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REPORTING PERIOD: 1 APRIL – 2 MAY 2019

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Security of Energy Supply in Kosovo

Without the new power plant Kosovo lacks 37% of its electricity needs

Only during 2017, Kosovo, the fifth lignite reserve country in the world, imported 22% of its electricity to cover for the local electricity demand. This amount of energy costed not less than 70 million euros. Reports of ERO state that the values of the imported energy during the last decade are higher than half a billion euros. In 2017, 43% of the demand for electricity was covered by ‘Kosova B’ power plant, 32 by ‘Kosova A’ and only 3% by renewable energy sources. According to the energy strategy, in 2023 Kosovo A will be decommissioned and it will be substituted with the new ecological ‘Kosova e Re’ power plant, that will bring stable sources for regular supply with electricity. The country also intends to rehabilitate ‘Kosova B’ power plant and to increase the capacities by renewable energy sources by 23%. Without ‘Kosova e Re’, around 37% of the domestic needs for electricity remain uncovered therefore, ‘it is vital to have the Kosova e Re project implemented to cover the gap’, is stated in the newsletter.

Security of energy supply, still an issue for Kosovo

During the recent years, Kosovo has been facing numerous issues when it comes to reliable energy supply. Energy supply is seen as one of the pillars which drives the economic development of a country. Nevertheless, these issues are set to be removed with the introduction of ‘Kosova e Re’, and the functionalization of the 400 kV interconnection with Albania. The Energy Newsletter, published by the Ministry of Economic Development, states that due to the closure of ‘Kosova A’, there will be a 37% shortage in energy supply. Nevertheless, this issue is set to be solved with the construction of ‘Kosova e Re’, in addition, the interconnection with Albania will provide a very good alternative also, as it could be used in terms of energy trade between the countries in times of need.
Since the declaration of independence, Kosovo imported electricity worth more than half a billion euros

Kosovo, the fifth largest lignite-reserve country in the world, since the declaration of independence, has imported electricity worth more than half a billion euros, as stated by the reports of the Energy Regulatory Office of the last ten years. According to MED, in 2023, after the closure of 'Kosova A', 23% of the local demand for electricity will be covered by renewable sources, 50% by 'Kosova B' power plant while the new power plant, 'Kosova e Re', will cover 37% of the demand, eliminating the need for import. Prices of electricity import remain unpredictable, according to the Ministry of Economic Development. Additionally, countries in the region have announced an increase of prices by 40%, due to the increasing prices of electricity in the stock market.

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ERO EXECUTIVE: KOSOVO A MUST CLOSE DOWN, THE COUNTRY IS RISKING ENERGY COLLAPSE

In absence of new generating capacities, after the closure of Kosovo A, Kosovo is risking energy collapse. This was stated by the executive director of the Energy Regulatory Office, Petrit Pepaj, during his speech at the conference organized by GAP Institute and the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies, held yesterday in Prishtina. Mr. Pepaj explains that after 14 years of ongoing discussion on new generating capacities, Kosovo still remains with the same unreliable ones. According to him, Kosovo A must close down, as many reports state the same, and these capacities need to be replaced to ensure security of supply, else, the country risks to undergo energy collapse. As for renewables, Mr. Pepaj wishes that every house has solar panels on rooftop however, this will not ensure security of supply. Reports of USAID explain that each year, Kosovo businesses loose more than 300 million euros, caused by the lack of electricity supply. During the last four years, Kosovo had imported electricity in the amount of 180 million euros. For a 10-year period, Kosovo imported electricity worth more than half a billion euros, reports state.

Kosnett: Energy security and modern infrastructure are vital to ensuring prosperity

The U.S. Ambassador in Kosovo, Philip S. Kosnett, after a visit to KEK and the mines has posted on Twitter. According to Kosnett, security of supply and modern infrastructure are vital to ensuring prosperity. ‘Alison and I toured the KEK Power Plant and Mine today. U.S. supports a diversified energy strategy for Kosovo including coal and renewables. Energy security and modern infrastructure are vital to ensuring prosperity’, Kosnett posted on Twitter.
Haradinaj: Serbia invests in power plants to generate electricity for Kosovo

Around 650 million euros of electricity was imported in post-war Kosovo, even though the country is considered world’s fifth lignite reserve, said Prime Minister Haradinaj during the oversight session at Kosovo Assembly regarding the New Kosovo Energy Company. According to him, the last investment in old and new coal-fired generating capacities in Kolubara in Serbia was only done so that there are enough energy capacities to export to Kosovo. Additionally, Haradinaj claims that there is an energy mafia that benefits from energy trade in Kosovo, and they wish to have the current capacities closed as well (Kosovo A and B). According to Bankwatch, Serbia leads the regional list of countries with announced coal-fired power plant projects with around 2500 megawatts planned, followed by Bosnia and Herzegovina with 2450 planned megawatts. In the latest energy transition conference, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia, Ivica Dacic, declared that it is Serbia’s priority to invest in coal infrastructure and power plants, to secure the necessary electricity supply for the upcoming decades.

Kosovo has so many reserves that it can supply Europe with coal for the next 500 years

Kosovo is rich in lignite and other minerals such as: coal, zinc, lead, silver and chromium. With 14,700 tons of lignite in reserves, Kosovo could supply Europe with lignite for the next 500 years. Its lignite reserves rank Kosovo as third in Europe and fifth in the world. Although most of Kosovo’s
In absence of new generating capacities, after the closure of Kosovo A, Kosovo is risking energy supply. Energy supply is seen as one of the pillars which drives the economic development organizes an open discussion on the "Central and South Eastern Europe Energy Connectivity" which is taking place in Bucharest. According to Haradinaj, Kosovo is ready to enter the European and Regional Market, however, he claimed that additional work has to be done in order to avoid obstacles in terms of bureaucratic and other procedures.

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Haradinaj: Kosovo has played a constructive role in the Energy Market

Prime Minister of Kosovo, Ramush Haradinaj, has called a meeting between all relevant energy actors in Kosovo, this meeting is an effort from Haradinaj in establishing inter-institutional cooperation for energy. Besides Haradinaj, Minister of Trade and Industry, Endrit Shala, representatives of KOSTT and ERO, representatives of the U.S. Embassy and KfW, were also present. The main topics discussed were the establishment of energy stability and the integration of renewable energy sources. Haradinaj stated that he is very happy with efforts for investment in the renewable energy sector, while underlining that Kosovo has fulfilled all its obligations in relation to the regional and European energy platforms. Haradinaj believes that Kosovo is natural resources remain unused, their large reserves provide a great potential for future developments, as the World Bank estimates. 

