

# MED & Italian Energy Report 2023

Presentation of the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Report

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# Outline

## ○ The present «black dialogue» ...

- The uneven allocation of fossil resources and flows
- Energy commodities from and across the Mediterranean
- The energy consequences of the Russo-Ukrainian war
- Strengthening the «black dialogue»: the Italian case
- The role of LNG as «game changer»
- Estimating the geopolitical stability of a country: the WGI index

## ○ ... and the transition for a future «green dialogue»

- The change of priorities in the energy attributes
- The needed transition towards renewables
- A new dependency: the Critical Raw Materials
- Counteracting the new dependencies: the EU CRM Act
- Energy & Economics: some open issues in the Mediterranean
- The need for a Multicommodity energy system
- Energy Commodity Chains (ECCs) as a tool to compare alternative pathways
- Technologies for the energy transition
- A glance at the future ENEMED web-integrated platform

## ○ Conclusions

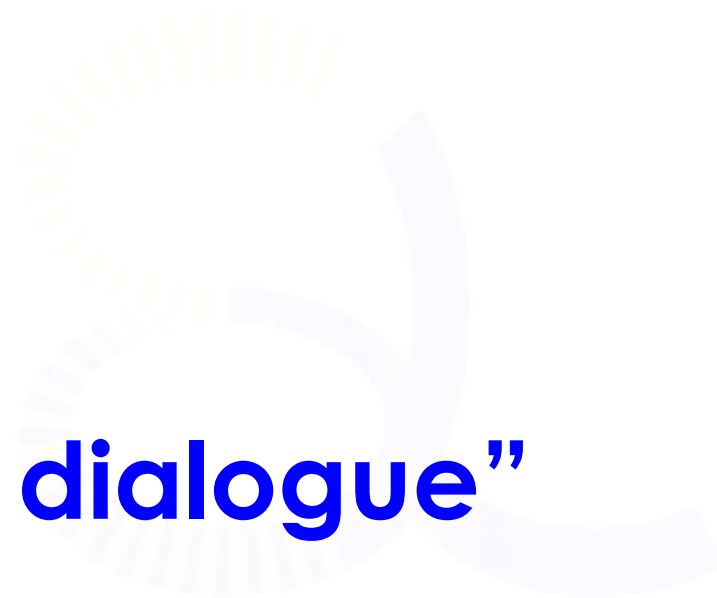


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# The present “black dialogue”



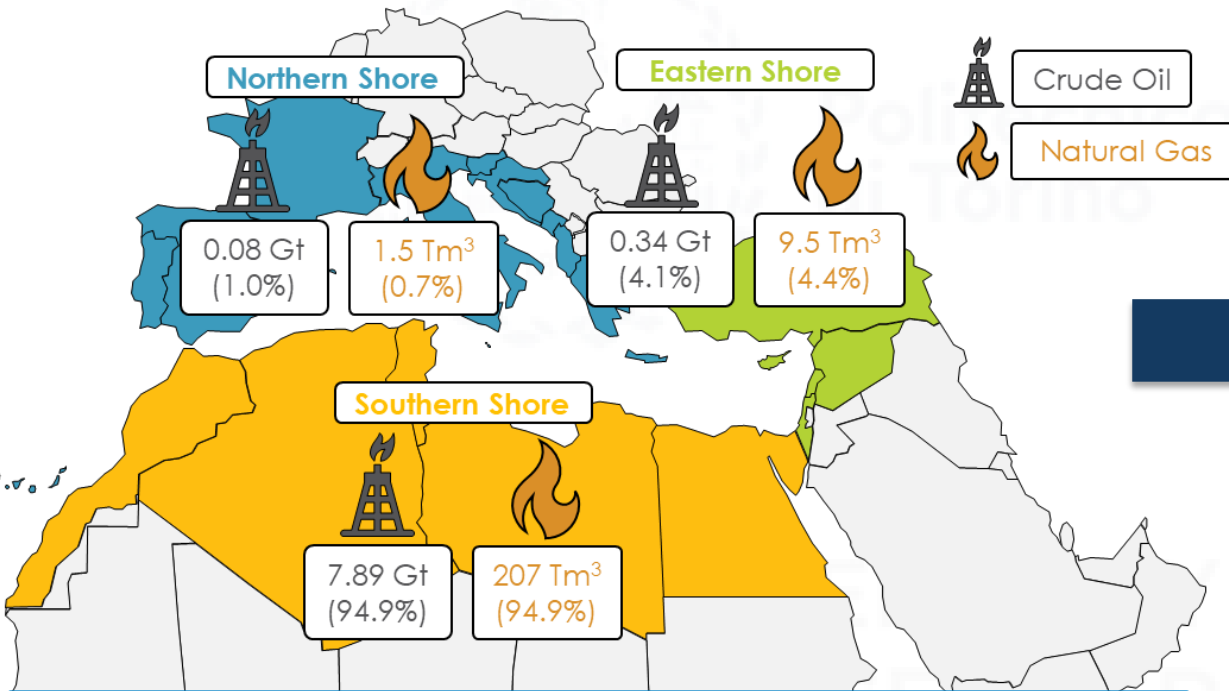
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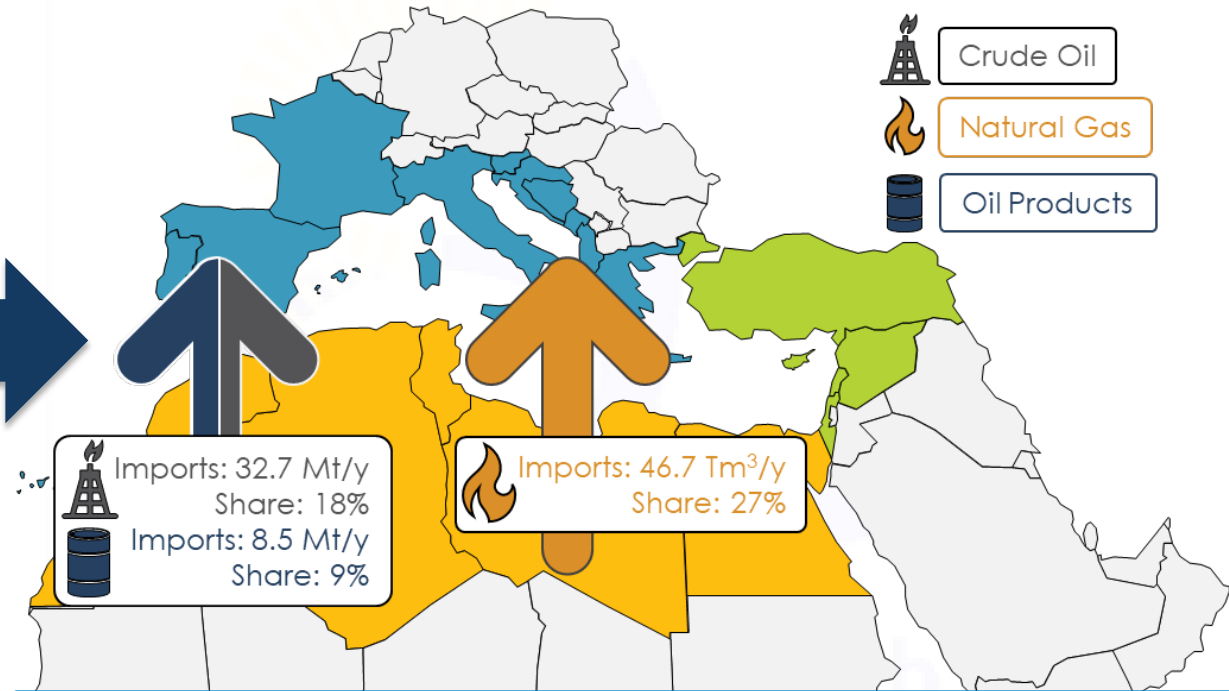
# The uneven allocation of fossil resources and flows

