



Concept and Syllabus presentation

Organized by

Under the auspices of

The Ministry of Energy of Cyprus

April 16-19, 2026 - Nicosia, Cyprus

Academy General Information

Organizers	: Greek Energy Forum & University of Nicosia - School of Law
Dates	: 16-19 April 2026
Duration	: 4 days
Location	: Nicosia, Cyprus
Venue	: University of Nicosia
Lecturers	: 20
Delegates	: 40
Guests	: 15

About the Organizers

The Greek Energy Forum founded and headquartered in London since 2013 and currently featuring branch offices in Brussels, Athens, Nicosia, Dubai, and Washington DC is an international energy think tank consisting of Greek energy professionals holding international corporate posts and sharing a common interest in the broader energy industry in Greece and Southeastern Europe. The members of the Greek Energy Forum hold international corporate posts and their expertise spans across the energy industry spectrum, benefiting the Greek Energy Forum with a multi-disciplinary skill set and a holistic approach to its field.

The School of Law of the University of Nicosia holds more than 25 years of experience in the provision of a top-tier legal education, and can be credited with a number of firsts in the region, including awarding the first Law degrees in Cyprus. It offers a series of innovative courses and legal programmes that facilitate access to the legal profession internationally, designed to help students gain a competitive edge in a prestigious selection of professional careers, as advocates, judges, legal consultants, in-house counsel, managers in private and multinational corporations, and public officials, amidst the multitude of career paths that a Law degree provides.

The University of Nicosia ranks among the top universities worldwide in six subject areas in 2026, among them ranking at #38 for Business and Economics in the European Union, and among the 176-200 top universities globally. The University of Nicosia is a member of the European Universities Association (EUA), the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU), the Network of Universities of Small Countries and Territories (NUSCT) and is one of a few universities in the European Union that has received both the Diploma Supplement Label and the ECTS Label.

Description & Purpose

The objective of the Energy Union Future Leaders Academy program is to identify high-calibre university students and young professionals with proven, genuine interest in the energy sector and educate them on key elements of the EU's energy Union, security and transition policies.

Our purpose is to offer these promising young individuals an intensive, challenging and rewarding course on the *structure* that makes EU's Energy Union an essential part of the European Union. During the course of the Academy we examine the fundamental principles that shape Europe's energy union, security and transition, we analyse the benefits, evaluate the goals, identify the vulnerabilities, and suggest improvements for EU's energy policies and for the ways they correlate with energy policies in EU's neighbouring regions.

The Academy aspires to create a recurring, small, but valuable core of young energy experts equipped with specialized knowledge to understand, defend, promote, and enrich the EU's path towards a successful energy future.

The academic program consists of five sessions covering five vital EU energy policy areas: Energy Security & Solidarity, the Internal Energy Market, Energy Transition, Energy Investments, and Future Energy Technologies.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the key structural elements of core EU energy policies.
- Evaluate the drives behind each of the core policy areas.
- Review the critique and vulnerabilities of these policies.
- Analyse the benefits for the member states and EU's neighbouring countries.
- Explore alternative policies for the EU's energy objectives.
- Identify the critical benchmarks that determine the future of EU's energy sector.
- Develop a mindset for innovative, out-of-the-box problem-solving for the energy sector.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the Academy program delegates will be able to:

- Master specialized knowledge on the function and development of core EU's energy policy areas.

- Defend and promote the core energy union, security and transition policies of the EU.
- Recognize turning points and benchmarks in the future of the energy sector in Europe and its broader neighbourhood.
- Contribute to the development of corporate or public-policy level action plans affected by EU's core energy transition policies.

Sessions Structure

- Lectures

Each session starts with four back-to-back lectures with a duration of 30 minutes each. The four lectures in each session cover four different aspects of the session's head issue. Lectures are conducted by industry executives, academics and policy makers.