Public debt risking bringing Kosovo to the crisis, experts claim Kosovo should concentrate on projects with long-term benefits

The World Bank in Kosovo warned the government that the public debt in Kosovo by 2025 could reach up to 30% of gross domestic product, if the increase in current spending continues to exceed revenue growth. Kosovo’s total public debt at the end of last year had reached about 11 billion euros or 17% of GDP. From the total debt, according to a report by the Ministry of Finance, about 700 million euros is domestic and more than 400 million euros is international. Kosovo cannot be immune from the risk of the increasing external debt, states economic expert Naim Gashi. 'What I think is that public debt should be based on fiscal discipline and committed to a sustainable and transparent strategy for Kosovo including coal and renewables.'

According to Kosnett, security of supply and modern infrastructure are vital to ensuring prosperity worth more than half a billion euros, reports state. Kosnett posted on Twitter. In absence of new generating capacities, after the closure of Kosovo A, Kosovo is risking energy supply. Energy supply is seen as one of the pillars which drives the economic development.
strategy for Kosovo including coal and renewables. Energy security and modern infrastructure are vital to ensuring prosperity.

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In absence of new generating capacities, after the closure of Kosovo A, Kosovo is risking energy collapse. As for the implementation of the energy agreement by Serbia.

Haradinaj meets the CEO of KOSTT to discuss the implementation of the energy agreement with Serbia

Prime Minister Haradinaj has met with the head of KOSTT, Ilir Shala, demanding information on the position of Kosovo over the agreement with Serbia. "I have met Ilir Shala, the CEO of KOSTT in order to prepare for the 51st plenary session of the European Regional Group of ENTSO-e. Kosovo will have a unique opportunity to present its unfavorable position and to request the complete implementation of the energy agreement by Serbia.

The Government decides for expropriation in Shpitulla

The Government has approved the request of the Ministry of Environment regarding expropriation of immovable property affected by the implementation of the project for the expansion of coal mines, to be used for electricity generation. The Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning, Fatmir Matoshi, claims that based on the request by KEK, a decision needs to be taken regarding immovable property expropriation in the cadastral zone of Shpitulla.

Public debt risking bring—
Lluka discloses problems caused to Kosovo by Serbia

The Minister of Economic Development, Mr. Valdrin Lluka, attended the high-level ministerial meeting on the “Central and South Eastern Europe Energy Connectivity” which is taking place in Bucharest, Romania. Minister Lluka spoke before the Climate Actions and Energy Commissioner, Miguel Arias Cañete, Romania’s Minister of Energy, Anton Anton, Director General of the DG Energy in the European Commission, Dominique Ristori, and all those present, pointing out the problems posed to Kosovo by Serbia, which are preventing Kosovo’s connection to Europe and the region. Furthermore, he urged that the problem with Serbia, which is damaging Kosovo consumers with high prices, be solved as soon as possible. Also, he explained that Kosovo has taken concrete steps of merging the markets, and requested that Kosovo becomes an equal partner in the AIMS market. Finally, Minister Lluka stated that Kosovo’s inclusion would facilitate transition into a single European market.

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Energy market liberalization remains a big challenge in Kosovo. This was said by the Parliamentary Commission on Economic Development, Infrastructure, Trade, Industry and Regional Development during an open discussion on monitoring the implementation of the Law on Electrical Energy, with representatives of KOSTT, ERO and KEDS. The member of the Parliamentary Commission, Dardan Sejdiu, states that the Law on Electrical Energy, is not finalized properly. ‘The dynamics in the energy sector are slow and the fulfillment of expectations remains unsatisfactory. Market liberalization has not yet happened’, said Sejdiu during the discussion. Kadri Kadriu, deputy CEO at KOSTT, has agreed that the law is not being fully implemented. According to him, the secondary legislation gaps are filled but some issues require time to implement. ‘As for the opening of the energy market in Kosovo, there has been progress. The procedures to change the suppliers are in force but unfortunately, currently, only one supplier operates. We definitely need the balancing mechanism in order to open the market’, states Kadriu. Arber Krasniqi, KEDS and KESCO representative, asked for support from the Kosovo Assembly regarding reduction of losses. According to him, 1139 abusers of electricity have been registered only during 2018, but the legislative system has failed to provide results. Afrim Ajvazi from ERO explains that it was their goal to create preconditions to well-functioning open market. According to him, currently 13 generators operate in Kosovo and 27 additional ones are expected to enter the market.

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Prime Minister Haradinaj: There is an “energy mafia”, which has traded in Kosovo’s energy for over 20 years

When speaking of energy, Kosovo needs to become a producer, and not a consumer, like it was so far, Haradinaj explains during the parliamentary oversight session on the New Kosovo Energy Company. Kosovo has imported over 650 million euros of energy, mostly from Serbia. In case we lack local energy capacities, we will continue importing from our closest neighbor, which is Serbia again, according to Haradinaj. ‘In addition, I am also aware that there is an “energy mafia”, which has been trading energy in Kosovo, both in the national and international level. If we would listen to them, we would also close current facilities, with the sole purpose of increasing the volume of import’, he claimed.

Energy Contraband: Irregularities regarding energy import in Kosovo

Since the introduction of the 100 % tax by the Government of Kosovo towards Serbia, there have been issues regarding energy supply. The new tax meant that it will be impossible for Kosovo to import energy from Serbia, considering the price will double. Media have investigated the issues, and have found official data from Kosovo Customs stating that energy was imported from Slovenia. Nevertheless, the Ministry of Finance in Slovenia have stated that Kosovo has not imported energy from Slovenia, this leads many to believe that energy is being imported illegally from Serbia. KEDS and KOSTT have not disclosed much information regarding the issue, claiming that energy is only imported from HUPEX (Energy Exchange Market based in Hungary).