Proved crude oil and gas reserves (2021)



**Almost 95%** of both oil and gas proved reserves of Mediterranean area are located in the Southern shore

Crude oil and gas flows from Southern to Northern Shore (2021)



Northern and Eastern shores rely on Southern one for **18% and 27%** of their crude oil and gas imports, respectively

● Northern Shore    ● Southern Shore    ● Eastern Shore

● Northern Shore    ● Southern Shore    ● Eastern Shore

Source: BP Stats Review 2023

Source: Eurostat (2021 data)






# Energy commodities from and across the Mediterranean

The Mediterranean region is **both** an **energy supplier for non-Mediterranean European countries** and a **landing basin for commodities coming from non-Mediterranean countries**


## Imports of the Mediterranean region from non-Mediterranean countries (2021)

 **Total Imports (LNG): 59 Tm<sup>3</sup>/y**  
**From Non-Mediterranean: 47.5 Tm<sup>3</sup>/y (82%)**  
**Main Suppliers:**    

 **Total Imports: 265 Mt/y**  
**From Non-Mediterranean: 173 Mt/y (65%)**  
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## Imports of non-Mediterranean European countries from the Mediterranean region (2021)

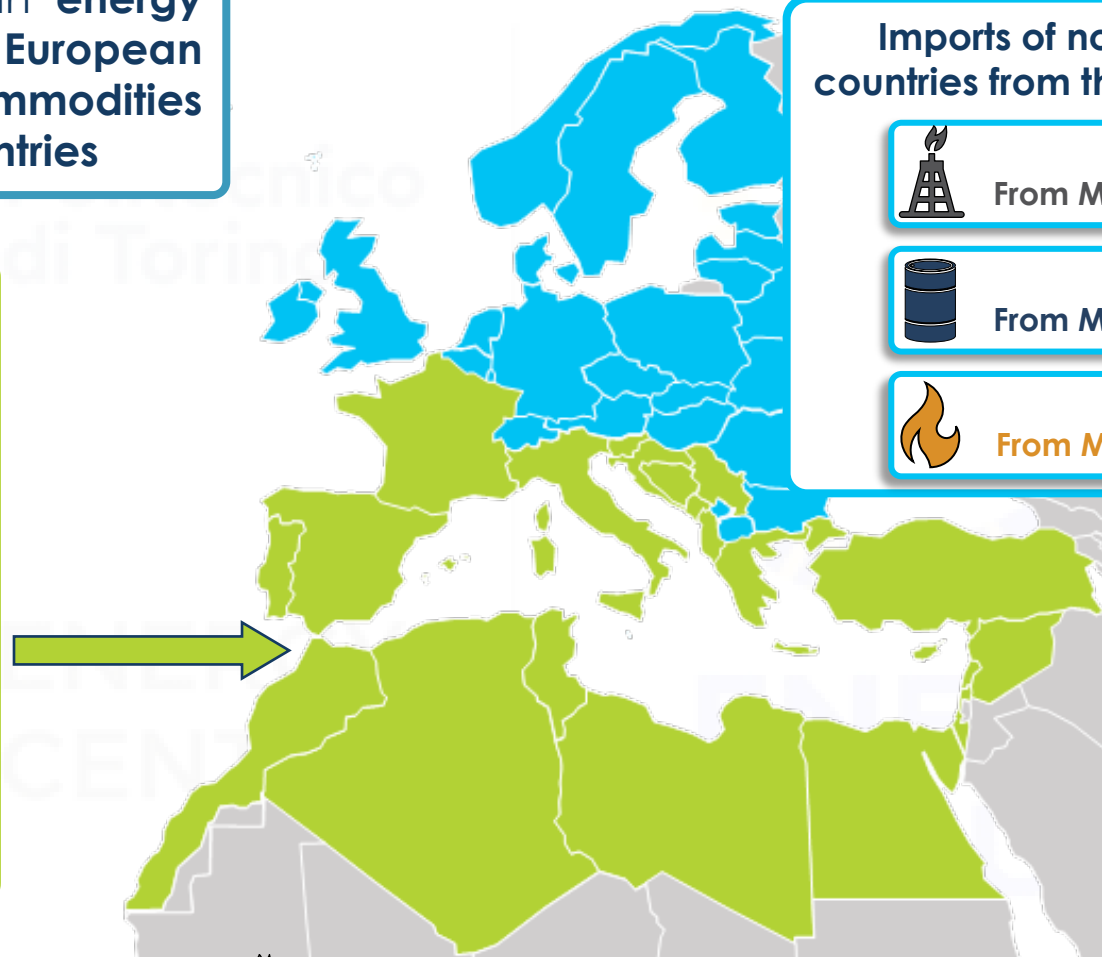
 **Total Imports: 216 Mt/y**  
**From Mediterranean: 17.5 Mt/y (8.1%)**

 **Total Imports: 218 Mt/y**  
**From Mediterranean: 18.9 Mt/y (8.7%)**

 **Total Imports: 62.7 Tm<sup>3</sup>/y**  
**From Mediterranean: 1.7 Tm<sup>3</sup>/y (2.7%)**

## Main Suppliers

USA 	Qatar 
Nigeria 	Saudi Arabia 
Russia 	Iraq 



 Crude Oil  Natural Gas  Oil Products

Source: Eurostat , AXSMarine-Alphatanker (2021 data)

# The energy consequences of the Russo-Ukrainian war



## Highlight the **critical dependence on gas pipelines**

In May 2022, **Gazprom stopped** the gas supply to Europe via the **Yamal-Europe** pipeline, while on September 26, 2022, the **NordStream 1 and 2** pipelines (from Russia to Germany through the Baltic Sea) were **damaged by explosions**



## Increase the **energy prices** in 2022

The gas price on the **Dutch hub TTF** grew from **70 €/MWh** on February 21<sup>st</sup> to a **peak of 350 €/MWh on August 26<sup>th</sup>**, followed by a decrease (due to achievement of **storage** targets, **diversification** of supply and reduction of **demand**) up to the current value of **50 €/MWh**, however almost double w.r.t. 2021 one

Source: ICE Dutch TTF Natural Gas Futures



## Introduce the **REPowerEU plan**

Goal: quickly **reducing** the **energy dependency from Russia** and speeding up the ecological transition, based on **three pillars: diversification** of energy supply, **energy saving**, and increase in **penetration of renewables**. **Value** of the plan: **300 G€**

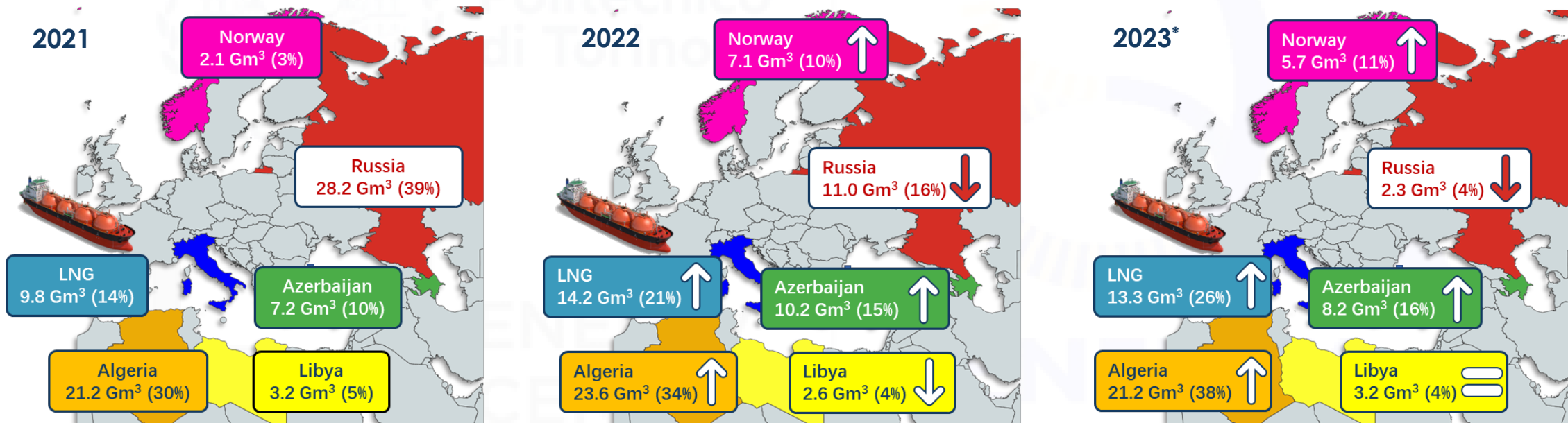
# Strengthening the «black dialogue»: the Italian case



