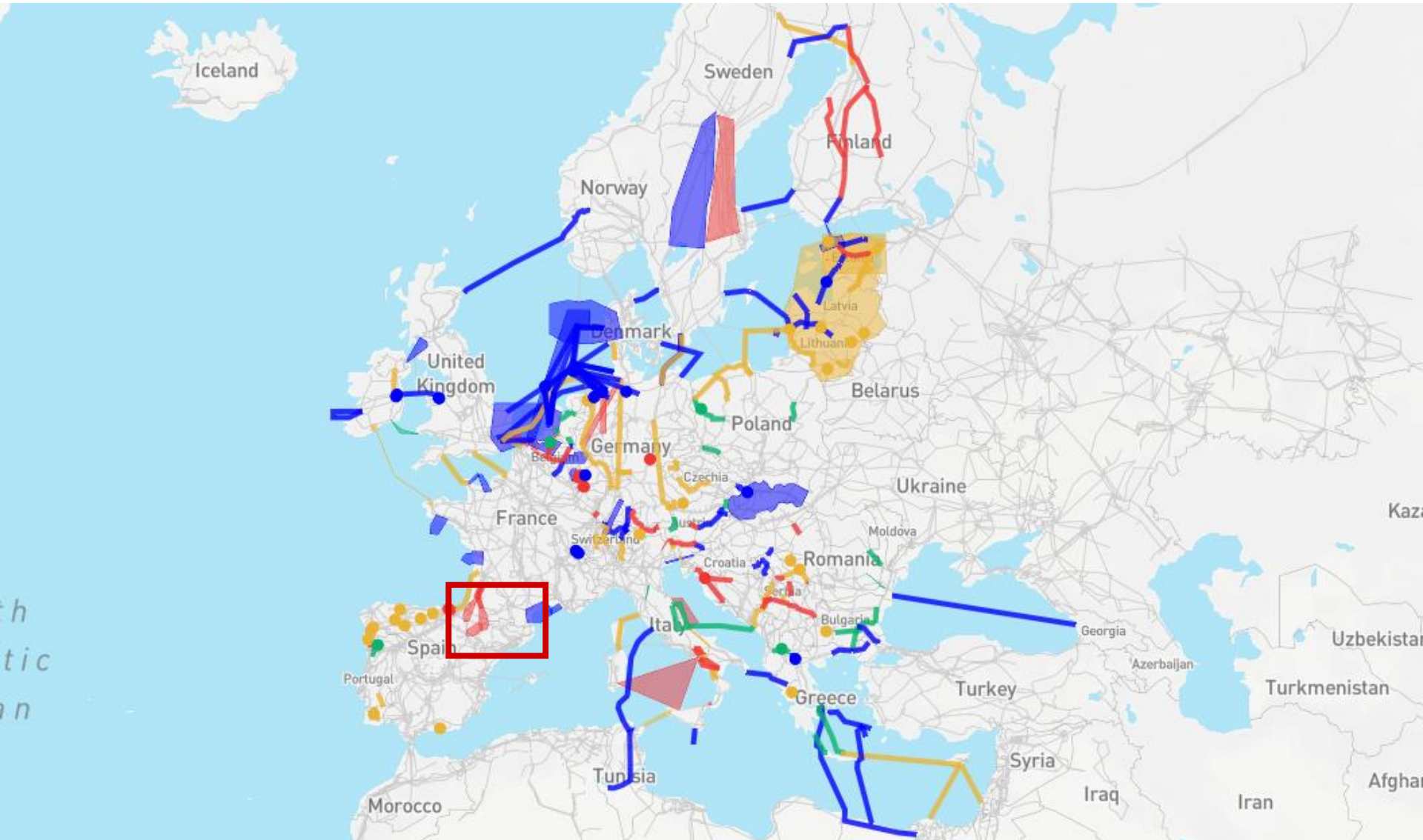
- Integración de renovables
- Interconexiones internacionales
- Interconexiones entre sistemas eléctricos
- Apoyo a la red de distribución
- Alimentación de líneas ferroviarias
- Consumidores
- Seguridad de suministro
- Necesidades de la operación
- Renovación de activos
- Red de partida

Mapa interactivo  
Elige una categoría y empieza a navegar

La situación geográfica de todos los recursos es aproximada y no representa, en ningún caso, su situación o alcance exactos.