Lluka in USA urges support for the Faculty of Electrical Engineering

The energy sector in Kosovo will be seeing many developments and investments in the next decades, as such, new jobs and opportunities will be opened to the youngsters of Kosovo. Nevertheless, the Faculty of Electrical Engineering at the University of Prishtina has closed the Masters and PhD program due to the lack of cadres,
and now runs the risk of closing the Bachelor program as well. This has been identified as an issue for Kosovo, as a result, the Minister of Economic Development, Valdrin Lluka, has held meeting in Washington in order to resolve this issue. He met with the President of the American Councils for International Education, Mr. David Patton, Deputy Administrator of USAID, Alexander Sokolowski, and the USAID’s Director for Europe, Cristina Olive. Lluka asked for support in the re-vitalization of these programs, by creating new opportunities such as accreditation and distance learning.

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Tahiri: It is very logical for Kosovo to use its current energy sources

Besnik Tahiri, Advisor to the Prime Minister of Kosovo, has been a guest in a local interview with Interaktiv, where he discussed issues regarding Kosovo and its development. Tahiri stated that he has a very simple logic toward the energy projects, specifically the Kosova e Re’ power plant. He insisted that we have to use the resources we have, and especially since this is the biggest capital investment in Kosovo since the post-war era.

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Kosovo Energy Imports
2007 - 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>GENERAL VALUE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>45,161,222 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>51,513,458 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>46,256,119 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>39,664,332 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>54,677,311 €</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>45,440,668 €</td>
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<td>21,851,620 €</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>68,660,471 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>53,940,000 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**539,786,697 €**

Current and planned regional coal-fired energy generating capacities

- **Planned coal capacities / planned megawatts:**
- **Current coal-fired capacities / installed megawatts:**

![Graph showing current and planned regional coal-fired energy generating capacities]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Current Capacity (MW)</th>
<th>Planned Capacity (MW)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>2450</td>
<td>800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bosnia</td>
<td>1765</td>
<td>130</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>915</td>
<td>532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macedonia</td>
<td>4400</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
American giant General Electric is chosen as the successful bidder for the construction of Kosova e Re

ContourGlobal and the Government of Kosovo have announced that a consortium of General Electric ("GE") companies has been selected as the Preferred Bidder in the tender for the turn-key engineering, procurement and construction ("EPC") and Long-Term Maintenance ("LTM") contracts for ContourGlobal's Kosova e Re Power Plant Project. The news was confirmed by the Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer of ContourGlobal, Karl Schnadt, through a press release. Schnadt stated that: "This marks a key milestone in the development of the Kosova e Re project. We are delighted to move forward with such a world-class company". The news was also welcomed by the Minister of Economic Development, Valdrin Lluka, who was pleased that the bidder was chosen and that the project attracted a lot of demand in the market. "Kosova e Re" is set to become a pillar of economic development in Kosovo, as the security of energy still remains an issue for local households and businesses.

Pollution levels in Obiliq are expected to be normalized by 2023

Obiliq is currently one of the most polluted cities in Kosovo, and this is also confirmed by pollution parameters. Nevertheless, these pollution levels have decreased since 2013, due to investments made by KEK. However, ‘Kosova A’ and ‘Kosova B’, release an average of 2,500 kilograms of carbon dioxide per hour of megawatt produced, or about 5.5 million tons per year, and around 5 kilograms of sulfur oxide per megawatt produced. According to the Kosovo Energy Strategy, these values are set to be normalized by the year 2023. This is year will mark 1 year when ‘Kosova e Re’ starts its energy production operations, which is set to help the reduction of pollution immensely.

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The new power plant in accordance with all the international environmental criteria

The new Kosovo power plant will be built in accordance with the harshest environmental international standards. ‘Kosova e Re’ will decrease dust emissions by 93%, carbon dioxide emissions by up to 38%, sulfur dioxide by up to 85% and the NOx for about 93%. Moreover, the technology it uses is referred to as ‘best available technology – BAT’ and the type of the power plant is ‘ultra-super critical’, is said in the latest edition of the energy sector newsletter, published by the Ministry of Economic Development. The power plant also provides enough co-generation capacities for additional 20,000 consumers in Prishtina, Obiliq and Fushe Kosove.

Kosnett: ‘Kosova e Re’ will secure long-term stability in energy supply

‘Kosova e Re’ will secure long-term stability in energy supply, according to U.S. Ambassador Philip S. Kosnett. Ambassador Kosnett explains that U.S. is heavily involved in supporting the construction of new energy generating capacities and that the construction of the new power plant is vital for

State aid: A tool allowed by the EU for development and prosperity

State Aid is considered and accepted as a necessary tool to secure prosperity and economic development. The mechanism is fully based on the current EU legislation on state aid, and is a tool used by European countries to achieve objectives that are considered vital to the development of the country. The same reasoning was used in 2014, when the European Commission had approved state aid for the construction of the nuclear power plant ‘Hinkley Point C’ in UK, with an investment of 20 million Euros. In this case, the British Government had signed a Power Purchase Agreement for the next 40 years on a price of 97 British pounds (around 113 euros), and had offered state guarantees to secure the investment.

Eurostat: Kosovo with the lowest electricity price in Europe

Latest Eurostat statistics on energy prices in Europe suggest that the price of electricity in Kosovo is amongst the lowest in Europe, with only Ukraine having cheaper electricity prices than Kosovo in the list. Low electricity prices are seen
the energy sector of Kosovo, during a visit to KEK. Kosnett had also formerly stated that Kosova e Re will revolutionize the economy of Kosovo, during his speech at the Foreign Affairs Senate Committee, before his arrival to Kosovo. Additionally, while stating that he was disappointed with the decision of the World Bank to not support the project, Mathew Palmer, U.S. Deputy State Secretary for European Affairs, had said that the new power plant will secure the necessary energy for uninterrupted electricity supply and will have a positive impact to environment. Kosovo citizens consume a little over 2,000 kilowatts of energy per capita, even though the average, according to OECD statistics, are around 8 thousand kilowatts per capita. Only during the last ten years, reports of ERO state that Kosovo has imported more than half a billion euros of electricity.

