PRESS RELEASE

Energy Traders Europe Publishes 2026 Gas Hub Scorecard: Market Confidence and Integration Key to Europe's Gas Security

Brussels, 22.10.2026 – Energy Traders Europe's 2026 Gas Hub Scorecard highlights where Europe's gas markets are – and are not – ready for the next potential test.

Europe has worked hard to strengthen its gas security, with new LNG capacity, more diversified supply and stronger cross-border connections ensuring Europe's gas system is resilient. Energy Traders Europe's new report shows that liquid, well-functioning gas markets depend on clear rules, accessible trading environments and market confidence, not infrastructure or market size alone.

The 2026 edition of the Gas Hub Scorecard – the organisation's yearly assessment of the maturity and performance of European gas trading hubs – uses revised criteria and a broader geographical scope.

The UK and the Netherlands lead the assessment, followed by other established Western European markets, including France, Germany and Belgium-Luxembourg. Positive results in the Nordics, Baltics and Portugal demonstrate that smaller markets can also develop attractive trading environments. Conversely, national barriers continue to hamper progress in markets with significant potential. Poland and Romania illustrate how they have been held back by restrictive national rules, while Italy shows how government intervention can undermine confidence even in an established hub.

These findings come at a critical time for European gas markets. As Europe diversifies its supply following the phase-out of Russian gas, competition for LNG is intensifying. With storage at around 70% ahead of winter 2026-27 and greater LNG import capacity available, Europe's security of supply depends not only on infrastructure, but also on its ability to attract supplies and move gas efficiently across connected, predictable markets.

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Commenting on the 2026 Gas Hub Scorecard results, Paweł Lont, Energy Traders Europe Gas Committee Chair, said: "Europe has learned the hard way how important a flexible and well-connected gas market is. The challenge now is to ensure that every part of Europe can benefit from that flexibility. Stronger, more integrated gas markets will help Europe attract supply, move it across borders and respond quickly when challenging conditions arise. Our 2026 Scorecard findings highlight where practical changes are needed to strengthen them."

The Scorecard sets out five priorities for policymakers and market stakeholders: removing unnecessary barriers to market entry, building confidence through stable and transparent regulation, making markets work effectively for participants, protecting market confidence through predictable network costs and avoiding distortive interventions and strengthening European market integration.

The findings reinforce the message of Energy Traders Europe's *Integrate by '28* roadmap – completing Europe's internal energy market should not be just a long-term policy ambition. Rather, better integration can deliver practical benefits for energy security, competitiveness and affordability, now. Read the full 2026 Gas Hub Scorecard here.

About Energy Traders Europe

Energy Traders Europe is the voice of Europe's energy traders. We represent 185 member companies from across the continent, working to promote the role of energy traders in the European energy market.

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