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A just energy transition in Poland – the study visit by Members of the European Parliament

A just energy transition was the theme of the study visit organised by the Polish Electricity Association (PKEE) in cooperation with the Danish Energy Association for the Polish and Danish Members of the European Parliament to the Bełchatów Power Plant and Opencast Mine and to the Kamieńsk Mountain.

The goal of the visit, organised on the 17th and 18th of October 2019, was to present the changes that are taking place in Poland's energy sector. At the beginning of the tour, **Henryk Baranowski**, **President of the Polish Electricity Association and CEO of PGE Polska Grupa Energetyczna** has pointed out that the transformation of the energy sector is a complex process that requires collaboration and exchange of good practices between different countries.

- In the discussion that is taking place, we are building a broad coalition of the energy sector, coal regions in transition and the government and EU institutions. What is most important is the collaboration for the solidary dialogue combined with the financing of the energy investments, taking into account the social costs as well as the changes taking place in the entire economy – he explained. - This is why as the PKEE we are commencing numerous efforts aimed at highlighting Poland's position on the 2050 long-term strategy. All this to ensure that the transition of Poland's energy sector will be effective both economically and socially – he added.

During their stay in Poland, the Danish MEPs had the opportunity to obtain first-hand information about how the power sector is changing, and also about the importance to the sector of implementing innovative and environment-friendly solutions. The representatives of the European Parliament have studied the solutions used at the Belchatów Power Plant and Cole Mine and at the Kamieńsk Wind Park.

- During such visits, our guests can see for themselves how we are coping with the challenges our industry is facing and how it is developing. We are part of the PGE Group that is the leader of Poland's energy transition. We are implementing numerous measures taking us towards a modern low-emissions economy. We are leveraging the latest scientific and technological achievements while not forgetting about the principles, values and goals that guarantee our sustainable growth. International cooperation is an opportunity for us to gain more experience and skills that will drive our energy future – stressed **Robert Ostrowski**, **President of the Management Board of PGE Górnictwo i Energetyka Konwencjonalna.**

The second part of the study will take place already at the beginning of the next year in Denmark. Such a solution will provide Members of the European Parliament with a comprehensive view of the energy industries of both countries.

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About PKEE

The Polish Electricity Association is an association of the power sector, whose activities focus on issues related to the functioning of the industry in a modern market economy. We engage in actions and projects thanks to which the Polish power industry can better meet the challenges related to the European integration, ensuring security of energy supply, competitive market, environmental protection and development of state-of-the-art technologies.

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