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Minister Lluka: ‘Kosova e Re’ power plant will cover almost the half of the electricity demand in Kosovo

Minister of Economic Development Valdrin Lluka stated that the primary goal of building the ‘Kosova e Re’ power plant is to meet the needs for electricity in the country, to increase security of supply by creating a sustainable source of energy based on natural resources of the country of Kosovo, and by avoiding import dependence and the unpredictability of energy prices in the regional market. Lluka said that importing electricity is causing multiple negative effects. Lluka stated that Kosovo had imported energy worth 650 million euros and this has had a negative impact in country’s gross domestic product. Additionally, Kosovo businesses lose 330 million euros annually caused by unstable supply with electricity. Lluka added that the construction of the power plant, in addition to covering almost half of the electricity demand in Kosovo, will also be a long-term source of thermal energy for across the region, even though some of the countries in the region have announced the increase of electricity prices for up to 40%, stating the increase of electricity prices in the power exchange platforms as the main reason. Kosovo’s electricity prices are 18% cheaper than the ones in Serbia and 31% cheaper than the ones in North Macedonia. Compared to Slovenia, Kosovo’s electricity is 270% cheaper. Serbia’s power exchange SEEPEX’s data shows that the price stood at around EUR 50 per MWh at the beginning of the year, only to rise to nearly EUR 70 per MWh currently. Similar trends have also been seen on the Hungarian Power Exchange (HUPX), which is the benchmark power exchange for some countries in the region. It is expected that the prices will remain low, despite of all the planned investments in the energy sector in the country.

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Kosovo and Albania have the lowest energy consumption in the region

The Energy Agency has published its latest data on energy consumption in the region of the Balkans. According to the data, Kosovo and Albania are the lowest energy consumers in the region, with an average Kosovar consuming 2,500 kWh of electricity. Nevertheless, this increase is set to continue at an increasing rate during the upcoming years, with estimates predicting
central heating and will improve the social and environmental aspect.

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World Bank in support to renewable energy in Kosovo

Valdrin Lluka, Minister of Economic Development and Bedri Hamza, Minister of Finance, have both met with Cyril Muller, the President of World Bank for Europe and Asia. Valdrin Lluka stressed the importance of cooperation in the field of mining in Kosovo, especially with regard to the development of the Trepca magnate project, as the cooperation would secure credibility, transparency and competitiveness for the project. World Bank will support the development of procedures in providing renewable energy licenses via an open auction in Kosovo. IFC will also provide finance for the first 100 auctioned megawatts.

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Energy tariffs will not be changed this year

The Board of the Energy Regulatory Office (ERO) has met once again, where they discussed numerous issues regarding public and private stakeholders. The Board reviewed the tariffs for transmission, distribution and retail tariffs for the provision of universal service with electricity, and they have decided that tariffs will remain the same for this tariff year (April 1, 2019 - 31 March, 2020). This means that there will be no increase in energy tariffs, at least until March 31, 2020. Moreover, the Board also reviewed request from the Municipality of Gjakova regarding Thermal and Electricity Production Plant from Biomass, in addition, they also approved the request of private company "Enerco LLC" Sh.pk for obtaining the license for electricity supply.

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Haradinaj: We have bought millions of euros of energy from Serbia, "Kosova e Re" needs to be completed

Speaking on the preliminary statements of the MPs who emphasized the increase in energy prices after the construction of this power plant, Prime Minister Haradinaj said that the difference is that Kosovo will immediately start generating revenues, rather than making losses. Haradinaj also spoke about the purchase of electricity, which he said was taken from Serbia until now. ‘If we continue importing energy during the next years, we will of course import it from our closest neighbor, Serbia’, he said.

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KEK Director and his team plant trees around Kosova A

Director of the Kosovo Energy Corporation (KEK), Njazi Thaci, and his
100 Million EUR investment for alternative energy in Vushtrri

The Municipality of Vushtrri is set to be the latest beneficiary of a 100 Million EUR investment in the field of renewable energy. Mayor of this municipality, Xhafer Tahiri, confirmed that AkouEnergy is set to develop a 100 Million EUR project, which will concentrate on energy production from wind sources. Xhafer confirmed that they will sign a MOU very soon, and has informed the public that the project will take some time until its implementation.

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The Kosova e Re financing institution is identified

The construction of the large-scale project of Kosova e Re power plant shall start this year, but there are many ongoing critics regarding it. The project is also being opposed by World Bank, which had declared months ago that it will not finance part of the power plant that will cost 1.3 billion euros. The Government states that they have found the loan-provider for the project. Haki Shatri, an adviser to the Prime Minister of Kosovo states that the funds are secured via a loan from OPIC, yet, “it is still not public, because there are certain procedures to be followed prior, relating to interest rates, and other additional procedures.’ Shatri calls the decision of the World Bank to not support the project as very ‘ironic’. Hekuran Murati, a local independent economist states that Kosovo needs a new coal-fired power plant however, the current project needs to be terminated due to its costs. Because there was lack of expression of interest from other investors, maybe due to corruptive affairs or the long-dragging of the process, the state could make an investment on its own’, says Hekuran Murati. The construction of Kosova e Re power plant is expected to complete in 2023. The power plant will be owned by ContourGlobal for the next twenty years.

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Memorandum of Understanding for the organization of the Sustainable Development Week in Kosovo

The Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning that of Economic Development, in cooperation with the Special Representative of the European Union Office in Kosovo, the German Government, and the two civil society organizations in Kosovo, Balkan Green Foundation (BGF) and INDEP, have signed a memorandum of understating regarding the organization of the Sustainable Development Week in Kosovo. This event will be organized for the second time in Kosovo and will deal with topics related to environmental pollution, waste management, energy, and many other issues related to sustainable development.

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Minister Lluka: Forecasts on energy tariff increase, all speculations

In the parliamentary oversight session of Social-Democratic Party of Kosovo, regarding the establishment of the new energy enterprise of Kosovo, the Minister of Economic Development, Valdrin Lluka, states that the forecasts on the impact of the power plant to energy tariffs are speculative, as the construction and the financial costs of the project are still not known. Lluka explains that a team of experts are currently evaluating the two EPC offers that are received. Lluka again stated that Kosovo does not guarantee loans, like it was previously said by the civil society and the opposition. Kosovo guarantees the performance of related public enterprises. The Government of Kosovo is the sole authorized coal reseller in Kosovo. One of the guarantees that will soon undergo voting in the Assembly, will secure enough coal reserves, to then have them sold to ContourGlobal.
[Click here to read full article in Albanian.]