**Algeria** replaced Russia as the **main gas supplier** to Italy: in October 2022, Algerian imports through the **Transmed pipeline >40%** of the total, while Russian ones from **TAG less than 1%**



The **crisis** further **strengthened** the “**black dialogue**” across the Mediterranean



Source: SNAM – dati operativi business

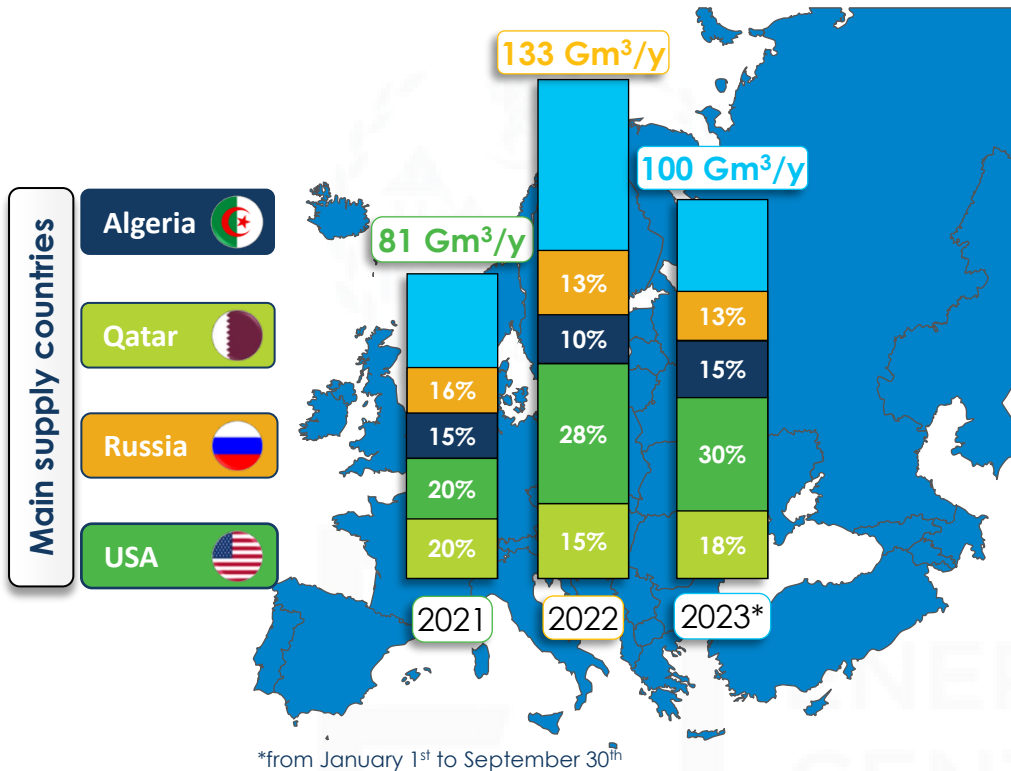
\*from January 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>

From 2021 to 2023:

- **Increase** in the weight of **Algeria** (+8%), **Norway** (+8%), **Azerbaijan** (+6%) and **LNG** (+12%)
- **Reduction** in the weight of **Russia** (-35%)

# The role of LNG as «game changer»

Imports of LNG to the EU



## PROS:

High **flexibility**, **diversification** and the possibility of **increasing quickly the overall import capacity** → positive for **energy security**

## CONS:

lower **affordability** w.r.t. natural gas, due to its **higher costs** and **market competition** phenomena, especially with Asian markets



Possible **evolution** towards a **balance** between **long-term** (to reduce exposure to price volatilities) and **short-term** spot (to allow for supply flexibility) LNG **contracts**

- In the **EU**, the **import of LNG** increased from 81 Gm³/y in 2021 to **133 Gm³/y in 2022 (+64%)**
- Increasing **role of U.S.** in EU supply: 30 Gm³ (30%) in 2023, followed by Qatar (18 Gm³) and Algeria (16 Gm³)
- **EU import of Russian LNG** (mainly by **Belgium, Spain** and **France**) = 13 Gm³ (13%), with stable/slightly growing trend



# Estimating the geopolitical stability of a country: the WGI index

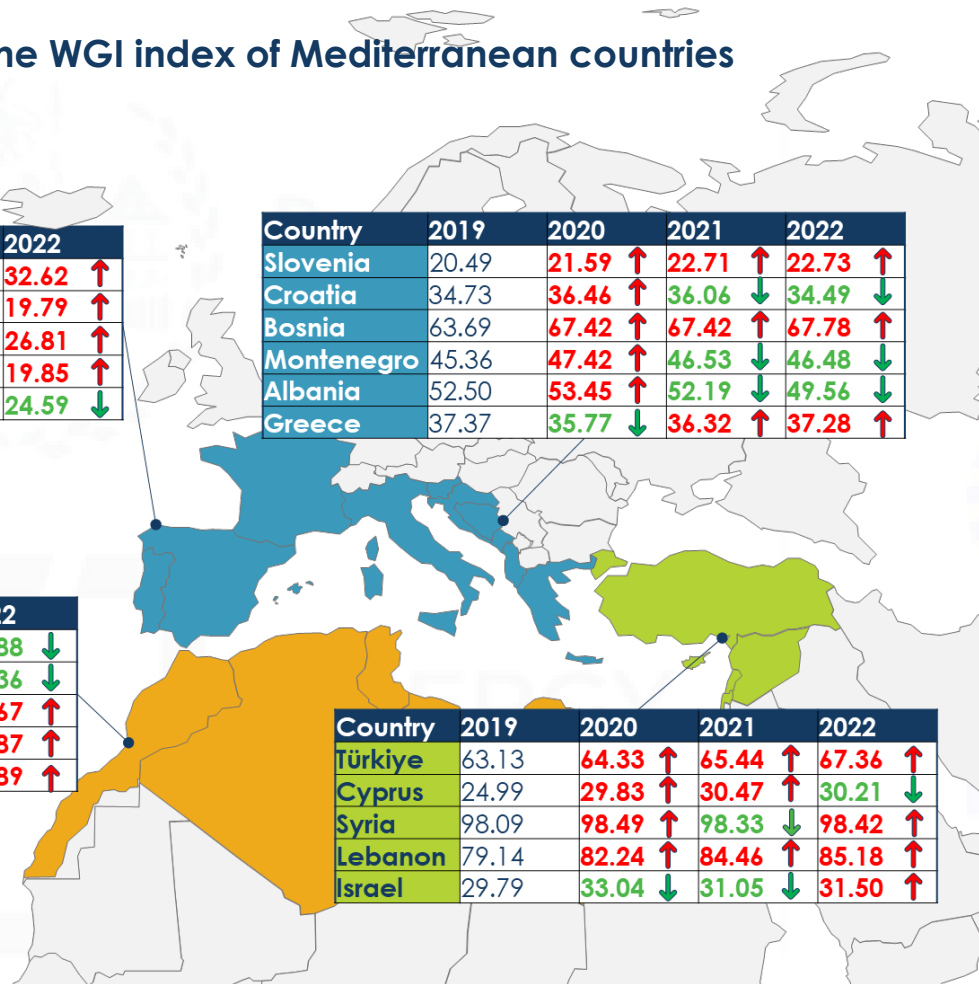
## Historical trend of the WGI index of Mediterranean countries

