

Poland plans to become the EU leader in electromobility

Electromobility is an opportunity for better and cleaner quality of life – was jointly stressed by the participants in the Brussels PKEE E-mobility Summer Day. The meeting was attended by among others Maroš Šefčovič, Vice President of the European Commission, Michał Kurtyka, Secretary of State in the Ministry of Energy of Poland, Plenipotentiary of the Government for the COP24 Climate Summit, Marta Gajęcka, Advisor to the President of Poland, Head of Energy Security, Members of the European Parliament as well as the representatives of key European industrial organisations and associations. The objective of the event organised by the Polish Electricity Association (PKEE) was the promotion of the Polish power sector in the European Union.

On Wednesday afternoon, several hundred people arrived at the Brussels Autoworld Museum to have a discussion on the future of electromobility and the opportunities it presents. ***“One-fifth of CO₂ emissions in Europe comes from the transport sector. This is the main source of pollution in our cities. It is the transport that is responsible for diseases and premature deaths going into millions worldwide. We cannot turn a blind eye to this anymore. We want a third of all cars to be electric or hybrid by 2030”*** – said Maroš Šefčovič, the Vice President of the European Commission, in charge of the Energy Union, in his opening address. ***“We want to use the electromobility for energy storage. An electric car can turn every house into a small power station. Consumers will be able not only to store electricity in batteries but thanks to a new energy market model will be able to sell its excess back into the grid at peak hours”*** – stressed Maroš Šefčovič who is responsible for the legislative proposals intended to establish the Energy Union. Some of them concern reduction of emissions in the power sector, industry and other sectors.

Invited by the PKEE, the speakers at the Brussels meeting included key personas for the European and also the Polish power sector. Michał Kurtyka, Secretary of State in the Ministry of Energy of Poland, Plenipotentiary of the Government for the COP24 Climate Summit, has stressed how much Poland and the Polish power sector have already done to improve the quality of the air we are breathing. ***“Poland’s energy sector has come a long way. It is less binary, less black and white, and more colourful. Sustainable development is the new motto of our energy policy”*** – Mr Kurtyka was assuring the meeting attendees. In his opinion, the electromobility is a tremendous opportunity for the Polish economy, and Poland may become a leader in this area.

As the organisers stress, the PKEE E-mobility Summer Day became an important element of a serious European debate on not only the electromobility but also the future of the entire sector. ***“The***



PKEE

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energy transition is already on its way in Poland and in Europe – stressed Marta Gajęcka, Advisor to the President of Poland, Head of Energy Security. As she added that electromobility is not a question of electric cars becoming fashionable but of security of energy supply. ***“The electromobility is highly significant to reliance on oil imports. It will help countries like Poland to become less dependent”*** – she said during the discussion. ***“Energy storage brings upon new economic models. This is a revolution for the general public but also for the business and energy sectors”*** – she summed up.

At the moment, Poland occupies the third place in the European Union considering the fleet of electric buses in use; according to the estimates by the Ministry of Energy, the number of such vehicles will increase as much as fifteen-fold over the next five years. The coming years will see also a dynamic growth of the number of private electric-powered cars on our roads and in consequence, also the growth of the charging infrastructure. In just three years from now, Polish car owners will have over 6 thousand charging points at their disposal.

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