Delays in the ‘Kosova e Re’ power plant project, its constructor is still not selected

It was said that the construction of Kosova e Re power plant will start in the first part of the year and will end in 2023. Still, the project construction works have not begun. The ‘Kosova e Re’ power plant is considered Kosovo’s biggest foreign investment valued around 1.3 billion euros, and aims at bringing stability to energy issues in Kosovo. Minister of Economic Development, Valdrin Lluka, states that the awarded company ‘Contour Global’, is securing all the necessary means for the project implementation, despite of the World Bank withdrawal. According to Lluka, the project will be supported by the American OPIC and the Japanese state bank. MED states that the selection of the constructor has not been done yet. According to them, the project requires thorough evaluation. It is worth to mention that the power plant will increase energy prices. The Government of Kosovo and the contract awarded company

Kosovo’s GDP increases slightly

Kosovo Statistics Agency (ASK) has published data on GDP for the fourth quarter (Q4) of 2018, according to economic activities and access to current and constant cost expenditures. GDP in Q4 of 2018 marks a real increase of 3.8%, compared to Q4 of 2017. Real GDP growth by economic activity is as follows: financial and insurance activities 32.2%; supply of electricity, water and waste treatment 11.2%; construction 6.5%; wholesale and retail trade 6.1%; processing industry 5.0%; hotels and restaurants by 4.8%; agriculture, hunting, forestry 1.7%; real estate business 1.4%; transport and storage 1.0%. Meanwhile, according to the data, there was a real decline in: extractive industry (-15.3%); and public administration (-0.1%). According to the expenditure approach, GDP has increased in: the formation of gross capital by 9.2%; exports of goods and services by 7.2%; import of goods and services by 4.4%; final household consumption expenditure and non-profit institutions serving households (UPSHESH) by 2.3%; Government Consumption expenditures by 1.1%, compared to the same period of the previous year.
[Click here to read full article in Albanian.]

Air-pollution causes short life expectancy in Kosovo

Environment and the highly pollut-
‘Contour Global’ have agreed to have the targeted price per megawatt set to 80 euros. If the price exceeds the targeted amount, the Government of Kosovo may terminate the contract without any financial damage. ‘Kosova e Re’ power plant will reduce dust emissions by 93%, the carbon dioxide ones by 38%, the SOx by 85% and the NOx by 93%.

Ministry of Infrastructure and KOSTT sign a memorandum of understanding regarding new projects

The Minister of Infrastructure and Transport (MIT), Pal Lekaj, has informed over the recently signed Memorandum of Understanding with Ilir Shala, KOSTT executive, with regard to the extension of the electric network in regional roads and new highways, which are administered by MIT. Minister Lekaj said that the cooperation facilitates the implementation of projects of both institutions in timely manner in the benefit of citizens and infrastructure projects.

Ramush Haradinaj discusses energy and ‘Kosova e Re’ during interview

Ramush Haradinaj, Prime Minister of Kosovo, has been present in an interview with prominent investigative journalist, Jeta Xharra, with whom he discussed various issues regarding energy and ‘Kosova e Re’. Xharra confronted Haradinaj regarding the muting of microphones when ‘Kosova e Re’ was being discussed. Regarding this, Haradinaj said that this is normal because they were discussing potential financing options, thus information from OPIC and the Japanese State-Bank has to be protected. Xharra also asked Haradinaj regarding the issue of the energy price, and its expected increase with the construction of ‘Kosova e Re’. Nevertheless, Haradinaj said that the price will not
WB: Kosovo with the highest regional economic increase, shareholders require that financing is only available for green energy projects

World Bank Kosovo has presented the latest economic report regarding Western Balkans, according to which Kosovo has witnessed highest regional economic increase of 4.2% but yet, an increase in the numbers of unemployment and decrease of investments. World Bank states that the financing coal projects is made impossible by World Bank therefore, the bank aims at supporting renewable projects. “The decision was not taken on the basis of the project cost, it was a rather wider decision, from a broader point of view. The possibility to finance coal-based projects, meaning coal-fired power plants, has narrowed, because we are represented by a number of shareholders and most of them require that our funds that come from tax payers finance greener projects”, states Manto-vanelli, Director of the World Bank Kosovo.

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GAP presents the impact of state aid in the energy market

GAP Institute (a local thinktank), in cooperation with Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies organizes a roundtable on the recent report over

Balkan Green Foundation issues a new infographic suggesting an increase of electricity invoices by 92%, due to Kosova e Re

Balkan Green Foundation has just released another infographic on Kosova e Re in its social media pages. Full post: Do you know that a Kosovo family has so far paid 18.75 euros monthly for electricity, and the same will now pay 35.94 euros monthly, or 92% higher, in case Kosova e Re gets constructed? The average electricity consumption of a household in Kosovo is around 2500 – 5000 kWh annually, or 312.5 kWh monthly. The monthly bill represents a multiplication of an
the impact of state aid in the energy market in the Balkans. Unlike many EU countries, governments in the Western Balkans plan to extend coal-fired power plant projects in the coming years. Many of these countries risk to face harsh environmental, economic and legal consequences. Petrit Pepaj, managing director at the Energy Regulatory Office (ERO), stressed the importance of constructing new capacities for achieving electricity security in the country. ‘As for state aid, similar to the countries in the region, Kosovo is failing to absorb investments in the energy sector without purchasing guarantees’, said Pepaj. Sala Berisha - Shala, chair of the Parliamentary Committee on Economic Development, didn’t deny the presence of state aid in the contract but said the final assessment should come from the State Aid Commission, which will be operational soon.

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Lluka says construction of "Kosova e Re" is historic, PSD calls it a devastating project

During the Parliamentary oversight session regarding NKEC and ‘Kosova e Re’, Minister of Economic Development, Valdrin Lluka, stated that the construction of the New Kosovo power plant aims to meet the local demand for electricity and to avoid dependence on electricity imports from the region. He said this construction is a prerequisite to economic growth and development of the country. "The energy problem is premature and relates to the lack of investment in the country. Today the existing capacities are at the end of their cycle. Power generation faces problems as a result of obsolescence. The reliability of the existing system is small”, Lluka stated. He added that the construction of this power plant will mark the country's largest historic investment for energy. Deputies of the PSD, Visar Ymeri, on behalf of interpellation seekers, called the project destructive for Kosovo. "First, the parliament should ask the Government and MED to interrupt the actions taken with the registration of the new energy enterprise and not to enter into any contractual arrangements until the parliament does not receive the guarantee," Ymeri said.

average monthly consumption and the average monthly price. Today, the average monthly price is around 6 cents per kWh. After the construction of Kosova e Re, the average price is expected to reach 11.5 cents per kWh. How much does your household consume and what do you think of the impact of such an increase on the state budget of Kosovo?

