

Flash report.

On 5 December 2017, Mr Bernd Biervert (BB), Deputy Head of Cabinet of VP Šefčovič met with the following representatives, [REDACTED] Ecofys and [REDACTED], GRTgaz. BB was accompanied by Dagmara Maria Koska (DK), Member of Cabinet and [REDACTED] the Cabinet of VP Šefčovič.

The industry representatives presented the study "Gas for Climate – a path to 2050", conducted by the newly set up consortium of "Gas for climate". The industry representatives presented the results of the study to the Cabinet. BB and DK stayed mostly in a listening mode.

Key issues raised:

- [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] presented the results of "Gas for Climate" study.
- They stressed the importance of the existing gas infrastructure for facilitating the transition to a decarbonized economy by 2050 by gradually increasing the share of hydrogen and bio methane.
- They also elaborated on the power-to-gas pilot project Jupiter 2000 in France.
- BB and DK described the COM's policies towards decarbonisation, which would also impact on gas. In the medium-term, gas would, however, still be needed to balance the volatile nature of the increasing renewables share. In response to a question by [REDACTED], they stressed with respect to the transport sector, including heavy-duty vehicles and the maritime sector, that the COM is fully aware of the potential of natural gas as a less carbon-intensive, competitive fuel alternative. They summarised the recent COM proposal on CO2 standards and stressed the technologically neutral approach, with a focus to further lower CO2 emissions of cars.