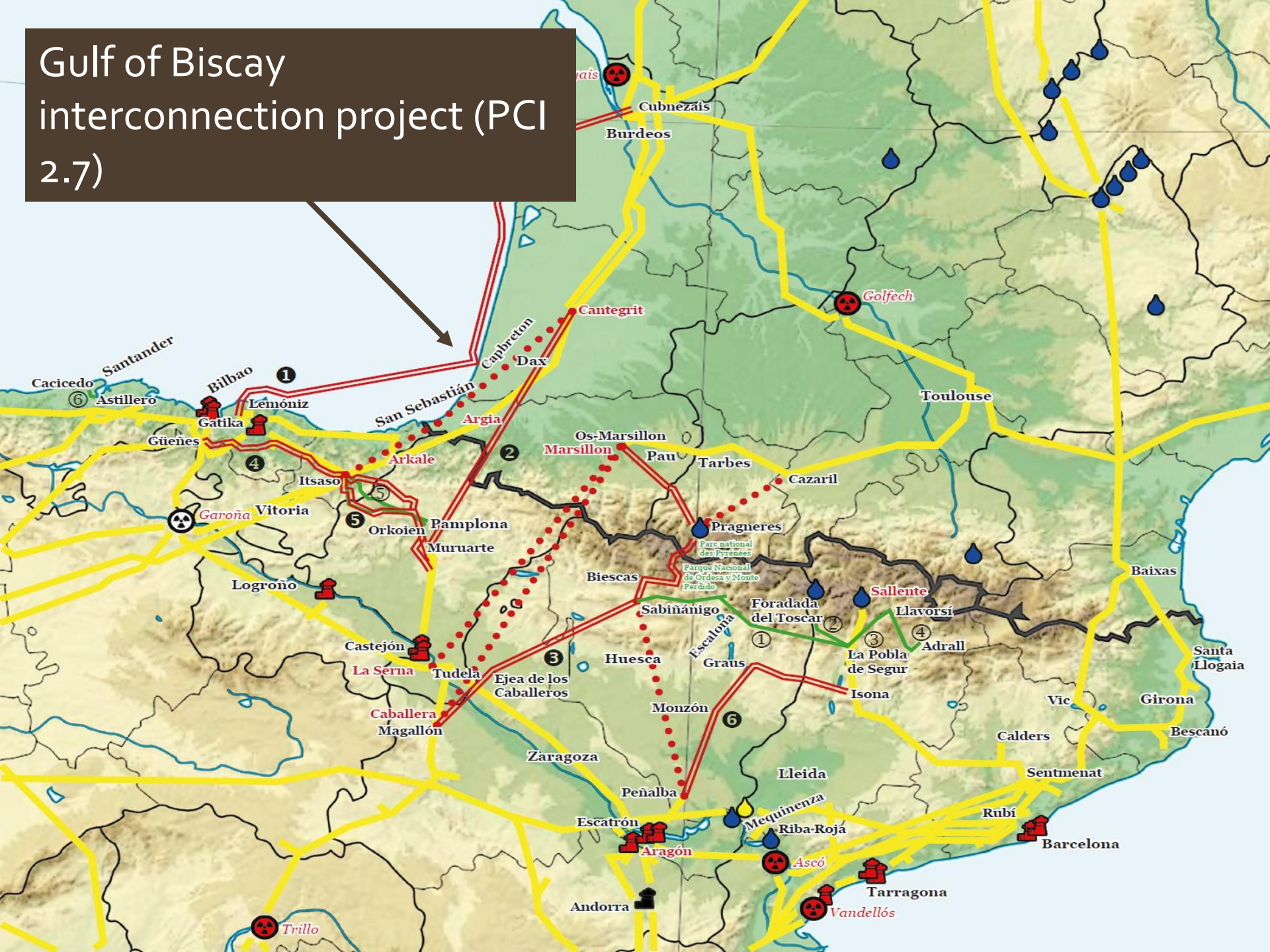
# 4. CASE STUDY: SPAIN

## THE INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION





# Gulf of Biscay interconnection project (PCI 2.7)



# 4. CASE STUDY: SPAIN

## SPAIN-FRANCE INTERCONNECTION THROUGH THE GULF OF BISCAY

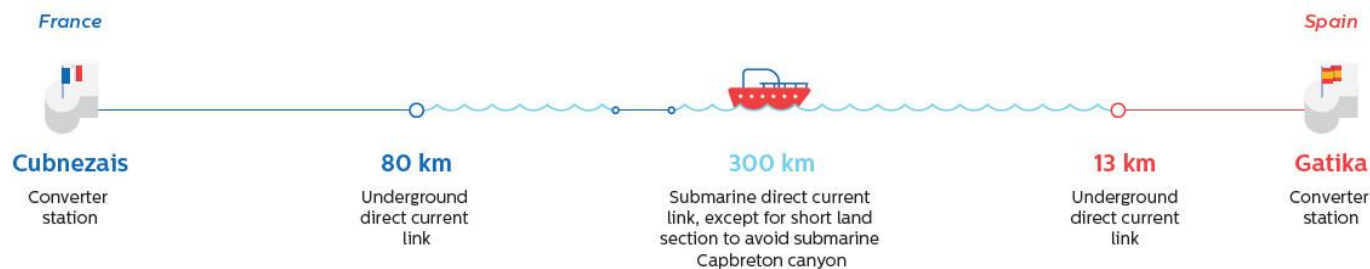


### The numbers

- Initial Budget: **1750 M€**
- Length: **~400 km**
- Capacity: **2 GW**