Country	2019	2020	2021	2022
Italy	32.77	33.79 ↑	32.36 ↓	32.62 ↑
France	16.87	20.05 ↑	18.46 ↓	19.79 ↑
Spain	24.27	26.17 ↑	25.62 ↓	26.81 ↑
Portugal	16.99	18.25 ↑	19.04 ↑	19.85 ↑
Malta	23.59	20.88 ↓	24.69 ↓	24.59 ↓

Country	2019	2020	2021	2022
Slovenia	20.49	21.59 ↑	22.71 ↑	22.73 ↑
Croatia	34.73	36.46 ↑	36.06 ↓	34.49 ↓
Bosnia	63.69	67.42 ↑	67.42 ↑	67.78 ↑
Montenegro	45.36	47.42 ↑	46.53 ↓	46.48 ↓
Albania	52.50	53.45 ↑	52.19 ↓	49.56 ↓
Greece	37.37	35.77 ↓	36.32 ↑	37.28 ↑

Country	2019	2020	2021	2022
Algeria	79.74	78.71 ↓	78.86 ↑	76.88 ↓
Morocco	60.62	58.79 ↓	60.05 ↑	58.36 ↓
Tunisia	55.21	54.11 ↓	57.36 ↑	59.67 ↑
Libya	96.73	96.24 ↓	95.78 ↓	95.87 ↑
Egypt	74.21	74.60 ↑	72.94 ↓	74.89 ↑

Country	2019	2020	2021	2022
Türkiye	63.13	64.33 ↑	65.44 ↑	67.36 ↑
Cyprus	24.99	29.83 ↑	30.47 ↑	30.21 ↓
Syria	98.09	98.49 ↑	98.33 ↓	98.42 ↑
Lebanon	79.14	82.24 ↑	84.46 ↑	85.18 ↑
Israel	29.79	33.04 ↓	31.05 ↓	31.50 ↑



● Northern Shore     
 ● Southern Shore     
 ● Eastern Shore

- **The WGI** (Worldwide Governance Indicators) **Index** quantifies the **geopolitical stability** of a country, ranging from 1 to 100 (100 = maximum risk)
- It is the average value of 6 categories:
  - *Voice and accountability*
  - *Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism*
  - *Government Effectiveness*
  - *Regulatory Quality*
  - *Rule of Law*
  - *Control of Corruption*
- The **Russian WGI index** constantly increased from 70.40 in 2019, to 83.13 in 2022 (the last value is supposedly influenced by the beginning of the Russia-Ukraine war)

Source: The World Bank (2022)



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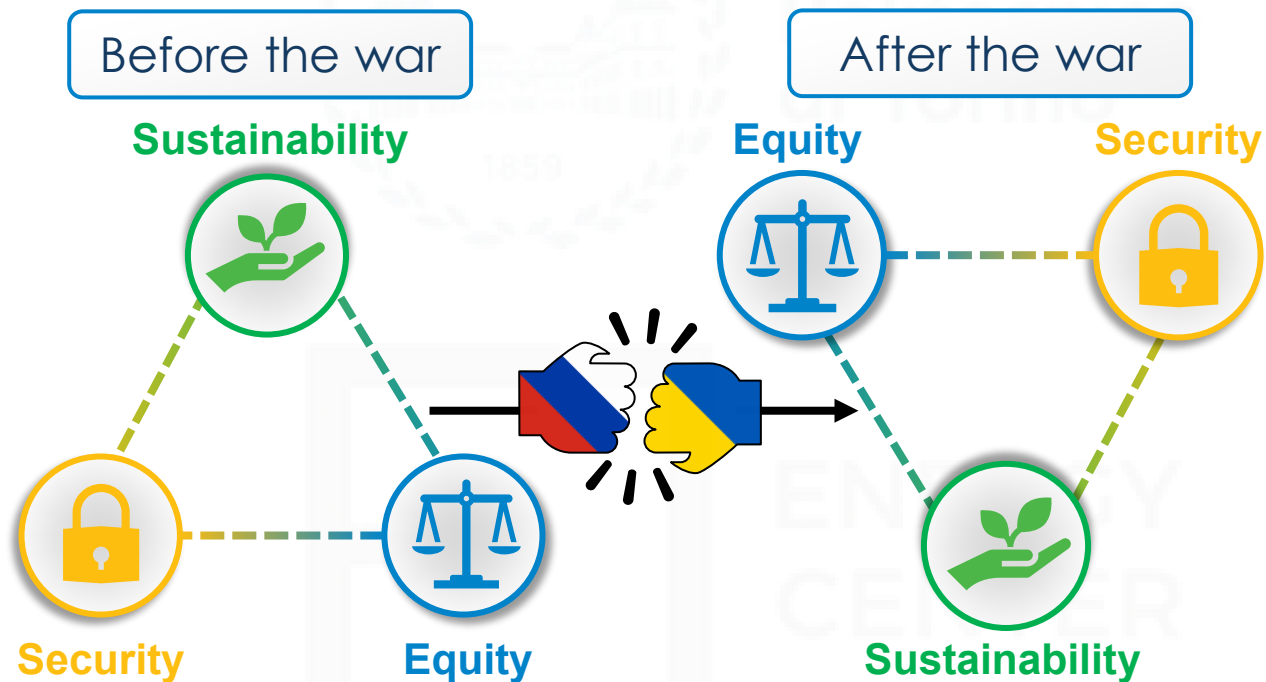
# The transition for a future «green dialogue»



