

**PROCEDURAL ACT No 2023/01/MC-EnC
OF THE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL OF THE ENERGY COMMUNITY
ON THE SEAT OF THE GAS FORUM OF THE ENERGY COMMUNITY**

The Ministerial Council of the Energy Community,

Having regard to the Treaty on Establishing the Energy Community and in particular Articles 66, 82 and 87 thereof.

Having regard to the Energy Community Ministerial Conclusions of 29 June 2007 which determined that the Gas Forum of the Energy Community shall meet in Maribor, Slovenia and instructed the Permanent High Level Group to adopt a Procedural Act setting out the practical arrangements for its organisation.

Pursuant to Article 1 of Procedural Act 2007/03/2/PHLG-EnC of 17 October 2007 on the seat of the Gas Forum, the Energy Community Secretariat was to cooperate on practical arrangements for the organisation of the Forum with the competent Slovenian authorities while consulting the Presidency and the Vice-Presidency. Whereas the Ministerial Council concluded on 15 December 2022 that it is desirable that the Gas Forum of the Energy Community meets in Ukraine as from 2023, or as soon as conditions will allow, in recognition of Ukraine's importance for Europe's energy security, in particular its further integration of its gas market and systems, including for decarbonized gases and hydrogen. The Ministerial Council invited the Secretariat and the European Commission to make the necessary arrangements to this end.

Having regard to the expression of solidarity by the Slovenian authorities with Ukraine and their offer to cede the location of the Gas Forum to the benefit of Ukraine.

Taking into account that the Gas Forum will start meeting in Ukraine as soon as conditions allow and until then, it shall meet in Vienna.

Upon proposal by the Energy Community Secretariat,

HAS ADOPTED THIS PROCEDURAL ACT:

ARTICLE 1

1. The Energy Community Gas Forum shall be held in Ukraine as soon as conditions will allow. The conditions shall be assessed by the Energy Community Secretariat in cooperation with Ukraine, the Presidency and the Vice-Presidency in due time before the envisaged date of the respective meeting of the Gas Forum.
2. Until conditions allow for the Gas Forum to take place in Ukraine, it shall take place in Vienna, Austria.

ARTICLE 2

The Energy Community Secretariat shall undertake the necessary steps for the practical set-up of the Gas Forum in cooperation with the competent Ukrainian authorities and in consultation with the Presidency and the Vice-Presidency.

ARTICLE 3

The host will ensure that representatives of all Contracting Parties can attend the meetings.

ARTICLE 4

This Procedural Act enters into force on the day of its adoption.

Done in Vienna on 14 December 2023

For the Ministerial Council

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "E. King", written over a horizontal line.

Presidency