- Need for network reinforcements
- Electricity bill increase of **3.5%**

### The benefits

- Security of supply
- Lower electricity prices
- More renewables



# 4. CASE STUDY: SPAIN

## SPAIN-FRANCE INTERCONNECTION THROUGH THE GULF OF BISCAY

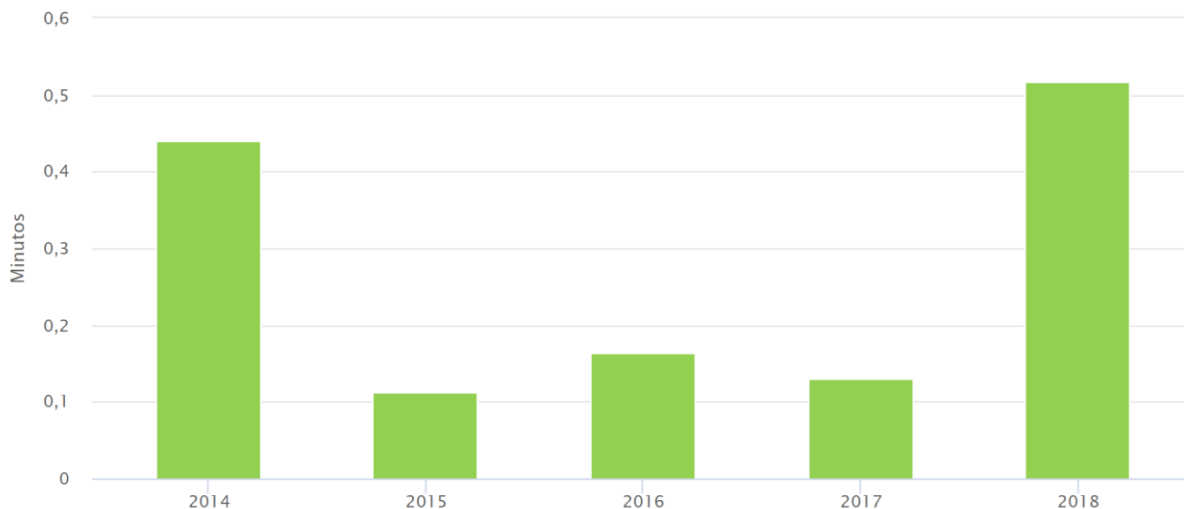
### Benefits

### Security of Supply

- Overall installed power: 102 GW
- Maximum historical demand: 41 GW (2008)

