

Midi de l'Europe Seminar
Citizen Participation in the Energy Transition: What Role for the EU?

1 March 2018 – from 13.00 – 15.00

In 2020, the European Union should easily meet its climate and energy objectives. Looking to the future, new objectives have already been adopted for 2030 and the energy system will continue to develop decentralized renewable energy sources.

As a result of these developments, local, citizen and community initiatives seeking to accelerate the energy transition have emerged. These include renewable energy sources cooperatives (rescoops).

In 2015, the European Commission invited local authorities to sign the so-called Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, which aims to foster local authority participation in the energy transition. More recently, the Commission's 2016 Clean Energy Package recognized the role of such community-based energy projects at EU level for the first time.¹

This *Midi de l'Europe* seminar will discuss this shift in the Commission's energy policy and will examine the EU measures that actually support community-based initiatives.

Speakers:

- **Thomas Pellerin-Carlin**, Research fellow – European Energy, Notre Europe Institut Jacques Delors. Mr. Pellerin-Carlin will present the objectives of the Clean Energy Package, with an emphasis on the role of citizens.
- **Frédéric Boyer**, Head of Office, Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy. Mr. Boyer will present the Covenant of Mayors and discuss how local authorities can empower citizens in the energy transition.
- **Dirk Vansintjan**, Rescoop Europe, Director. Mr. Vansintjan will present 'rescoops' and assess the EU's support in developing community-based initiatives and citizen empowerment.

Chair: Loïc Cobut, PhD candidate, Université Saint-Louis, Bruxelles.

¹ REScoop.eu, December 2016 Newsletter, Berchem (Belgium), 2016, URL: [http://us5.campaign-archive1.com/?u=ab414822be321923ab544d8ca&id=85bc1ddfe2&e=\[UNIQID\]](http://us5.campaign-archive1.com/?u=ab414822be321923ab544d8ca&id=85bc1ddfe2&e=[UNIQID])