Milaim Zeka (MP) supports Kosova e Re project, asks where did all the international funds for electricity go

Former MP of Nisma, current independent MP, Milaim Zeka, demands investigations regarding international funds and grants to energy sector since post-war Kosovo. Zeka claims that international institutions have spent around 800 million euros on power plants and energy sector in Kosovo and despite of this, Kosovo lacks electricity. Zeka declared to be in favor to the project.

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Construction of ‘Kosova e Re’ power plant is vital

In his interpellation in the Kosovo Parliament, Lluka said that the construction of the New Kosovo power plant is vital. He said this construction is a prerequisite for economic growth and development of the country. He said that the construction of the New Kosovo power plant, in addition to covering almost half of the electricity demand in Kosovo, will be a long-term source of thermal energy for central heating. We know that the Government of Kosovo on December 20th 2017 signed the agreement for the construction of the new power plant Kosova e Re.

‘Kosova e Re’ power plant will stop energy imports

Minister of Economic Development, Valdrin Lluka, was present at the International Fair “Prishtina 2019”, organized by the Kosovo Chamber of Commerce (KCC), in cooperation with the Government of Kosovo. During the conference, Lluka emphasized that the construction of “Kosova e Re” will eliminate the need for energy imports. Furthermore, Lluka claimed that as a result of issues with energy supply, businesses in Kosovo lose about 300 Million euros in a year. Nevertheless, he claims that the construction of “Kosova e Re” will eradicate these issues.

Konjufca (MP / Vetevendosje): “Kosova e Re” will cost Kosovo around 5-6 Billion EUR

Head of the Vetevendosje Parliamentary Group, Glauk Konjufca, has said the contract for the construction of ‘Kosova e Re’ could be considered as basis to the most hurtful project. ‘Kosova e Re’ will go down in history as the most criminalized economic project to date. The terms and agreement associated with the project will be more hurtful than those in the Kosovo-Albania highway project. Fraud has already been done in this project, and there will be consequences for the next 20 years’, Konjufca said. According to Vetevendosje, until 2043, Kosovo will pay 6 billion euros for Kosova e Re power plant.

Minister Lluka provides answers to MPs regarding ‘Kosova e Re’

During the Parliamentary Oversight Session on the new public energy enterprise of Kosovo (NKEC), Valdrin Lluka pledged transparency to MPs regarding the project of ‘Kosova e Re’. According to Lluka, the principle goal of the new energy enterprise is to oversee the construction of the ‘Kosova e Re’ power plant and to approve all reports coming from an independent engineer, that will be employed by the Government of Kosovo. Lluka also states that Kosovo and its Assembly do not guarantee any loans for the project. The only guarantees Kosovo provides are with regard to the obligations and the liabilities of the public companies towards the new power plant.

PSD (Social-Democratic Party): The new energy enterprise serves Contour-Global

According to Visar Ymeri from Social-Democratic Party (formerly President of Vetevendosje), the new Kosovo energy enterprise has only one mission, to purchase all the electricity generated by ‘Kosova e Re’ power plant. Ymeri states that NKEC will mainly serve the needs of
Kosova e Re power plant, as it acts as an intermediary between ContourGlobal and the energy market in Kosovo. Additionally, Ymeri claims that a lot of damages will be done to Kosovo B, which also risks bankruptcy. Ymeri has listed the two proposed demands for voting in the Assembly, constituting a resolution regarding the new energy enterprise of Kosovo.

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Without the new power plant Kosovo lacks 37% of its electricity needs

Only during 2017, Kosovo, the fifth lignite reserve country in the world, imported 22% of its electricity to cover for the local electricity demand. This amount of energy costed not less than 70 million euros. Reports of ERO state that the values of the imported energy during the last decade are higher than half a billion euros. In 2017, 43% of the demand for electricity was covered by ‘Kosova B’ power plant, 32 by ‘Kosova A’ and only 3% by renewable energy sources. According to the energy strategy, in 2023 Kosovo A will be decommissioned and it will be substituted with the new ecological ‘Kosova e Re’ power plant, that will bring stable sources for regular supply with electricity. The country also intends to rehabilitate ‘Kosova B’ power plant and to increase the capacities by renewable energy sources by 23%. Without ‘Kosova e Re’, around 37% of the domestic needs for electricity remain uncovered therefore, ‘it is vital to have the Kosova e Re project implemented to cover the gap’, is stated in the newsletter.

Security of energy supply, still an issue for Kosovo

During the recent years, Kosovo has been facing numerous issues when it comes to reliable energy supply. Energy supply is seen as one of the pillars which drives the economic development of a country. Nevertheless, these issues are set to be removed with the introduction of ‘Kosova e Re’, and the functionalization of the 400 kV interconnection with Albania. The Energy Newsletter, published by the Ministry of Economic Development, states that due to the closure of ‘Kosova A’, there will be a 37% shortage in energy supply. Nevertheless, this issue is set to be solved with the construction of ‘Kosova e Re’, in addition, the interconnection with Albania will provide a very good alternative also, as it could be used in terms of energy trade between the countries in times of need.
KEDS announce that they will invest 3 million Euros in Drenas

KEDS has announced 30 new project, worth 3 Million Euros, in the Municipality of Drenas. This has been confirmed by the General Director of KEDS, Alper Erbas, during a meeting with the mayor of Drenas Ramiz Lladrovci. Lladrovci was very happy with the announced projects, he also reaffirmed KEDS that the Municipality will aid them in any possible way during the realization of these projects, 25 of which are already in the bidding phase. It is estimated that 3000 households and businesses will benefit directly from this project, meaning that about 15,000 citizens will have much more quality energy supply, with minimized interruptions.  