- Debate

After the lectures, a debate takes place between different teams of delegates coached by the lecturers. The teams are assigned to defend or attack certain aspects of the issue presented in the session. The subject of the debate, the teams and the offence-defence sides are assigned two weeks before the Academy program starts, in order for the delegates to prepare accordingly.

- Discussion

Following the debate, an open 30-minute discussion between the lecturers and the delegates takes place. During the discussion, all the issues arising from the debate as well as the lectures are evaluated and analysed.

- Workshop

The delegates work in small teams in order to produce a short paper on the issues presented, debated and discussed during the session. During the 60-minute workshop the groups of delegates need to construct the basic framework of their paper. The full body of the paper is delivered within a period of two weeks after the end of the Academy program.

- Networking

At the end of each session there is a networking meeting where the delegates get to meet and talk with the lecturers of the session. Delegates also have a 10-minute interview and discussion with one of the lecturers of their choice where they get the opportunity to present themselves, their work and interests.

Course Policies and Deadlines

- Delegates

The delegates selected to participate in the Academy are expected to participate in a total of 10 hours of lectures and 5 hours of group work during the course of the Academy in order to successfully complete the program.

Before attending the Academy, all delegates are expected to study and prepare arguments on the subject of the debate for each of the four sessions of the program. The subject of each debate will be sent to each delegate two weeks before the start of the program.

Two weeks after the conclusion of the program, delegates are expected to submit the final texts for the papers they prepared during the course of the workshops for sessions of the Academy. Delegates who successfully complete the program are awarded an Academy Certificate from GEF.

- Guest Students:

Guest students are expected to have followed a minimum of 8 out of 10 hours of lectures in order to receive an Attendance Verification from the Academy. They can attend but not participate in the debates but are encouraged to actively participate in the discussion section of each session. They cannot participate in the workshops and interview sections of the Academy.

Reading Material

- Before attending the Academy, delegates will receive a bibliography list including scientific articles, books and internet sources relevant to the subjects taught in each of the lectures during the five sessions of the Academy.
- During the course, delegates will have access to notes for all the lectures in each session.
- Upon successful completion of the Academy program, delegates gain access to GEF's publication material including sector analysis, articles, interviews and speeches from various GEF's conferences.

Learning & Study Hours

Lectures : 10 hours

Group work : 5 hours

Self-study : 20 hours

Lectures

Session 1 – Energy Security & Solidarity

- Lecture A: Security of supply & regional cooperation through electricity interconnectors
- Lecture B: Security of supply in the oil & gas sector in Europe
- Lecture C: Security of supply in Renewable Energy Sources
- Lecture D: Geopolitical challenges and cooperation in the European energy sector and beyond.

Session 2 - Internal Energy Market

- Lecture A: Key legislation elements of the internal energy market
- Lecture B: Regulation of energy wholesale markets, Exchanges, and price formation
- Lecture C: Energy consumer protection, participation and information policies
- Lecture D: Interconnection and adaptation of electricity and gases networks

Session 3 – Energy transition

- Lecture A: The evolution and future of the EU Green Deal and its follow-up policies
- Lecture B: Energy intensity, efficiency, and RES shares, in the EU industry sector
- Lecture C: Renewable gases and their position in the system
- Lecture D: Smart grids, renewable networks, energy & carbon storage

Session 4 – Energy Investments & Financing

- Lecture A: Financing interconnectors: Long-term returns and cross-border risk allocation
- Lecture B: Financing batteries and RES: Revenue models, market exposure and technology risks.
- Lecture C: Financing new energy technologies: From pilot projects to scalable business models
- Lecture D: New financial instruments: Blended finance, guarantees and risk-sharing mechanisms.

Session 5 – The Future of Energy

- Lecture A: The future of storage, green energy and sustainability in Europe
- Lecture B: The future of transportation & distribution networks in Europe and its neighbours
- Lecture C: The future of energy markets and trading in Europe
- Lecture D: The future of energy technology and innovation in Europe: nuclear, AI and data centres.