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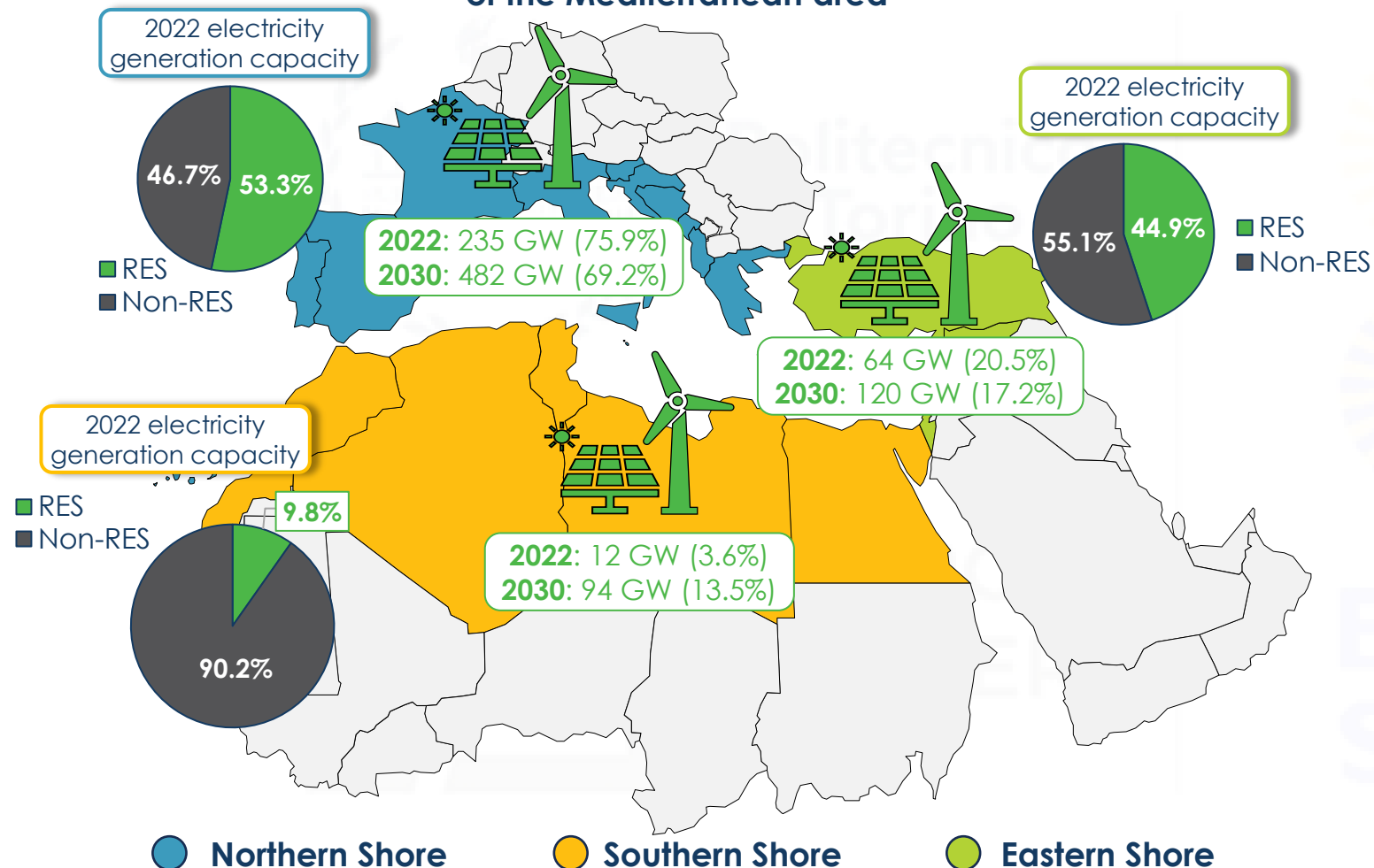
# The change of priorities in the energy attributes



- Energy systems are characterized by **3** possible **desirable attributes** (→ “**energy trilemma**”): environmental **sustainability**, energy **security**, **equity** (i.e., economic affordability)
- In the last decade, **sustainability** played the role of **main attribute**, especially in Northern shore (e.g. the EU “Green Deal”)
- The Russo-Ukrainian conflict changed the order of priority, with **security** and **equity** overcoming the **sustainability**, at least in the short-term

# The needed transition towards renewables

## 2022 installed RES capacity, 2030 targets and share on the total of the Mediterranean area

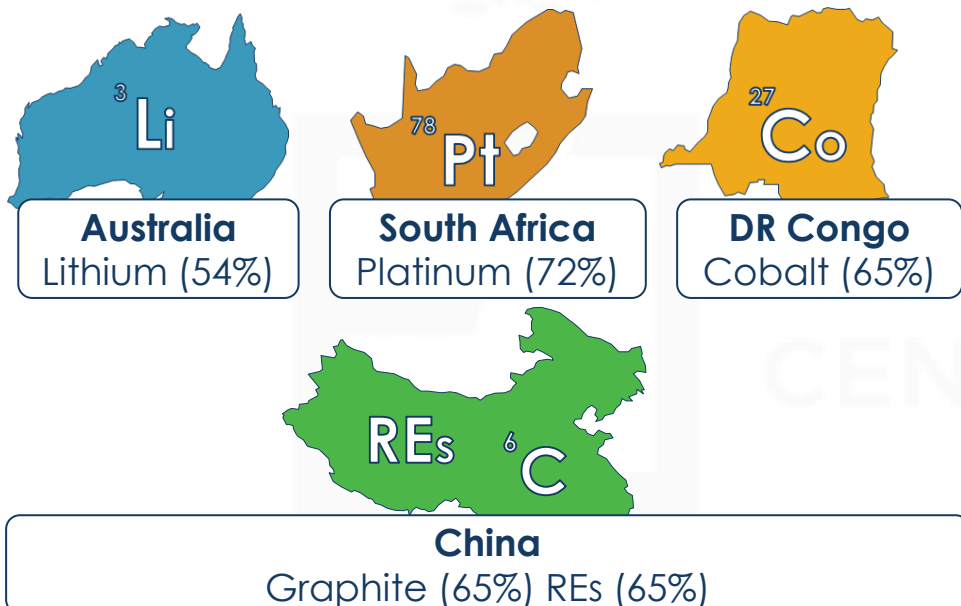


- **RES development** in the 3 Mediterranean shores show **large differences**
- In 2022, out of **309 GW of RES installed capacity, 76% was** in the Northern shore, **18% in Türkiye**, and **only 3.6%** in the Southern shore
- To match their national targets, Mediterranean countries must sharply increase the **rate of RES penetration**
- While EU countries can benefit from **consolidated regulatory frameworks and technical knowledge**, for the other Mediterranean countries is still difficult to prioritize **sustainability**, also due to internal **political instability** and/or ongoing **conflicts**

# A new dependency: the Critical Raw Materials

- **Green technologies** for the energy transition require significant amount of **critical raw materials**. E.g.:
  - **solar PV**: copper
  - **wind turbines**: copper, rare earths (REs), manganese and nickel
  - **Li-ion batteries**: all CRMs except for platinum and rare earths
  - **electric motors**: copper and rare earths
- CRMs are **concentrated** in a **small number of countries**. **Mediterranean resources are very limited**. In the case of **rare earths**, Mediterranean countries are **completely reliant on third countries**

## Shares of CRMs annual production



## The energy transition can lead from a dependency on fossil commodities to one on CRMs

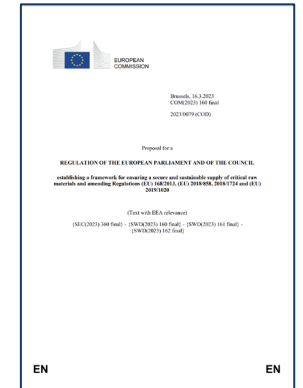
→ **critical role of China**: e.g. 50% of Li mines that China controls outside since 2018 are located in Australia and Canada, and 90% of Li extracted in Australia is exported to China for the refining phase.  
In Australia, Chinese companies co-operate the Greenbush mine (the largest Li mine of the world), producing in 2022 the 61.5% of the total Australian Li, and the Mt. Marion mine, producing the 15.4%

Sources: Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance, World Mining Data; Mining.com, World's top 10 biggest lithium operations; Statista, Major countries in worldwide lithium mine production in 2022

# Counteracting the new dependencies: the EU CRM Act



- In 2023, the EU **issued** the **Critical Raw Materials Act**, outlining **measures** to ensure a secure and **sustainable supply of CRMs**
- Goals: To meet
  - at least **10%** of the EU's annual consumptions by **domestic extraction**,
  - **40%** by **domestic processing**
  - **15%** by **domestic recycling**
  - **no more than 65%** of import covered by a **single third countries**