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KEDS starts cooperation with the Municipality of Gjilan, in terms of energy efficiency

Mayor of Gjilan, Lutfi Haziri, has organized a meeting with KEDS Director, Alper Erbas, and officials of both institutions were present. The main reason for this meeting was to establish cooperation between the Municipality and KEDS, in terms of increasing energy efficiency. Mayor Haziri stated that the Municipality he leads is working towards numerous project with KEDS, which have the aim of improving energy supply and quality for its citizens. On the other hand, KEDS Director Alper Erbas, said that KEDS will be oriented towards providing regular supply of electricity with projects in digitalization, efficiency, joint-investment community projects, and others.  

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An internal problem at a NATO army base disrupts electricity supply in the surrounding villages of Ferizaj

Six villages of Ferizaj are facing electricity cuts since Tuesday morning, caused by an internal problem at a NATO army base. Citizens also complain over the existing old distribution network, which is sensitive even to minor weather changes. They also complain on the lack of water supply, which is caused by the lack of electricity. ‘The damage was identified by the teams of KEDS. It is inside a NATO / KFOR basis of Bondsteel. Due to security reasons, strict procedures need to take place to allow entrance to KEDS teams. The problem is expected to be fixed during Wednesday morning’, states Buzhala, spokesperson of KEDS.  

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KEDS builds a new network for over 10 villages in the region of Peja

KEDS has continued their investment activities in the territory of the Republic of Kosovo. The most recent investment was done in the region of Peja. KEDS informs that with the construction of the new high-voltage line with five connection hubs is in the benefit of tens of villages in the
region of Peja, while additional separate lines are created for businesses. These lines have improved the distribution network and facilitate the operation of many businesses located in the region. With the new investments in place, 1500 families will benefit from a better-quality electricity.

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**Numerous villages in Ferizaj have complained to the Assembly and KEK due to energy issues**

A total of six villages, which are located around the Municipality of Ferizaj, have submitted an official complaint towards the Kosovo Assembly and KEK regarding issues that they face in terms of energy supply. The representatives of the villages claim that the energy situation in the region is very bad, and they have claimed that in instances of rainfall and snow, they always face outages as a result of the bad network grid. Consequently, they requested to increase the system capacity from 10 kilovolt to 20 kilovolt, if the opposite happens, they warn that they will organize protests.

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**KEDS to invest in 6 villages of the Municipality of Malisheva**

The Mayor of Malisheva, Ragip Begaj, welcomed in a meeting, the Chief Executive Officer of KEDS, Alper Erbas and his team composed of Avni Alidemaj, Executive Advisor in Government Relations, and Acting Director for the District of Gjakova, Kreshnik Sokol. The reason for this meeting was to discuss developments and future investment in the energy sector in the Municipality of Malisheva. Considering the number of inhabitants and demand for energy, the Mayor requested for KEDS to set up a 110 kW power substation. On the other hand, chief executive of KEDS, Alper Erbas, said that they have invested more than two million euros in the energy sector of Malisheva. In addition, he claimed that the investments will continue in this region of the country, all which will be done in cooperation with the Municipality.

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**South Mitrovica, Skenderaj, and North Mitrovica remain without water supply due to electricity debts**

The regional water supply company ‘Mitrovica’ has informed that it has stopped the water treatment facility in Shipol due to unpaid electricity bills, leaving citizens of Mitrovica South, Skenderaj and Mitrovica North without water supply. The Company also informs that it is impossible to cover the unpaid electricity bills, due to the accumulated debt of consumers in North Mitrovica regarding water supply, which exceeds 13 million euros. According to the water supply company, over the last 20 years, North Mitrovica, a region populated by ethnic Serbs, was
supplied with water by Shipol, however, the financial compensation for the service has never taken place.

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Three municipalities left without electricity due to strong winds

The municipalities of Ferizaj, Mitrovica, and Gjilan faced issues regarding energy, these issues were caused due to the strong winds which were present yesterday. Around 15 villages across these three municipalities were left without electricity. According to KEDS, specialized teams have been mobilized, and all affect areas were visited. KEDS has not informed whether the issues were resolved, however they asked citizens to report any breakdown which might happen during the next days.

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Peja firefighter left have no electricity due to the municipalities debt towards KEDS

Firefighters in Peja have had no electricity for three days, as a result of unpaid debt towards KEDS. The firefighters unit in Peja has been operating on small generators. The Municipality of Peja and especially the Directorate for Emergency and Rescue, according to Jeton Abazaj, Firefighter have complained that the work conditions are making it impossible for them to function properly. On the other hand, KEDS Spokesperson Viktor Buzhala, has claimed that the energy was cut due to unpaid debts of around 6000 Euros, which have been accumulated across time.

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As Balkans sit in EU's waiting room, China gets to work

Chinese infrastructure investment in the Western Balkans has jumped in recent years, making the EU worry about Beijing's influence just outside its borders. From coal plants to airports and bridges, China is forking out for investments across the Western Balkans, laying groundwork for a new battle for influence on the European Union's fringe. The EU accounts for more than 70 percent of overall direct investment in the region -- an area spanning Serbia, Bosnia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Albania and Kosovo -- far above the one percent contributed by China, according to European Commission figures. But China has in the past six years leapt forward in infrastructure-related spending, rivalling the sums spent by the EU, and is otherwise making a noticeable impact. As a gateway to southern Europe, the Balkans form a key link in Beijing's "Belt and Road" project, a $1-trillion plan to pave a path for its exports to Europe and beyond. But the massive concessional loans used to fund much of the building have drawn scrutiny in Brussels. EU enlargement commissioner Johannes Hahn, told AFP there are "concerns over the socioeconomic and financial effects some of China's investments can have". The Belt and Road projects will be centre stage at the annual "16+1" summit in Dubrovnik on Friday bringing together leaders from Beijing plus 16 eastern European countries. With less access to EU funding, the poorer Balkan countries are "not in a position to be turning money away", explained Matt Ferchen, a China specialist at the Carnegie–Tsinghua Center for Global Policy. China is also funding the expansion of coal-fired energy plants, bucking an EU trend away from fossil fuels. Bosnian lawmakers are now under fire for approving a state guarantee this month for a 614-million-euro Chinese bank loan to upgrade a coal-fired power plant in Tuzla.