> 2.5 X

Del 01/01/2014 al 31/12/2018



**Average Interruption Time (AIT)**

**Maximum AIT according to standard: 15 minutes**

## 4. CASE STUDY: SPAIN

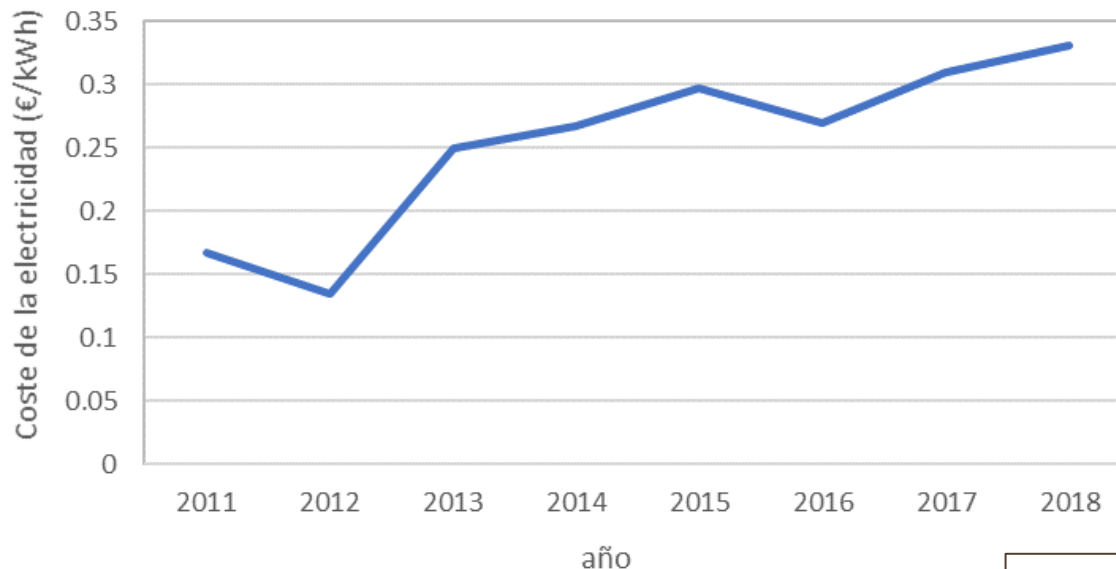
### SPAIN-FRANCE INTERCONNECTION THROUGH THE GULF OF BISCAY

#### Benefits

Lower electricity prices (I)

So far, more interconnections have not led to lower prices.

Evolución del coste de la electricidad doméstica



Source: Eurostat



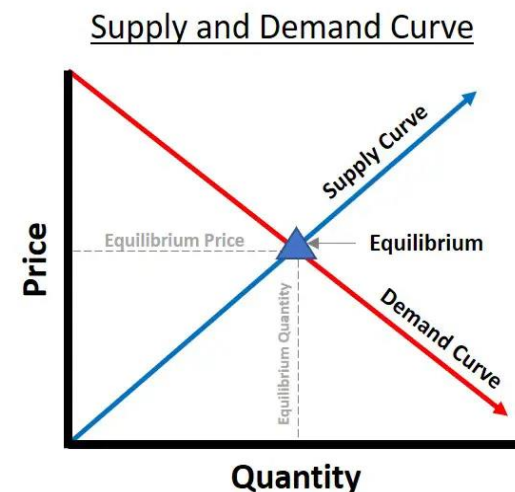
## 4. CASE STUDY: SPAIN

### SPAIN-FRANCE INTERCONNECTION THROUGH THE GULF OF BISCAY

#### Benefits Lower electricity prices (II)

- There is no justified study of the capacity to be installed
- There is no justified study of the reduction in the cost of electricity
- There is no justified study of the aid received by the CEF
- The project will lead to an increase in the fixed term of the bill

For a given supply, interconnection increases the number of consumers and therefore increases the cost of electricity.