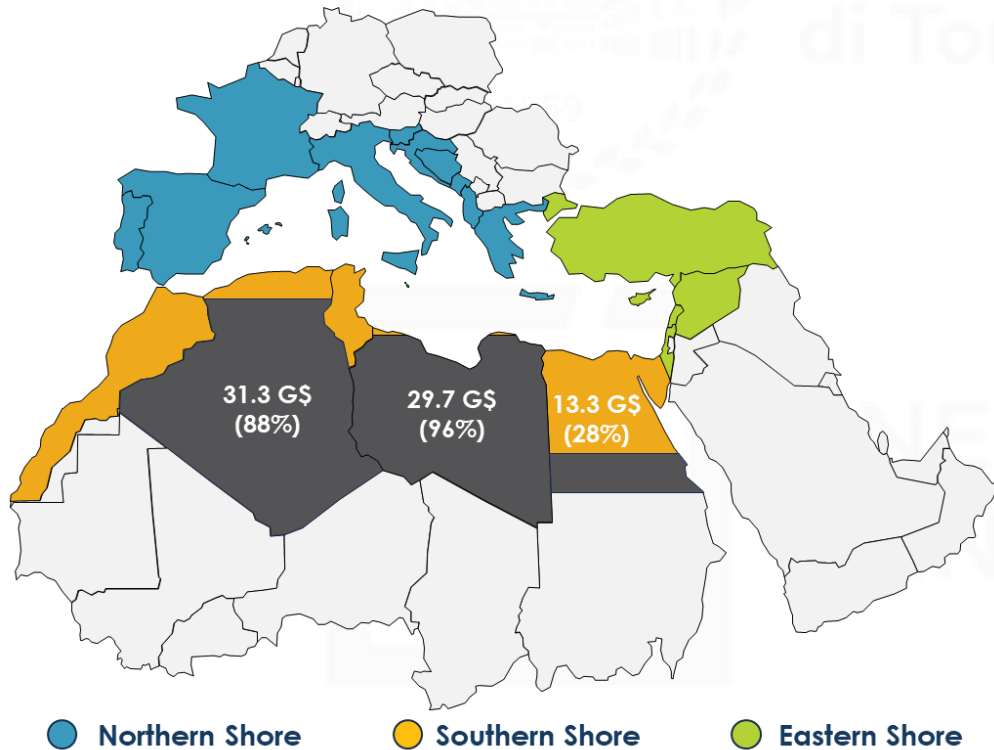
## Remaining Issues

- The **ENEMED 2023 scenario** analysis (assessing the amount of raw materials needed for reaching the national RES targets by 2030 in the Mediterranean area) **shows** that the **2030 demand largely exceeds** the **current Mediterranean production** for most of CRMs, especially cobalt, lithium, graphite, nickel and rare earths
- In the **EU** there could be a **social opposition** to **investments** and interventions needed for **exploiting** the **domestic CRMs resources**, due to their strong **impact** on the **environment** and local **communities**

# Energy & Economics: some open issues in the Mediterranean

The transition is heavily tackled by the presence of 2 **rentier states (Algeria and Libya)**, whose economies are almost completely relying on hydrocarbons export

**Economic value of hydrocarbons export from Algeria, Libya and Egypt in 2021, and share on the total value of exports**

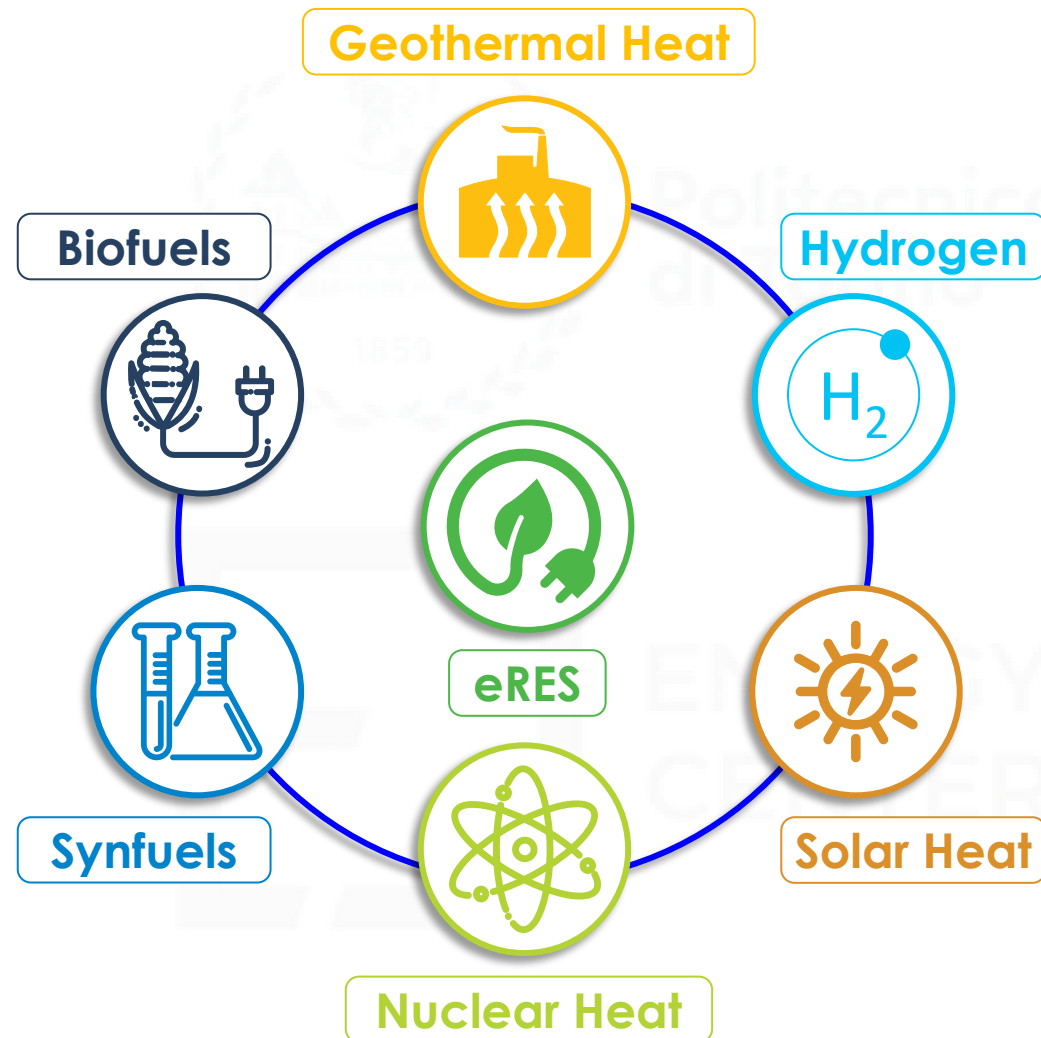


Source: CEPII, (2022), BACI database

- **Energy transition** requires **large investments** in infrastructures, especially in **Southern shore** (to exploit the large renewable potential), **BUT avoiding** a sort of “**energy neo-colonialism**”
- In **2021**, **84.5%** of the overall **public investments** in RES in the Mediterranean region (3.5 G\$/y) was concentrated in **3 countries** of **Northern shore**: Spain (38.7%), France (36.0%) and Italy (9.9%)
- These **investments** are **affected** by **several factors**:
  - **National**: Difficulty in defining coherent and solid policies and in balancing sustainability, security and equity priorities (e.g. a central aspect affecting energy investment policies is the impact of energy prices on inflation)
  - **Regional**: lack of convergence among policies of the various countries; misalignment of standards and technological choices → long term barriers to joint developments.
  - **International**: negative influences on prices due to turbulences on global markets; unavoidable incidence on prices, costs, financial decisions, access to technologies, etc. due to global conflicts (e.g. Russia-Ukraine war)