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Serbia constructs a port for the needs of the new coal-fired power plant B3, Serbia's new 350 megawatt power plant, will begin production by the end of 2020. Moreover, according to Serbia's energy strategy, they plan to build new lignite capacities with a total generation capacity of 500 megawatts.

Serbia has joined the new trend between Balkan countries, mainly that of constructing new lignite power plants. This was confirmed by the Serbian Energy Minister, who said that Kostolac lignite power plant, the world's largest, is likely to be declared a national interest to develop new capacities.

Bosnia has announced yet another lignite-based project. Members of the Parliament in Bosnia and Herzegovina approved a new lignite power plant in Tuzla. The project is designed to produce 1350 megawatts of electricity.

Coal is the main source for electricity generation in Serbia. In the recent conference on energy transition in Berlin, adding that the country produces just 20 percent of the energy it consumes. Serbia facing energy challenges, FM Dacic says that Serbia is looking into every project which can secure energy transition which will allow the use of clean technologies and renewable sources which requires huge funds.

Kosovo is also facing energy challenges. Kosovo's current account deficit is projected to rise to 10.5% of GDP in 2019, from 8.3% in 2018, according to the report. The Fund expects Kosovo's annual average consumer price inflation is seen at 0.6% in 2019, down from 2.9% in 2018. The average inflation is forecast at 2.4% in 2020.

In the past, China has often helped neighboring countries with infrastructure and other projects, and now it is seeking to do the same in the Western Balkans. In a new battle for influence on the European Union's fringe, China gets to work.

As Balkans sit in EU's waiting room, China gets to work.
Serbia constructs a port for the needs of the new Kostolac power plant

With the help of China, Serbia has constructed a new port to serve the reconstructed units of Kostolac B power plant (Kostolac B1, Kostolac B2), and the newly constructed power plant Kostolac B3, expected to start generation by 2020. With the help of the new river port, Serbia plans to transport 157,000 tonnes of ash and 105,000 tonnes of gypsum through the port annually, as well as to deliver limestone, EPS said. According to Bankwatch, in the Western Balkans region, Serbia leads with the number of announced projects of coal-fired power plants, with around 2500 planned megawatts, followed by Bosnia and Herzegovina, with 2450 planned megawatts. Coal is the main source for electricity generation in Serbia. In the recent conference on energy transition, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia, Ivica Dacic, declared that Serbia’s priority is investing in coal and power plants infrastructure, in order to secure enough energy capacities for the coming decades.

Albania to terminate 17 concession contracts for hydropower projects

Albania’s Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy has found 9 more cases of contract violations during its review of concession agreements for hydropower plants (HPPs). This amounts to 17 concession deals the ministry has started severing, the ministry said on its website. The ministry did not reveal the names of investors in question, the location of the HPPs, or their size. According to local media, the 17 agreements include many on small hydropower plants (SHPPs). The revision of hydropower projects has started in line with a decision adopted by the ministry at the end of January. A week earlier, Belinda Balluku stepped in as the new minister. At the beginning of February, she announced a moratorium on new HPPs and launched an investigation into 182 licenses issued to build 440 HPPs, most of that small HPP. The investors holding the concessions most often failed to meet procedural deadlines and to comply with the legal conditions and criteria defined by the contracts and permits, Deputy Minister of Infrastructure and Energy Hantin Bonati said, according to a statement published on the ministry’s website.

Serbia facing energy challenges, FM Dacic says

Serbia is facing a number of energy-supply challenges, Foreign Minister Ivica Dacic said at a gathering on energy transition in Berlin, adding that the country produces just 20 percent of the natural gas it needs. Dacic said that Serbia has just one limited capacity input line through Hungary which gives rise to concerns about the announced possible break in gas supplies from the Ukraine. According to the Foreign Minister, Serbia is looking into every project which can secure stable fuel supplies, primarily natural gas, including projects which would make it a transit country. He said gas supply infrastructure has to be built across the country and interconnections secured with neighboring countries. Political differences should not obstruct projects which
benefit a number of countries in the region, he said and added that an end to the Southern Flow project would be bad for both Serbia and the region. The Foreign Minister said Serbia is forced to use coal and other fossil fuels because it lacks gas. Serbia’s strategic priority is an energy transition which will allow the use of clean technologies and renewable sources which requires huge funds.

IMF raises Kosovo’s 2019 GDP growth forecast to 4.2%

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said on Tuesday it expects Kosovo’s economy to expand by a real 4.2% in 2019, up from 4.0% growth it projected in October. Kosovo’s gross domestic product (GDP) is expected to grow by 4.0% in 2020 and 2024 each, the IMF said in its April 2019 World Economic Outlook report. Kosovo's economy expanded by an estimated 4.0% in 2018, according to the report. The Fund expects Kosovo's annual average consumer price inflation is seen at 0.6% in 2019, down from 2.9% in 2018. The average inflation is forecast at 2.4% in 2020. Kosovo's current account deficit is projected to rise to 10.5% of GDP in 2019, from 8.3% in 2018, the IMF said. The current account deficit is forecast at 10.1% and 8.0% of GDP in 2020 and 2024, respectively.

Bosnian Parliament approves the new lignite power plant

Bosnia has announced yet another lignite-based project. Members of the Parliament in Bosnia and Herzegovina have approved the loan guarantee from China for the construction of a new power plant in Tuzla. Even though the project faced backlash from the EU and the Energy Secretariat, Bosnia is still going through with the project. This project is the largest investment after the war, and will be built by China Gezhouba Group and Guandong Electric Power Design. China will be engaged in projects worth 3.8 Billion in Bosnia, and other numerous projects of the same kind in Serbia.

Serbia plans to complete the construction of a new power plant by 2020

Serbia has joined the new trend between Balkan countries, mainly that of constructing new lignite power plants. This was confirmed by the Serbian Energy Minister, who said that Kostolac B3, Serbia's new 350 megawatt power plant, will begin production by the end of 2020. Moreover, according to Serbia's energy strategy, they plan to build new lignite capacities with a total capacity of 2400 megawatts. With this policy, Serbia aims to become the regional leader in energy, with other countries like Greece, Bosnia & Hercegovina, and even Poland joining the bandwagon. On the other, Kosovo has also announced the construction of lignite-based generation capacities of 500 megawatts.

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