# 4. CASE STUDY: SPAIN

## SPAIN-FRANCE INTERCONNECTION THROUGH THE GULF OF BISCAY

Benefits **More renewable energy**

Reg. Phys. J. Plus (2014) 129, 219  
DOI 10.1146/rjplus/129/4/219-7

Regular Article

THE EUROPEAN PHYSICAL JOURNAL PLUS

research article

Consid elect

F. Wagner  
Max Plehn

Assessment of the EU 10% interconnection target in the context of CO<sub>2</sub> mitigation<sup>1</sup>

ANDRÁS MEZŐSI, ZSUZSANNA PATÓ, LÁSZLÓ SZABÓ\*

Corvinus University of Budapest, Regional Centre for Energy Policy Research, Budapest, Hungary

The European Commission has proposed the target of achieving an interconnection capacity of at least 10% of the installed electricity production capacity for each Member State by 2020 in the context of the envisaged Energy Union. The underlying objectives are to increase the security of supply at affordable prices via market integration and to contribute to decarbonisation by accommodating an increasing level of renewable generation. In this article we have assessed whether this target could effectively fulfil these two objectives. Our main focus is on the assessment of the impacts of compliance with the 10% interconnection target on the carbon emission of the European electricity system. Our main research question concerns the impact of interconnection capacity increases on EU carbon emission due to the better market integration, disregarding the RES-E integration aspects. In order to arrive at workable scenarios for the future cross-border capacity extension, the security of supply and market integration impacts are also assessed.

We concluded on the basis of our European dispatch model that full compliance would slightly increase carbon emission in the EU, unless carbon prices are high enough to offset the increase in carbon emission. This impact is due to increased coal- and lignite-based electricity production, mainly in Germany, Poland and the Czech Republic. By increasing the interconnections of these countries with their neighbours at the present low carbon price under the EU emissions trading scheme, these carbon-intensive electricity systems run on higher utilization rates and consequently increase carbon emission. It has to be emphasized that the increase is found for the current situation, and changes in other factors, such as increases in carbon prices or renewable generation, could modify this result.

**Policy relevance**  
Our results demonstrate that EU network development and climate policies are highly interconnected. Changing patterns in the interconnections of the EU electricity systems connect diverse generation portfolios and in a low carbon price environment could increase carbon emission at the community level. Policy makers should be aware of the interactions between these areas and design policy tools that also consider negative synergies.

**Keywords:** CO<sub>2</sub> emission; cross-border infrastructure development; electricity market modeling; security of supply assessment

**Introduction**  
The interconnection of electricity networks is considered to be an essential precondition for the realization of an integrated, competitive and sustainable European electricity market. The European Commission has reiterated this in the 2014 October conclusions of the European Council on the target of

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### What does the TYNDP tell?



#### Integration of renewable energy sources

B3 Annual avoided curtailment (RES integration) (GWh / year) in the entire area covered by the study	max	2225
	average	<b>2023</b>
	min	1790