Source: IRENA, Public investment database 2023

# The need for a Multicommodity energy system

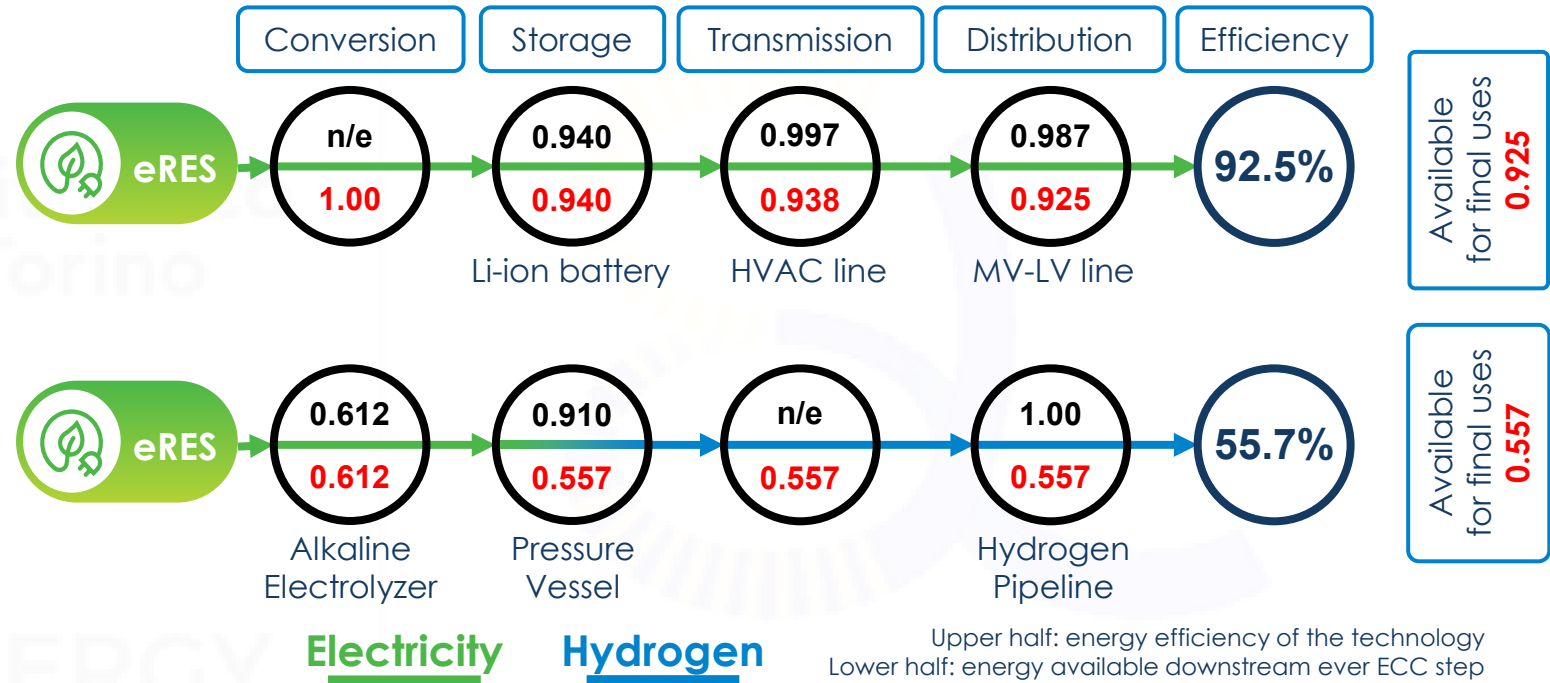


- **Electricity from renewables** is expected to assume the **central role** in the future energy mix and in building a new “**green**” **dialogue**
  - However, electricity **cannot completely decarbonise** by itself the Mediterranean energy systems, due to “**hard-to-abate**” final uses (e.g., production of high temperature process heat in industry and long-distance maritime and aviation transport)
- ↓
- Need for a **synergy** between electricity and **other commodities**, like green **hydrogen** (produced through water electrolysis by means of electricity from RES), **alternative fuels**, **geothermal**, **solar thermal** and **nuclear** heat



# Energy Commodity Chains (ECCs) as a tool to compare alternative pathways

- ECCs are defined as the set of processes that **energy commodities** undergo along their path to final uses, from being harnessed from primary energy sources
- The **same final use** can be fed by more than one commodity, as well as being provided by different technologies
- ECCs are a tool to **quantitatively evaluate** equivalent but alternative energy pathways, and **rank** them basing on a set of **numerical metrics**



- **Electricity** is by far the most energy-efficient choice, with **overall energy efficiencies even above 90%**
- Hydrogen suffers from the relatively **low conversion efficiency** of **electrolysis process (40% less available energy)**
- The need to decarbonize must inevitably take into account the massive infrastructural and financial effort required to deploy commodities alternative to electricity, but energy-inefficient

# Technologies for the energy transition



## MAIN ELECTRICITY TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE TRANSITION

Generation				
Input	Technology	TRL	Cost [\$/kW]	Efficiency
Solar irradiance	PV: crystalline silicon	10	810 - 1120	0.17 - 0.23
	PV: multi-junction	9	4850 - 8240	0.39 - 0.47
	Floating PV	8	~ 860	0.17 - 0.23
Water	Hydro Power Plants	11	2650 - 3900	0.40 - 0.50
	Tidal stream & tidal range	9	150 - 800	~ 0.80
Wind	Onshore Wind Turbine	10	1590 - 1950	0.29 - 0.35
	Seabed fixed offshore Wind Turbine	9	2600 - 3721	0.45 - 0.51
	Floating offshore Wind Turbine	8	2936 - 3289	0.45 - 0.51
Geoth. heat	Thermal power plant	11	3851 - 10959	0.12 - 0.18
Storage				
Type	Technology	TRL	Cost [\$/kWh]	Efficiency
Mechanical	Pumped Hydro Storage	11	10 - 100	0.70 - 0.84
	Flywheel Energy Storage	9	1500 - 6000	0.70 - 0.95
	Compressed Air Energy Storage	8	50 - 80	0.70 - 0.80
Electro-chemical	Li-ion batteries	10	245 - 620	0.92 - 0.96
	Redox Flow Batteries	9	315 - 1680	~ 0.75
Conversion				
Commodity	Technology	TRL	Cost [\$/kW]	Efficiency
Hydrogen	Solid Oxide Fuel Cells	9	3000 - 4000	0.45 - 0.50
	Molten Carbonate Fuel Cell	9	4000 - 6000	0.45 - 0.52
Transmission & Distribution				
Type	Technology	TRL	Cost [M€/km]	Efficiency
Transmission	High-voltage Direct Current	11	~3.5	~0.97
	Ultra High-voltage Alternate Current	11	~3.1	0.93 - 0.94

## MAIN HYDROGEN TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE TRANSITION

Generation				
Input	Technology	TRL	Cost [\$/kW]	Efficiency
Electricity	Alkaline electrolyser	9	500 - 1400	0.58 - 0.70
	Proton Exchange Membrane electrol.	9	1100 - 1800	0.50 - 0.83
	Solid Oxide electrolyser	8	2800 - 5600	up to 0.84
Storage				
Type	Technology	TRL	Cost [\$/kg <sub>H2</sub> ]	Efficiency
Physical	Pressure vessel	11	712 - 998	0.91
	Liquid hydrogen tank	9	1905	0.71
	Salt cavern	10	0.6	0.98
Transmission & Distribution				
Type	Technology	TRL	Cost [\$/kg <sub>H2</sub> ]	Efficiency
Open-sea	Ammonia tanker ships	11	1.2	0.90
Captive	Hydrogen pipeline	9	1.5	~1.00

- Technologies for the transition are characterized by different **efficiencies**, **costs** and Technology Readiness Level (TRL)
- The **combination** of these **factors** can **promote or hinder** the **penetration** of a given technology
- Commercial scale diffusion** of new technologies with an **adequate TRL** and a good **trade-off between performances and costs** is needed, making still **not easy to identify dominant solutions** in the long run

**TRL scale** (ref. IEA): **11**: Proof of stability reached; **10**: Integration needed at scale; **9**: Commercial operation in relevant environment; **8**: First of a kind commercial

Source: ESL@energycenter elaboration based on IEA and IRENA data

# Technologies for the energy transition: some comparative example



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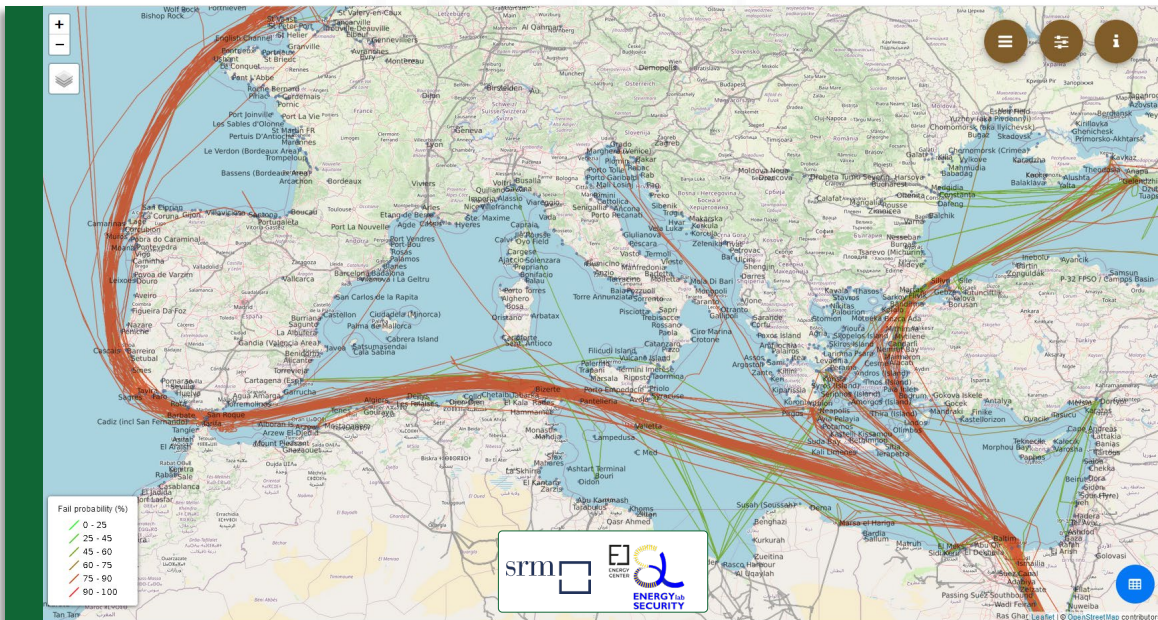
Currently multi-junctions PV cells have an efficiency double w.r.t. crystalline silicon ones, but the needed investment cost can be up to 8 times

The conversion of hydrogen in electricity through fuel cells hydrogen has relatively low efficiency (~50%) with associated relevant investment costs

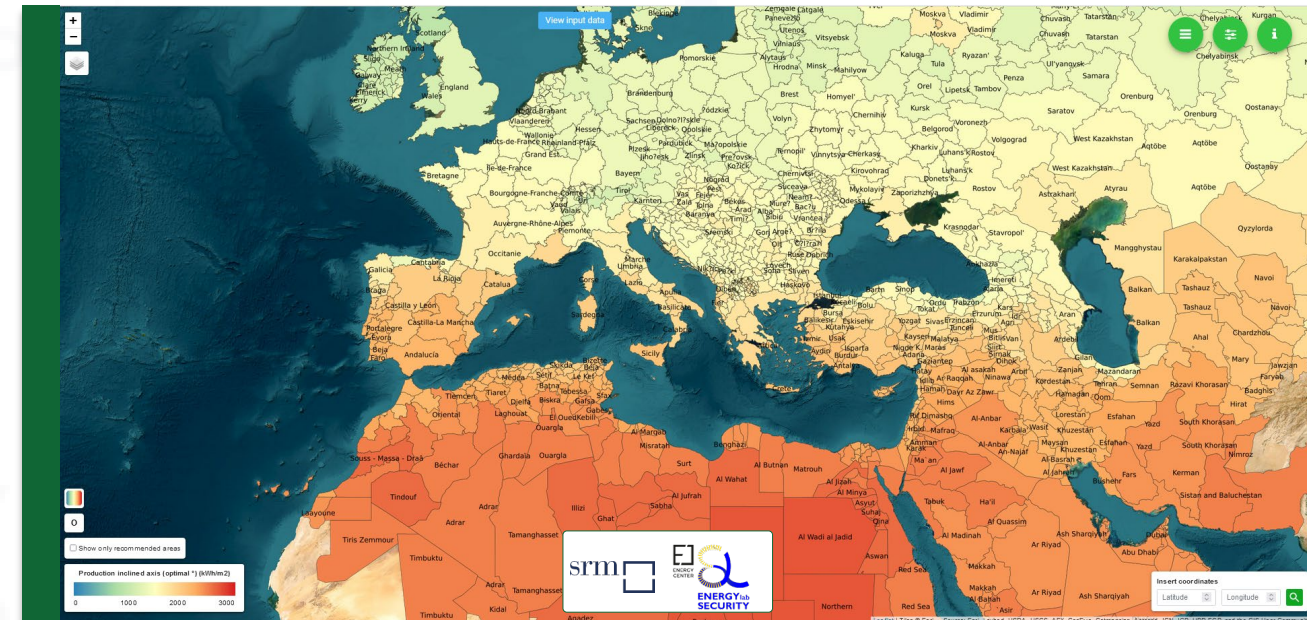
The Solid Oxide electrolysers have higher efficiency w.r.t. the traditional ones (ALK, PEM), but a still low level of maturity and an investment cost up to 4 times

**TRL scale** (ref. IEA): **11**: Proof of stability reached; **10**: Integration needed at scale; **9**: Commercial operation in relevant environment; **8**: First of a kind commercial

# A glance at the future ENEMED web-integrated platform



Daily tracking of oil trade routes



Multicommodity Assessment

Assessment of RES producibility potential

# Conclusions



- The **geopolitical events** and **relations** widely **affect** the **Mediterranean energy system**, w.r.t. both the current configuration based on a “**black dialogue**” and the possible (desirable) evolution towards a “**green dialogue**”, **shifting dependencies** from **fossil** commodities to **critical raw materials**
- Mediterranean countries will have to choose whether to firmly steer towards a **cooperative and cross-shore approach** to energy transition or not. The efforts conducted in the last decades are **insufficient**, and different economic interests and policy priorities still cause a strong inhomogeneous level of renewables penetration across the three shores
- A cooperative transformation of the energy sector in the Mediterranean will have to be based on **two main factors**: a **convergence** of **policies** and **regulations** and the need to **mobilize private actors**.
- Such transformation implies profound **geopolitical changes**: some **beneficial** (new opportunities to industrial ventures, trade and advanced services), some others potentially resulting in **criticalities** (geopolitical tensions due to the change of the economic power of different countries, new dependencies, conflicts for the control of resources)
- Though hydrocarbons are central to the economies of some Mediterranean countries, the transition could be achievable through the production of renewable fuels like **green gases** (biomethane and hydrogen) and **liquid biofuels**, which will mainly be justified by their access to regional markets
- However, there are still **marked differences** between the regulation in the European Union and the Southern and Eastern shores, where the situation is still maturing
- The long-term vision and the implemented actions have to consider the **inescapable policy goals**: **diversification** of sources for increasing the supply security, **decarbonization** of the energy sector, and **alignment with the climate action** while considering social, economic and political objectives



Thank you for your attention

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