#### Impact on grid losses

B5 Variation of network losses (GWh / year) in the ENTSO-E area	average	<b>1717</b>
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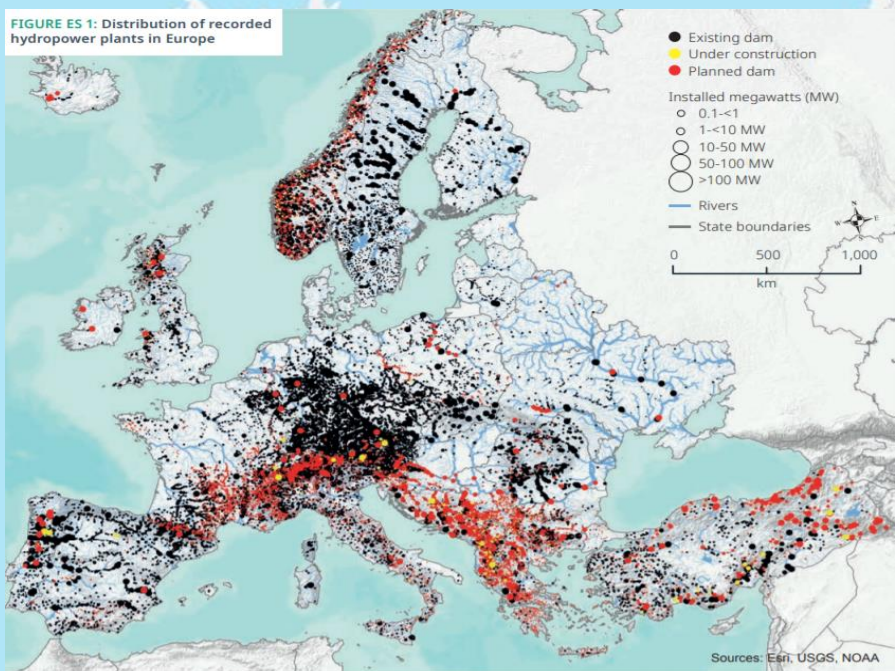


More than 80% of the not curtailed renewable energy will be lost through the European electricity transport system

# 4. CASE STUDY: SPAIN

## THE INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION: ENERGY COLONIALISM

FIGURE ES 1: Distribution of recorded hydropower plants in Europe



HOME » ELÉCTRICAS

### Bruselas dispuesta a estudiar la financiación del cable eléctrico que una Italia y Túnez

Redacción 25/06/15



EXPLOTACIÓN ÁFRICA

### Alemania, el Congo y el nuevo imperialismo energético europeo

El interés de Berlín por producir hidrógeno verde en la República Democrática del Congo genera controversia. Desde el país africano se critica que el proyecto no beneficiará a la población local.

f t i s y

# STRUCTURE

1. *Notes for the energy transition*
2. *The corporate energy transition (CET)*
3. *Infrastructure of the corporate energy transition (CET)*
4. *Case study: The case of Spain*
5. *Closing remarks*



# 5. CLOSING REMARKS

## THE NEED FOR A RENEWABLE REGIME

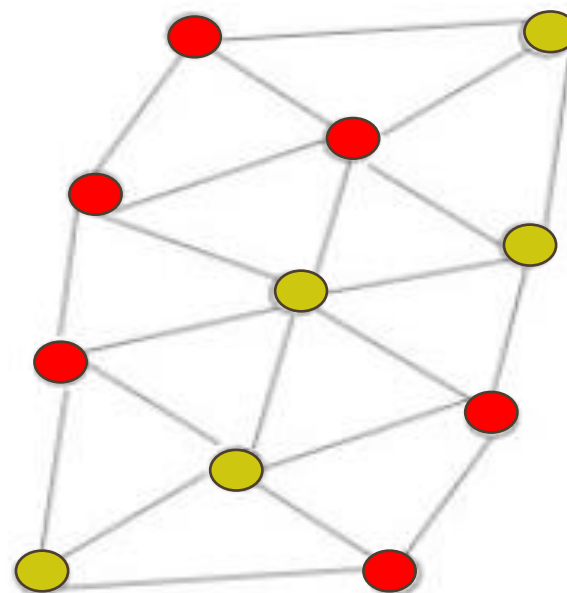
### Based on renewable flows:

- Intermittent
- Resources geographically distributes
- Low Energy density
- Lower EROEI
- Highly modular



### Distributed system:

- Bidirectional system
- Distributed power in territory
- Role change of the consumer:
  - Produces
  - Manages
- **Less energy availability**



## 5. CLOSING REMARKS

### HOW TO BUILD IT? ENERGY POLICY FOR A NEW PARADIGMA

## It requires a bottom-up approach

**Objective:** To meet the demand

### Some steps:

1. Quantify demands and management capabilities

**How can we act on the demand curve?**

2. Assess the renewable potential of territories and create tools for its development.
3. Complement it with interconnections and other centralized services



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Klimakonferanse «Energí – Infrastruktur –  
Nykolonialisme – Menneskerettigheter – EUs rolle»

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